

Spiritual Warfare

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I. Introduction.

A. Ministry is being at spiritual war. (Luke 4:18)

B. War is declared in heaven, which is a reflection of what is going on today. (Isaiah 14:12)

II. Satan wanted to be like God.

A. The problem was not with what he said—we all strive to be like God.

B. Satan's grasp for power was the problem. It was an issue of motive.

C. We are tempted towards what is low and base and towards what is right with the wrong motive. (Romans 5:12)

D. Christ reconciled us while we were enemies with God. (Colossians 1)

III. We are in a spiritual battle today. (Ephesians 6)

A. We are to be sober in this battle.

B. We are to resist the devil. (James 4:7, Ephesians 4:27)

C. Satan targets God's person, grace and Word.

IV. Resisting the enemy.

A. We must rely on the spiritual blessings provided for us in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 1:3)

B. All the resources of God are at our disposal. (Ephesians 1:19)

C. We have been seated with Christ at the right hand of the Father. (Ephesians 2:6)

D. We have been given power in terms of authority. We appropriate the authority of Jesus by faith. (Luke 10:18-19, Daniel 10)

E. We have a reputation with the devil. (Acts 19)

F. There are no spiritual shortcuts—we need to have fellowship with Christ daily.

V. Suggestions.

- A. Do not forget who you are and where God has placed you. (Ephesians 2:6)
- B. Do not get entangled in the affairs of the world. (II Timothy 2:3-4, Hebrews 12:1-2)
- C. Claim the power of the blood of Christ in thwarting the power of Satan. (Revelation 12:11)

Application questions:

1. How would you counsel someone who is being attacked spiritually?

2. How would you respond to someone who doubts spiritual warfare today?

3. Why is it helpful to understand the areas of Satan's attacks? Explain.
