

Lesson 1 WHAT IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE?

“We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” (Ephesians 6:12)

In this lesson, we want to clarify what spiritual warfare is and how it relates to those who are overcoming addictions through God’s grace. Here are the most commonly asked questions and answers concerning spiritual warfare. Write in the Scriptures that apply.

What is spiritual warfare?

Spiritual warfare is an everyday, constant battle between the Devil and his fallen angels (demons) against God, His angels, and His people (believers).

Why is there spiritual warfare?

All men will live eternally, either with God in His kingdom (heaven), or with Satan and his fallen angels in the place prepared for them, the lake of fire (hell). Once a person becomes a believer, he or she is in opposition to Satan. Therefore, the object of spiritual warfare is for the Devil to steal, kill, and destroy Christian souls eternally.

1. Matthew 10:28:

Does everyone know about spiritual warfare?

No. People who are not “born again” of God’s Spirit through faith in Jesus Christ are not aware of a spiritual battle because they practice sin and evil. They are on Satan's side, not God's side. Note: It is possible that a non-believer may hear about spiritual warfare, but it would make little or no sense to them.

2. 1 Corinthians 2:14:

Can a believer truly love and serve Jesus and not be involved in spiritual warfare?

No. The moment you become a child of God, your life is no longer your own. You become a soldier in the Lord’s army.

3. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20:

4. 2 Timothy 2:3-4:

What should a believer's attitude be toward spiritual warfare?

Positive! We are now on God's side and He wants all people to be saved. Winning souls for the kingdom of God is the number one priority of God. Therefore, if Satan wants to destroy all people and God wants to save them, we will experience this spiritual warfare.

5. 1 Timothy 2:4:

6. Matthew 28:19-20:

The Facts About Spiritual Warfare

Now that we have established the reality of spiritual warfare, we need to learn how to survive in this invisible battle. The first thing to remember is that "the battle is the Lord's" (1 Samuel 17:47). We must "be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10). We have no natural power to defeat the forces of darkness. If I am to be victorious, I must draw my strength from the Lord.

7. Can the wicked one (Satan) touch me? Who lies under Satan's sway (control and power)? See 1 John 5:18-19.

8. Why does Satan (called the "god of this age") blind people? See 2 Corinthians 4:4.

Read 2 Timothy 2:23-26.

9. What must believers avoid and why? (verse 23)

10. What must a servant of the Lord do? (verse 24)

11. How are we to correct those who are blinded by Satan? (verse 25)

12. Why has Satan taken every non-believer captive? (verse 26)

These are facts. As a believer in Christ, it is important to see things as God does and realize that we are always victorious through Jesus. Even so, Satan will try many different tactics to discourage and distract us from the plans God has for our lives.

*"But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one."
(2 Thessalonians 3:3)*