

Praying Through Spiritual Battles February 6, 2022

Spiritual <u>attacks</u> are going to happen in your life. If you are not <u>ready</u> you will be defeated.

This is a battle that you cannot win, but God cannot lose.

¹⁰ A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. **Ephesians 6:10-12 NLT**

A growing believer and the forces of the enemy are on a collision course with one another.

- Make the Christian life hard
- Make the Christian life easy
- Push you to conform to the world
- Push you to give in to your <u>fleshly</u> desires
- <u>Divide</u> the body
- Encourage you to rely on yourself

If you wait to prepare after the battle has started you are already defeated.

¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **Ephesians 6:13-17 NLT**

Fighting spiritual battles requires you to know the truth.

³¹ Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. ³² And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." **John 8:31-32 NLT**

About your <u>enemy</u>

^{44b}...He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies. **John 8:44b NLT**

About yourself

¹ See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. 1 John 3:1 NLT

• About your God

⁵ This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. 1 John 1:5 NLT

Fighting spiritual battles requires you to pray.

Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees.

-William Cowper

Prayer gives you the <u>energy</u> they need to put on the armor and fight the battle that is in front of them.

Prayer ensures that you are fighting the <u>right battles</u>.

¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. ¹⁹ And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike.

Ephesians 6:18-19 NLT

- In the Spirit
- All the time
- During every occasion
- With <u>persistence</u>
- For other believers

Winning spiritual battles requires you to <u>surrender</u>.

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Matthew 16:24 ESV

The key to experiencing spiritual victory is not being <u>true</u> to yourself, it's surrendering to His <u>truth</u>.