

Spiritual Warfare – Ready for Battle?

020318AM

Ephesians 6:10-13

- Ecc. 3:8 “A time to love, And a time to hate; A time of war, And a time of peace. ”
- There have always been wars and rumors of wars, “but the end is not yet.” (Mat. 24:6; Mk. 13:7)
- There are other wars – against marriage, family, womanhood, manhood, even children; on drugs, alcohol, pornography, on abortion and suicide...
- These are all outward symptoms of another war...
- The most terrible war is a spiritual war.

The Battle Is Not Always Visible

- Eph. 6:11-12 – There are things we cannot see or touch that still affect us – **the physical senses may not always testify to the enemy's presence.**
- 2 Cor. 11:13-15 – **Satan is invisible, but his servants can be seen and identified!** Compare 1 Pet. 5:8-9.
- Eph. 6:13-18 – **Nothing physical can protect in a spiritual battle** – only the full, spiritual armor of God!
- 2 Cor. 10:3-6 – Our weapons are not physical, but they are powerful and more than sufficient! **Emphasize v. 6!**

Where Is the Battleground?

- Mk. 8:36-37 – The war is over the possession of our souls and the battleground is our hearts and minds!
- Rom. 7:15 – **Paul's struggle is typical...**
- Rom. 7:25 “**I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!** So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.” Which controls our lives?
- 1 Pet. 1:13 – Christians, and the church, are more vulnerable to attacks from within than from without.
- Heb. 10:16 – **God's solution is to instill His word in our hearts and minds!** Also Phil. 2:5; 4:7 & Jas. 1:21-22.

No Ceasefire in this Battle!

- Phil. 3:13-14 – Sometime we may have to dig in, but we must not be willing to surrender ground!
- 2 Cor. 11:3 – **Our enemy is deceptive and cunning, with a goal of corrupting our minds!**
- 2 Tim. 2:3-6 – We must be trained, prepared, focused, proficient, obedient, and hardworking.
- 1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim. 4:6-8 – **The fight continues until there is victory – for one side or the other...**

Decision...

- We can be well trained and motivated – 2 Tim. 2:3-6.
- We can be well supported – Rom. 8:31-32.
- We can be sober and vigilant – 1 Pet. 5:8.
- We can resist, steadfast in faith – 1 Pet. 5:9.
- When tempted, we can escape – 1 Cor. 10:13.
- We can be fully armored and armed – Eph. 6:11-12.
- “Having done all” we can stand at the end – Eph. 6:13.
- With whom do you stand today?

A Charge to Keep I Have

Charles Wesley

A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save,
And fit it for the sky.
To serve the present age,
My calling to fulfill:
Oh, may it all my pow'rs engage
To do my Master's will!
Arm me with jealous care,
As in Thy sight to live;
And O Thy servant, Lord, prepare
A strict account to give!
Help me to watch and pray,
And on Thyself rely,
Assured, if I my trust betray,
I shall forever die.

2Co 11:13 For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

2Co 11:15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

2Co 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.

2Co 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

2Co 10:5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

2Co 10:6 and being ready to punish all disobedience **when your obedience is fulfilled.**

Mar 8:36 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

Mar 8:37 Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Rom 7:15 For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.

Rom 7:24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Rom 7:25 I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

1Pe 1:13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

1Pe 1:14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance;

1Pe 1:15 but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct,

1Pe 1:16 because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

Heb 10:16 "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR HEARTS, AND IN THEIR

MINDS I WILL WRITE THEM,"

Heb 10:17 then He adds, "THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE."

Php 3:13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

Php 3:14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Php 3:15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.

2Co 11:3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

1Ti 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.