

Spiritual Warfare

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Introduction

The moment you were saved, you entered into a battle being fought all around you. While this battle is invisible, it rages on continually. There are two Kingdoms waging war against each other. One kingdom is from God Almighty: it is an eternal, permanent Kingdom. The other kingdom is of the devil: it will only last a short time in the scope of eternity. These forces are not equal because God has all authority and power over the devil.

Satan has a kingdom with forces desiring to kill you. His minions plan ways to steal from you. They scheme to destroy you. They want to lie and deceive you. He causes you much frustration and disappointment. He keeps you feeling down and depressed. He hurts you and your loved ones. This ought to make you very angry! It should bring up a desire to ACT!

What are you going to do about it? You can do nothing and let the devil have his way in your life or you can fight back and be known as an overcomer for all eternity. The choice is yours! The whole story of the Bible is focused on those who overcome. Those who overcome are the ones who voluntarily choose to fight back. They refuse to let the devil rule their lives. If you live in spiritual idleness and never advance the Kingdom of God, then you are giving your life to the enemy.

God works all things out with His purposes (Eph. 1:9-11). This means that when we choose to fight WITH God and not AGAINST God, we can be overcomers. As the Apostle John wrote, “the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world” (I John 4:4). God is greater than all other forces. When we allow Him to operate in our lives, the battle is already won; we become victors. He gets the glory.

Paul said it this way, “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” We are more than conquerors because Christ (the ultimate overcomer) is within us. But we must choose to contend. “...I felt compelled to write and urge

you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people" (Jude 1:3). We must fight! "Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses" (1 Timothy 6:12)

We must learn to HATE the enemy and everything that the enemy (satan) represents. Romans 12:9 reads, "Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good." As we learn to hate the enemy, his attacks, and his character, we will be able to fight a good fight.

Who Is Our Enemy?

In Ephesians 6:12, Paul tells us more about the fight that we face. “10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:10-12).

To learn about our enemy, we must go to the very beginning of time. Our enemy has been around a lot longer than we have! In the process of planning and creating the Universe, God decided to make angels. These angels were created to steward creation. They were His servants. The very first characteristic of angels is that they are made of spirit material. “Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire” (Psalm 104:4, KJV). This means that they are invisible to the naked eye. In the very beginning, they were completely obedient to the Words of God. In fact, the earth was created as the home for them. “4 Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measures, if you know? Or who stretched the line on it? 6 Whereupon were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, 7 when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?” (Job 38:4-7, WEB). The Hebrew phrase for “sons of God” in this verse refers to the angels. The angels shouted for joy at the earth’s creation because it was created for them! It was to be their habitation.

An archangel named Lucifer was placed over the earth. Lucifer was created perfect, as were all the other angels. He covered God. Special instruments were built into his body so he could lead worship. We learn about him in Isaiah 14:12-17 and Ezekiel 28:11-17.

Ezekiel 28:15-17 (NKJV)

15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created,

Till iniquity was found in you. 16 “By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones. 17 “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, That they might gaze at you.

From these verses, we learn invaluable insight! Lucifer began to look at himself. He saw how beautiful and wise he was, but he did not look to God who made him that way. He began to trust in his own abilities. He trusted in the powers God imbued to him rather than to God who gave them. He led a rebellion among the angels on earth. This rebellion was defeated. In Revelation 12:3-4 we learn that one-third of the angels were drug down by his tail.

This angel, once perfect, was now COMPLETELY imperfect. He was given over to evil. The angels were created solely out of spiritual material. Once they turned away, they were permanently twisted away from God. Lucifer is most often called satan or the devil. Satan is a Hebrew word that simply means “adversary”. Devil is a word that means “slanderer” or “accuser”. This shows us a little more about how Lucifer convinced one-third of the angels to rebel. He slandered God! He slandered His WORDS, His Character, and His Image. He twisted and perverted the things of God. Lucifer is not the creator, so he sought to pervert God’s creation.

