

The Calvary Chapel New Believers Bible Study Series

Study Number 14:

The Devil and Spiritual Warfare

SATAN

C. S. Lewis once said that the greatest scheme of the Devil is either to make you think he does not exist, or to fool you into believing he has more power than he does. The Bible presents the devil as a real character and the demons as real enemies. Although they do not have the power to overcome God or His will for our lives, this does not mean that they cannot try and ruin our lives as believers.

1. His names give us insight into his evil character:

Satan - (Greek) Satanias (adversary or opponent) most common name used 52 times.

The devil (slanderer) 35 times.

A liar and murderer - **John 8:44**.

The god of this age - **2 Corinthians 4:4**.

An angel of light - **2 Corinthians 11:14,15**.

Ruler of the kingdom of the air - **Ephesians 2:2**.

The tempter - **1 Thessalonians 3:5**.

Apollyon (destroyer) - **Revelation 9:11**

The accuser of our brothers - **Revelation 12:10**.

2. How does Satan operate?

As a schemer - **Ephesians 6:11**

As a lion - **1 Peter 5:8,9**

As a liar - **John 8:44**

As a deceiver - **Genesis 3:13, Revelation 20:10**

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Ephesians 6:10-18

How do we stand strong against Satan's schemes, lies and attacks?

1. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might; not by ourselves.

Ephesians 6:10

2. Put on the full armor, not part of it or there will be a weak spot for Satan to attack.

Ephesians 6:11, 13

- *The Belt of Truth* - Truth overcomes deceit and lies and is key to every area of the Christian life.
- *The Breastplate of Righteousness* - This speaks of right acts as practiced by the believer. The breastplate was to protect the heart of the soldier.
- *The Sandals of the Gospels* - The sandals speak of mobility and preparedness. We are to be ready to use God's Word in spiritual battle (**1 Peter 3:15**).
- *The Shield of Faith* - (Above all take this up) - the shield of faith protects us from the attacks (those fiery darts) of Satan. (such as temptations, impure thoughts, etc.).

- *The Helmet of Salvation* - It refers to the intake of the Word that will help protect our thoughts from doubt and the world, the flesh, and the devil. It will make us secure in our relationship with the Lord.
- *The Sword which is the Word of God* - It is the only offensive weapon. When attacked, respond with the Word.

3. Realize it is not a physical battle, it is spiritual - **Ephesians 6:12**.

Read **2 Corinthians 10:4-5**.

What can spiritual weapons accomplish? _____

4. Pray always

It is God's will that we pray continually (**1 Thessalonians 5:17**) - **Ephesians 6:18**.

5. How did Jesus respond to Satan's attack?

Read **Matthew 4:1-11**

What was Jesus' physical condition? _____

What did Jesus respond with to Satan's three offers? - **Matthew 4:4,7,10** _____

What is the only offensive weapon we have in the spiritual armor? See **Ephesians 6**. _____

What does this tell us about handling temptation, or trials of any kind? _____

What is the promise of **1 John 4:4**? _____

6. So much of spiritual warfare is not getting all worked up and shouting at the devil. It is all about standing in the place that Christ has given us as believers. Too much focus is on the devil rather than on God and what He has done for us. Let's stand in Christ and keep our eyes on Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith. (**Hebrews 12:2**)

Notes or Questions _____

Assignments: Read **Matthew 4:1-11** and Jude. Memorize **Ephesians 6:12**, and pray for one another.
