

The Battle of the Believer in Time

1. The World, the flesh and the devil – Ephesians 2:2-3 -
“You were dead in the trespasses and sins 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 — among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.”
 - a. The **Father** opposes the world – 1 John 2:15-17 – “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.”
 - b. **Holy Spirit** opposes the flesh – Galatians 5:16-17 – “I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.”
 - c. The **Son** opposes the devil – 1 John 3:8 – “Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.” (and, Luke 4)
2. Truth, and deception - 2 Thessalonians 2:11 – “Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”
3. Suffering –
 - a. 1 Peter 3:8-22
 - b. 1 Peter 4:12-17
4. Deliverance –
 - a. 1 Peter 5:6-11
 - b. 2 Timothy 4:15-18

John 16:33 – “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

1 John 5:5 – “Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”