These demonic forces can influence people, leaders, and policies of nations. Since they are limited in location, they have a way of influencing a specific area or group of people. In Ephesians 2:2, we learn, “...in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience.” Satan here is called the prince and power of the air (and the air waves). Another way that these demonic powers influence is by saturating the air with ATTITUDES. They broadcast attitudes, emotions,

thoughts, and impulses of hatred, evil, lying, death, and strife throughout the regions and areas they influence. They use culture, education, politics, entertainment, media, the spiritual realm, and every other possible means of communication to cause humanity to destroy itself.

Satan deceived Adam and Eve in Genesis 3 by speaking to them. Satan can speak to us through thoughts, impulses, desires, attitudes, and even other people's words. If you wake up one morning feeling lazy and decide not to read your Bible, the attitude of laziness came from Satan. If you suddenly have hatred or envy towards someone – that impulse came from the forces of the enemy. If you begin to doubt God and feel as if you want to give up – that is the enemy.

Today, Satan attacks in the same way. First, he tries to twist what God directly said in the Word. Next, he wants you to think you can disobey God's Word and still be blessed. From his rebellion until now, Satan has tried to steal, kill, and destroy.

In Ephesians, Paul told us that our battle is not against flesh and blood. While the devil is a spiritual being, he often uses people to do his work. He used a serpent in the Garden. The temptation as humans is that we release our frustrations on people or things used by the devil because we can see them. A major battle for us as believers is to resist that temptation and go straight to the source or root of the problem: the enemy we wish to defeat.

In John 8:44, Jesus said, "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." Satan is called the father of all lies. Therefore all lies, no matter the source, come straight from him. This allows us to see the force influencing the people around us and in our lives.

The Daily Walk

When you come to the Lord, the very first thing you should establish is a **daily walk** with God. What does this mean? It means setting aside time every day to seek the face of God in prayer and reading His Word.

I usually recommend people read the Bible at least 30 minutes a day. Some might feel led to read more than that, but I never recommend less than 30 minutes. I recommend praying a similar amount. Get more of these two items if you can, but you want to set that standard. When you do this, it sets up a consistent means of communication with God that will build your faith and keep you focused on Him. Every relationship requires time. We have to spend time with the Lord.

I recommend that you establish this daily time with God in the morning when you wake up. The Bible tells us that "... if the Lord is not the builder, the builders build in vain" (Psalm 127:1). When we build the foundation of our daily life in Him, it will give us strength in our time of need. It keeps the momentum of your spiritual walk going.

SATAN is going to come against your daily walk. Why? He knows that when you set your heart and mind to pursue the will of God, it will change your life. Remember that Satan comes to kill, steal, destroy and lie. He wants to steal your time with God; he wants to kill your connection to God; and he wants to destroy you. He wants to stop your momentum.

As you set aside this time, Satan will attack you. Something will keep you up late at night so you sleep late and miss that precious time with the Lord. Someone will call you as soon as you wake up. Things will happen! The devil also wants to keep the Word from being sown in your heart. He wants to choke it out.

Remember, you are called to overcome!

How do we overcome these daily attacks? By fighting back! The reaction should not be “oh well, I just missed out”. The reaction should be righteous anger “Really? I will find another way to get this in today”. You can easily get your Bible reading in throughout the day through different ways. Use your lunch break at work or other breaks you might have – even if you have to get 5 or 10 minutes at a time. Maintain that standard of 30 minutes in the Bible. The devil hates it when God’s people hold up a standard that honors the Lord. He wants to destroy the standard.

Do the same thing with prayer – even if you have to try and get it in at night. The point is that you are always fighting. Remember something very important! Paul said the “...weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but spiritual” (2 Cor. 10:5). Reading your Bible and praying consistently are engaging in spiritual warfare. However, they take place in the NATURAL Realm. Your weapons are spiritual, but your access to them is in the natural realm. Don’t over-spiritualize things. Take the time to make it happen.

I execute my daily walk according to a method called “immersion”. A prophet once told this to me. This is a method of daily discipline that includes consistent reading of the Word of God and prayer, as I have described. However, it goes a step further. With “immersion”, you are listening to Christian music, the Bible, or a sermon in your car. You have something on at home, even if it is softly playing in the background. It is a way of immersing your life so that your mind stays focused on Him. You are reminded of Him. This strengthens your helmet of salvation, which I will discuss in the last chapter.

