

War Without – War Within

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I. Introduction.

II. The world without. (2 Timothy 3:1)

- A. The life within. (Song of Solomon 3:6)
- B. The war is on. (Ephesians 6:10)
- C. Satan is the prince of the world. (Ephesians 2)
- D. There are casualties and wounds in any war. (1 Peter 5:8; Galatians 6:2; Isaiah 65:5)
- E. We cannot afford to keep the wounded out of the battle. (Ephesians 6:12)
- F. Everyone needs to be careful lest they are removed from the battle. (1 Corinthians 10:12)
- G. To stay in the battle...
 - 1. Know the enemy who uses the opposite sex, things, pride and complacency. (1 Corinthians 2:11; 1 John 2:15-16; Luke 12:15)
 - a. Focus on true success, which is being what God wants you to be in the way God wants.
 - b. Things can dull our sensitivity to the things of God. (Philippians 3:8)
 - c. Things sometimes can make us feel better than others. (Philippians 2:3; 1 Corinthians 4:7)
 - d. Things can make us indifferent to the needs of others.
 - e. Things are temporary, tempting and a matter of trust.. (2 Peter 3)

H. Defensive measures.

- 1. Put on the whole armor of God. (Ephesians 6)
- 2. Submit to God. (James 4:7)
- 3. Accept your responsibility. (Deuteronomy 4:9; 1 Timothy 4:16; Song of Solomon 1:6)
- 4. Take responsibility for others. (Leviticus 19:17; Ephesians 3:20; 1 Kings 20:39)
- 5. Be stewards of your time. (Ephesians 5:16-17)
- 6. Seek a balance between money and things.
- 7. Guard your mind. (Romans 12; Proverbs 4:23)

8. Be accountable to God and someone else being vulnerable, available, honest and teachable.

I. Accept the Lordship of Christ and pursue holiness.

III. Conclusion.

A. Get dissatisfied with yourself.

B. Set your face towards the sweeping transformation of your life. (Genesis 4:7)

C. Put yourself in the way of blessing.

D. Do a thorough job of repenting.

E. Make restitution wherever possible.

F. Bring your life into accord with the Sermon on the Mount.

G. Be serious minded.

H. Deliberately narrow your interests.

I. Begin to witness.

J. Believe God.

Application questions:

1. What things about the enemy does a Christian need to know?

2. How would you encourage a Christian to do battle against the enemy?

3. How can a Christian experience radical change? Explain.
