

# SPIRITUAL WARFARE

## I. AS CHRISTIANS, WE ARE SOLDIERS OF CHRIST

Christians are to know they are in a spiritual war, the greatest war there is.  
We are to be working for God and fighting for God. Nehemiah 3-4

## II. CHRISTIANS ARE TO BE STRONG IN THE LORD – Ephesians 6:10

- A. God commands us to be strong.
- B. If a Christian is not strong, then he is weak.
- C. A Christian cannot be strong in Himself, but only in the Lord, which means you are saved, and have a relationship with God. Psalm 105:4
- D. This strength is spiritual in nature, and all the strength you need to fight God's battles.
- E. Being strong means being strong in the Lord, and strong in His strength.  
Three words are used to speak of God's power, emphasizing the need for you to be spiritually strong in the Lord. 2 Timothy 2:1
- F. Other verses that speak about being strong in the Lord:  
Joshua 1:5-9 (God's word), Colossians 1:9-11 (prayer and God's word),  
1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (maturity and love), 2 Timothy 1:6-8 (suffering)

## III. THE SPIRITUAL ARMOR WE ARE TO PUT ON – Ephesians 6:11

- A. A Christian is commanded to put on the full armor of God.
- B. This armor is defensive in nature, a way to be protected from the enemy.
- C. Because you are in God's army, you need the armor of God.
- D. The more you serve the Lord, the more you will fight for the Lord, the more you will have opposition, and the more you will need this armor. 1 Thessalonians 2:18
- E. The armor will help you to stand, to not give up, to not surrender to the enemy.
- F. You need the armor to stand against the devil's schemes, his evil methods.  
2 Corinthians 2:11 - *"so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes."*

#### IV. THE DEVIL'S SCHEMES – Ephesians 6:11

- A. The devil tempts people to sin. He does not want you to love God. 1 John 2:15-16
- B. The devil tries to divide and separate people and churches. 1 Corinthians 1:10-17
- C. The devil lies to people. He tells full out lies, and he tells half-truths.  
One way that he lies is by putting doubts in your mind. John 8:44
- D. The devil is deceptive and tries to trick people so as to control them, as well as churches and cities. 2 Corinthians 11:13-14; 1 Timothy 4:1-5; Rev. 2:9, 2:24
- E. Verses about the devil's schemes and / or how we should respond to them:  
Zechariah 3:1, Luke 8:12, Luke 10:17-18, Romans 16:20, 2 Corinthians 4:4, 1 Thessalonians 2:18, Hebrews 2:14, James 4:7, 1 Peter 5:8

#### V. EXAMPLES OF FIGHTING THE ENEMY

- A. The example of Jesus: "*Woe to you Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like white washed tombs.*" Matthew 23:27, Luke 13:32
- B. The example of the angels: "*Michael and his angels were waging war with the dragon.*" Revelation 12:7, Daniel 10:10-21
- C. The example of Paul: "*For even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*" 2 Corinthians 11:12-15

THE GREAT DRAGON WAS THROWN DOWN,  
THE SERPENT OF OLD WHO IS CALLED THE DEVIL AND SATAN,  
WHO DECEIVES THE WHOLE WORLD; HE WAS THROWN DOWN  
TO THE EARTH, AND HIS ANGELS WERE THROWN DOWN WITH HIM.  
Revelation 12:10

#### SOME QUESTIONS TO ANSWER:

1. What is the main thing that you believe God wants you to learn from this lesson?
2. What does it mean to be strong in the Lord? What does this look like?
3. Why do you need to be strong in the Lord? How can you be strong in the Lord?
4. Why do you need to put on the armor of God? What happens if you don't have it?
5. What are some of the devil's schemes?
6. How does the devil attack you? What do you do when the devil attacks you?
7. Do you see yourself as a fighter for God? In what ways? How can you improve?