The goal of warfare is to distract you, destroy your relationship with God, and steal your reward in the Kingdom. Find other ways to keep your mind focused on the Lord. I actually put sticky notes with Bible verses on them around my house so when I walk by the verse I see it. Be creative. Ask the Lord for direction; meditate on it. You have a unique life and relationship with God. I do discourage listening to secular music because it distracts your mind and spirit from the God. I personally do not watch movies. It’s

not a sin to watch a movie, but the images and music in movies are powerful. They can lead you into sin. They can influence you; this is especially true regarding horror movies, heavy action/shooter movies, and any movie with passionate scenes between men and women. They rob you of your empathy towards people. This is a personal experience I have noticed over the years.

The Fight Against Sinful Urges

Another area where we must learn to fight is the desire to sin. One of the names of Satan is “the tempter”. He tempts us into sin. We also have sinful desires within our heart and mind. Many times in the Bible, the human skin (also called flesh) is used as a physical representation of the sinful nature of humanity. Sin is what we naturally desire as humans. It is part of who we are in the natural. When we come to Christ, we must make the decision to daily subdue sinful urges, thoughts, and desires.

Every person struggles with something different. Some people struggle with sexual urges. Other people struggle with lying. Some struggle with jealousy, while others struggle with pride. The Apostle Paul gives us a sample list of sinful behaviors: “19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.” (Gal. 5:19-21) The Ten Commandments also explain sin to us. I have briefly listed them. A more detailed version is in the back of this booklet.

1. You shall Have no other gods before Him.
2. You shall not have any idols.
3. You shall not use his name in vain.
4. Honor the Sabbath and keep it holy.
5. Honor your father and mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not lie.
10. You shall not covet.

Look at the list Paul gave us above and the Ten Commandments. These behaviors are natural to mankind. Humans have a desire for sex. The problem is that humans want to have sex with whoever

we want whenever we want. This is not God's will. God desires for this action to be expressed in the realm of marriage. This is a forever commitment between one man and one woman. They are not meant to be separated.

Some of the other behaviors that Paul lists above are hatred, fits of rage, selfishness, and envy. As humans, it is easy for us to feel this way. When someone wrongs us, we want to get back at them. We want to curse them. This is the sinful nature of humanity rising up in you. The Bible tells us, "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse." (Romans 12:14)

When people wrong us or we feel slighted, it is easy to gain factions around us. It is easy to want to destroy someone else with alliances. If we live this way, we cannot be children of God.

If we even think about doing these things, it is also a sin. Jesus explains this for us. "28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell" (Matthew 5:28-30). He also tells us that hatred in our heart is murder (Matthew 5:21-26). If we allow these desires to overcome us, then we cannot be children of God. We will be cast into the Lake of Fire, which is the second death.

It is important for us to make the distinction being tempted to sin and the actual act of sinning. James said it this way: "13 When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14 but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death" (James 1:13-15).

The Word DESIRE in the verses from James can also mean LUST. It refers to a longing, desire, or burning passion for what is forbidden. The Word of God, especially the Ten Commandments, tell us what is forbidden. Paul gave us a sample list in Gal. 5:19-21 to leave no room for doubt.

Notice the words of James very closely. He tells us that WHEN desire is **conceived**, it gives birth to sin. In the natural, conception occurs when the sperm and egg come together to form a zygote. A new human is formed. What does this mean? While we may have a desire to sin or act a certain way, the KEY is that we do not ACT according to the desire.

Sometimes Satan broadcasts an attitude into your mind. He gives you a thought, idea, or impulse to cause you to sin. Sometimes our own human nature has a desire to sin. This is similar to the sperm that races toward an egg. Our job is to recognize the lie and close ourselves off to it.

Let's use a practical example. If a sexual desire arises in your body or mind, but you do not accept that thought or act upon it, then you did NOT sin. If you are wronged by someone and hatred begins to rise up in you, but you let it go – you did not sin. In both of these examples, you did not let the desire settle inside of you.

