



Spiritual Warfare

When we speak about spiritual battles, the easiest question to answer is “will we face them?” The answer to this question is a definite “yes”. Ever since the devil came against Adam and Eve in the garden, people have been facing spiritual battles. A part of living an overcoming, victorious Christian life is learning how to respond during times of spiritual warfare. In this lesson we will learn about how to fight spiritual battles.

I. Seeing the Battle

A. In 2 Kings 6:15-18, what did Elisha pray for and what did his servant see?

(He prayed that the Lord would open up his servant’s eyes. The Lord opened the servant’s eyes and he saw that the mountain was filled with horses and chariots of fire.)

B. According to 1 Corinthians 13:12 how do we see the spiritual world now? **(We currently see the spiritual world as through a mirror dimly or a glass darkly.)**

C. Explain in your own words what you think happened in Daniel 10:12-14. **(God heard Daniel’s prayer immediately but the angel that was delivering the answer was hindered in the spiritual realm by demonic forces until Michael the Archangel came and defeated the demonic force called the Prince of Persia.)**

D. What do we learn about our enemy in 1 Peter 5:8? **(He prowls about like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour.)**

E. What do we struggle against? (Ephesians 6:12) **(We struggle against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.)**

F. According to James 3:13-15 and I Timothy 4:1 what spiritual beings can affect the thinking of people? **(Deceitful spirits and demons)**

G. According to Hebrews 1:13-14 how are angels described and what is their mission? **(Angels are described here as ministering spirits. Their mission is to render service to the saints.)**

H. Notice that Eve faced a spiritual battle in Genesis 3:1-6. Who faced a spiritual battle in Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 22:39-46? **(Jesus)** How did He win the battle? **(He won the battle by coming against satanic lies with the truth of the Word of God.)**

I. According to Matthew 12:22 and Luke 8:26-39 what can happen to people who are not protected by the blood of Jesus? **(They can become possessed by demons.)**

II. Knowing How to Fight

A. What power is given to believers according to Luke 10:17-20 & Mark 3:15? **(Authority over demons including authority to cast demons out of demon possessed people.)**

B. What was a common happening in the New Testament church? (Acts 8:6-7; 19:11-12) **(Demons were cast out of people and people were miraculously healed of diseases.)**

C. What do we learn about spiritual warfare in Acts 19:13-18? **(We learn that the authority and power to cast out demons comes from our relationship to Jesus Christ. This ability cannot be obtained any other way. Our relationship to Jesus Christ cannot be faked in the spiritual realm and it is dangerous to deal with demons in human strength.)**

D. List the armor we are told to put on in Ephesians 6:10-17 and think about what each piece means to you: **(Gird your loins with truth) (Wear the breastplate of righteousness) (Wear the shoes of the gospel of peace) (Hold on to the shield of faith) (Put on the helmet of salvation) (Carry the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God)**
(Note – Remember to think about what each of these means to you.)

(With this armor we are told to stand **(firm)** and to stand against **(the schemes of the devil)**)

E. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 tells us we have **(weapons)** that are **(not of the flesh but are divinely powerful)**

What are we told we can accomplish with these weapons? **(We can pull down spiritual strongholds or fortresses. Also, we can take destroy speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.)**

F. Note the following weapons and their potential impact upon spiritual battles.

1. The Name of Jesus (Philippians 2:9-11) (Acts 3:6-8) (1 Samuel 17:45)
(Name exalted above every name. In His Name there is victory and healing!)
2. The Blood of Jesus (Exodus 12) (Hebrews 9:11-14) (Revelation 12:10)
(Legal payment to remove the penalty of sin and bring protection and victory!)
3. The Word of our Testimony (Revelation 12:10-11) (Psalm 107:2)
(Power and victory over satanic enemies as we testify to what God has done in us!)
4. The Anointing of the Spirit (Luke 24:49) (1 Corinthians 12:7-12)
(Power and spiritual gifts to enable us to minister as witnesses for Jesus!)
5. The Word of Promise (Isaiah 55:11) (Hebrews 4:12) (Revelation 19:15) (Ephesians 6:17)
(God's Word is powerful, alive and active! It accomplishes His purposes!)
6. Faith (Ephesians 6:16) **(Extinguishes the flaming arrows of the evil one!)**

