

Spiritual Warfare

What Are We Fighting For Part 1 Prayer School Spring, 2022

Key Scripture:

Ephesians 6:10-13

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” (ESV)

What Are We Fighting For?

Every war is fought with a purpose. As Christians, we must understand why we are waging war. Otherwise, we will not engage in the fight. We’ll find ourselves apathetic, resistant, and defeated!

Our reasons for in engaging in this warfare are:

1. To Live in the Presence of God

- A. **In this life** – the Bible has a lot to say about the intention of God that we would pursue life with Him above everything else.

Jeremiah 29:13

“You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.”

John 15:4

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.”

Psalms 27:4

“One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.”

- B. **In eternity** – our eternity with the Lord is secure because of the finished work of Christ on the cross. However, we are obligated to live this life in a manner

worthy of Christ's sacrifice.

2 John 1:8

"Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully. "

1 Corinthians 9:27

"No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize."

We fight to please God and ultimately, to be rewarded by him in eternity. John and Paul strived for holiness to preserve their usefulness to God in this life and, therefore, the fulness of their reward in eternity.

We do not live in constant fear of the loss of our salvation. However, we should live our lives in the fear of God, Who freed us from sin's power, and war against every temptation to be taken captive by it again.

2. The Glory of God

Habakkuk 2:14

*"For the earth will be filled with the **knowledge** of the glory of the Lord."*

God's goal is to glorify Himself throughout all the earth. The devil and his forces make every effort to thwart this majestic purpose.

We make war for the purpose of seeing God glorified, in every way, in every place, till the glorious day when His glory fills all things.

1 Cor. 10:31

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

John 2:17

When Christ went into the temple and turned over the money changers' tables, he was consumed with zeal for God's house; his heart was set on the glory of God.

We also take action for the glory of God – for the honor of His Name.

1 Peter 2:11-12

"Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."

A person not preoccupied with the glory of God filling the earth will have no motivation to fight beyond struggling to keep their own head above water.