It is important to recognize that the sudden urge, impulse, or thought to sin is not sin. It becomes sin when we hold on to it and accept it in our heart, mind, or spirit. It also becomes sin when we act upon it.

We fight the sinful urges of our human nature first by learning to HATE those items. As Paul said above, we must learn to hate what is evil. In another place, he said it this way: “14 We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. 15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do” (Romans 7:14-15).

First of all, understand that you are going to make mistakes. We all will. Paul even admitted that he made mistakes. He wrote one-half of the New Testament! The key is that we must not let sin become a habit in our lives.

Salvation is a process where we use the Holy Spirit to overcome one sin at a time. There is an initial point where we are saved, but we are continually being saved from our sinful desires. This requires that we must admit that the Law of God is the guiding principle in our lives. Our transgression of that law is SIN.

Romans 7:7

7 What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.”

We must recognize the Law as the moral guiding principle for our lives. This is how we recognize the thoughts, intent, urges, and impulses within us as either acceptable or from the enemy.

We have powerful tools in our fight against sin. The first of all of these is forgiveness by the sacrifice of Jesus. We must understand what forgiveness disables and what it enables. It disables our past behavior. It enables us to walk forward with hope. To seek forgiveness requires we admit what we have done wrong, which we have discussed. This is the hardest thing for humans to do. If we cannot do this, then we cannot be forgiven.

When we get to the place where we can see our wrong behavior, thought, or intent, we must ask God to forgive us. Something simple such as “God, I ask that you forgive me for _____(sin). I ask for your grace to cover me. Help me to overcome this by the power of your Holy Spirit.” This is a very simple prayer, but when you are genuine, it has powerful results.

Notice in the prayer that I mentioned two things. 1) asking God for grace to cover you and 2) asking for God to help you over-

come. We can't do it ourselves. When you ask God for strength, He will empower you to make the right decision next time.

When you ask for forgiveness, your sin is wiped away because of the sacrifice of Jesus. It is as if it NEVER happened! This is powerful. You get a fresh start. This is how we can walk in hope. Forgiveness disables the memory of sin. This enables you to overcome.

Learning how to properly apply forgiveness is called growing in grace and knowledge. Peter said, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen." (2 Peter 3:18)

What does it mean to "Grow in grace and knowledge"? Grace is the covering you need while you are learning right from wrong. Grace means that when we fall short, God is not going to shoot a lightning bolt from Heaven to strike you dead. When you sin, recognize it as sin. Acknowledge it. Go to God and ask for forgiveness. "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy." (Proverbs 28:13)

We do not go to God to ask for forgiveness so we can continue sinning. This is called abusing God's grace. Paul said, "15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! 16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?" (Romans 6:15-16). If we just ask for forgiveness without a desire to change then we are slaves to sin and death. This leads to a permanent death in the Lake of Fire.

As discussed earlier, ask God for strength to help you make the right decision next time. Ask Him to help you recognize that situation when it arrives. Growing in grace is learning to use grace, or God's special covering over your life, to help you overcome.

What does it mean to grow in knowledge? Paul told us earlier that the Law is the knowledge of sin. As we study the Law of God and the entire Word of God, we learn more about what God requires of our lives. We learn the depths of our sin and the greatness of God's forgiveness. We learn how to fight when we know the Word. We will discuss this more in a later chapter.

The Bible tells us how God views certain behaviors and what He expects from us. It is His love letter to guide us in life so that things will go well for us. God is interested in the best for us, but we must take on that same desire. As we grow in the knowledge of God's Word, we can recognize more about the attack of the enemy and specific strategies to fight back.

Another important aspect of fighting for God is forgiving others. Jesus tells us in Mark 11:24-26 that if we do not forgive others, then we cannot be forgiven. We cannot share in the hope and joy of forgiveness unless we are willing to give that same grace to others. Many people hurt us because they are hurting. We must release the hatred and pain towards others. We must ask God to increase our love for them; we must pray for them to be touched by God.

