

Supernatural – Spiritual Warfare

3-28-10

I. Introduction

- A. There is another world, a **spiritual world, a supernatural realm** that is just as real as, and even more powerful than what we see in the physical world.

II. Spiritual Warfare Defined

- A. Billy Graham from his book “Angels” – “We live in a perpetual battlefield...The wars among the nations on earth are mere popgun affairs compared to the fierceness of battle in the spiritual unseen world. This invisible spiritual conflict is waged around us incessantly and unremittingly. Where the Lord works, Satan’s forces hinder; where angel beings carry out divine directives, the devils rage. All this comes about because the powers of darkness press their counterattack to recapture the ground held for the glory of God.”
- B. Satan actively seeks to oppose God, His purposes, plans, and that means he seeks to oppose His people.

III. Five Attacks

- A. Blinds the Minds of Unbelievers
 - We wonder why our family and friends can’t embrace the truth.
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4 - *4The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*
- B. Steal God’s Word From Those Who Hear it
 - Satan steals our motivation and determination to act on God’s word when we hear something that stirs us.
- C. He Will Set Traps To Ensnare You
 - 2 Timothy 2:26 - *and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.*
- D. Fights To Stop The Work Of God In Your Life
 - 1 Thessalonians 2:18 - *For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan stopped us.*
- E. Satan Plans to Destroy You
 - 1 Peter 5:8 - Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

IV. How Do We Engage In Spiritual Warfare?

- A. Fight through His power, not our own.
 - Ephesians 6:10 - *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.*
 - Jude 1:9 - *But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"*
 - Psalm 20:7 - *Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.*

B. We are not alone in our battles.

- 1 Kings 6:15-17 - *When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh, my lord, what shall we do?" the servant asked. 16"Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."17And Elisha prayed, "O LORD, open his eyes so he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

C. Prayer

- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 - *For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.*
- Daniel 10:8, 12-14 - *So I was left alone, gazing at this great vision; I had no strength left, my face turned deathly pale and I was helpless.12Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them.13But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. 4Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come."*

V. Put On The Full Armor Of God

- A. Ephesians 6:13-18 - *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. 14Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.*

VI. Conclusion