A second tool we have is learning to take thoughts captive. As mentioned earlier, sinful thoughts count as sin as well. In 2 Corinthians 10:5, Paul wrote, "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." Whenever a thought comes into your mind, learn to take that thought captive. This means to take that evil thought and remove it from your mind immediately. If a sinful thought enters your mind, begin to think about pure things. **PRAY IN TONGUES.** Re-focus your mind. Ask God to help you in this area.

A final key in the fight against sin is to stay away from an environment that leads you into sin. If you struggle with sexual desires, limit what crosses your eyes – TV, internet, phone, or elsewhere. You should never watch pornography, period! Ask God to

help you overcome. If you struggle with drunkenness, stay away from places that have alcohol. If certain people tempt you to sin, then you must pull away from them. You must be separate. If your speech is a problem, be discerning as to what you say.

You fight the devil where your weakest point is. We all have flaws. Where ever the devil attacks you, or where ever your weakness is, that is where God wants you to be strong. The devil attacks you where you are the biggest threat to Him. For instance, if you struggle with lust (lust is not just sexual – you can lust after physical things such as food or material objects), then you will hurt the devil the most when you overcome lust. Also, the areas of weaknesses in your life are the areas where God desires to manifest His strength. Too many times the devil just has his way with us because we refuse to attack the source of our problems. We just try to avoid things instead of confronting the enemy.

To wage war effectively, you must fight against the very thing that causes your struggle. For instance, if you struggle against lust, you must fight against lust. If you struggle against a foul mouth, you must fight against your foul mouth. Do you complain? Stop. Learn to catch yourself. Ask God to help you recognize those moments when you fall into these pitfalls. Your life is the battlefield that the enemy wants to overrun. Sin is the problem; it shows us where we must fight to win. Use the Holy Spirit and the Word of God to help you fight.

Guard yourself in these areas. Surround yourself with Godly people who help you to become strong in the Lord. Ask God to help you in this process; you cannot do it alone.

The Fight For Balance

While our weapons are spiritual, there are some natural things we can do to fight the devil. These items will be a fortress of protection against the enemy.

There are four places the devil always hits you: your commitments, finances, health, and time. If you are weak in your finances, then you need to get strong there. If you are weak in your health, then you need to get strong there. If your finances, health, or time gets messed up, then you will not be able to effectively fight the devil.

You have a natural life that requires you to go to work. Be on time. Work hard and be easy to work with. You have natural responsibilities, whether it is being a spouse, a parent, and household duties. Tend to these.

You have financial commitments, such as a house/rental payment, car payment, utilities, gasoline, phone, food, and others. It can be hard to wage war when the enemy is threatening you on these grounds. Be sure to make your payments on time to each of these. Create a budget to help you manage expenses. Keep the car maintenance up to date. Your health is of utmost importance as well. If you are unhealthy, it can hinder your ability to effectively fight the enemy. Get plenty of rest. Exercise and take vitamin supplements. The little things make a big difference over time.

Lastly, stay on top of your time. Your time is valuable, and the enemy will try to overwhelm you with people or busy work that will overwhelm you or make you ineffective. Many attacks of the enemy come to create an imbalance in these areas. The enemy wants you to be so spiritual you are not naturally dependable and so natural that you are not spiritually minded. The enemy can also attack us when we do not keep them properly maintained. It can be difficult at times to maintain balance in each of these areas; with the help of God it can be done.

The Full Armor of God

Paul discusses how we stand against the forces of the enemy in Ephesians 6:13-17, “13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. “

As Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 10:4, our weapons are not carnal, they are spiritual. When Paul wrote the letter to the Ephesians, he was in prison. He was guarded by Roman soldiers, so the armor and weapons he describes come from their dress. In this chapter, we will look at each piece of armor and what it does for us.

The Belt of Truth – The belt represents the Word of God, starting with the Torah (first five books of the Bible). We must understand all of the Bible; the Torah is the foundational understanding for the rest of the Bible. If our understanding of it is perverted, then the other pieces of armor can be out of place (2 Peter 3:17).

Breastplate of Righteousness in Place – This piece represents the righteousness of Christ. As we submit to the Spirit of God within us, the righteous life of Christ begins to manifest in our lives where our inward and outward obedience are in unity with each other (Romans 8:1-8).

Shoes for the Gospel of Peace – This refers to ACTS of SERVICE for the Kingdom of God. We must be prepared to act for the Kingdom to talk to people, hand them literature, or operate in the gifts of the Spirit. The shoes are an offensive weapon that

keeps the enemy off balance (2 Timothy 4:2, I Peter 3:15).

The Shield of Faith – The shield of faith is our confidence in God. The enemy's arrows are to shatter our confidence or belief in God's Will and God's Word. The enemy will send thoughts to make us doubt God exists or question if we are in His perfect will (Hebrews 11:1-6).

The Helmet of Salvation – We have to be constantly reminded that we are saved and that we have salvation through Christ. The helmet of salvation is to protect our mind from condemnation. There is a difference between conviction and condemnation. Conviction comes from God to help you get right. It is a revelation of sin that encourages you to get right. Condemnation is a reminder of sin to put you down, discourage you, and make you give up. This is where understanding forgiveness is extremely important. When you are forgiven, it is forgotten. We must turn away from the sin (Romans 8:1).

The Sword of the Spirit – The level of God's Word within our hearts and minds is the size of our sword in the spiritual realm. The more Word we have in us, the easier we can fight the enemy. As we spend time in the Word, God gives us special, specific revelations that help us fight. The cut to the heart of the enemy's plans (Hebrews 4:12).

Roman soldiers also carried two javelins called pilums. They represent prayer and praise. Our prayers are hurled from where we are to where we need them to be. They injure the enemy ranks because our prayers show we have faith in God's ability to act on our behalf. Praise is thanking God for His goodness. Our praise travels like a javelin and hits the enemy. It sends the message that their attacks are not working! They want to discourage us and make us give up our faith in God.

Conclusion

This booklet offers a brief overview of spiritual warfare. There are much deeper subjects to cover as it relates to this topic, such as the importance of communication and learning the timing of the enemy. We will soon have a full length booklet on this subject!

The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:3-17

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.
3. “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.
5. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.

Meet the Author

Kelly McDonald Jr. is an ordained Evangelist at Hungry Hearts Ministries in Jackson, TN. For 21 years, Kelly attended Trinity Baptist Church in Bemis, TN, where he was saved in 1992. While at Trinity, a small independent Baptist church, Kelly learned boldness for the Kingdom of God and that being a Christian is an all or nothing experience. In June 2006, Kelly was called to his first ministry, going door to door in the Bemis community and inviting people to church. In September 2006, Kelly was called to begin a Christian men's group at his then college, Lambuth University. In February 2007, Kelly was called to preach. Less than a month later, he became introduced to Hungry Hearts Ministries.

Since becoming a member of Hungry Hearts, Kelly has taken on many roles to further the ministry's work, from going door-to-door to pass out booklets, preaching, administering the prison ministry, teaching Bible Studies, and starting churches. Due to his service in the ministry, he was ordained a Deacon during the Feast of Pentecost on May 31st, 2009. His spiritual growth and desire to serve God led to his ordination as an Evangelist during the Feast of Pentecost on May 25th, 2012.

Kelly has written for a local Christian magazine, *The Christian to Christian Connection*, the international Sabbatarian magazine, *The Sabbath Sentinel*, and the regional magazine, *The Good News*. He has written Partner Devotionals for Perry Stone. He currently writes for and serves as the Editor for the Ministry's magazine, *Pursuit*. Kelly has written 9 books and 21 booklets on various Bible topics. Kelly graduated *summa cum laude* from Lambuth University in Jackson, TN in 2009. He earned a Bachelor of Science with a double major in Political Science and Sociology with a minor in Legal Studies. Kelly has been preaching since 2007 and is available to speak at your church upon request.

The moment you were saved, you entered into a battle being fought all around you. While this battle is invisible, it rages on continually. There are two Kingdoms waging war against each other. One kingdom is from God Almighty: it is an eternal, permanent Kingdom. The other kingdom is of the devil: it will only last a short time in the scope of eternity.

In this booklet, you will learn who the enemy is and practical ways to fight against him. With the help of God Almighty, you can defeat the devil.



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