

Eph 6:10–11 - 10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

THE INVISIBLE ENEMY (pt 2)

Ephesians 6:12-13

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

Three facts about our battle against evil...

I. IT IS AN INTENSE BATTLE

12 For our struggle...against...

Three facts about our battle against evil...

I. IT IS AN INTENSE BATTLE

II. IT IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

12...is not against flesh and blood...

1 John 5:19 - We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

HOEHNER – *It is a spiritual battle against spiritual mafia.*

II. IT IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

4 descriptions of the evil minions that do Satan's bidding:

12...but against the rulers,

1 John 5:19 - We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

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12...against the powers...

***Luke 12:11** - When they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not worry about how or what you are to speak in your defense, or what you are to say;*

***Titus 3:1** - Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient...*

***Col 1:16** - For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.*

***Col 2:15** - When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.*

***Eph 3:10** – (Paul was told by God to preach the gospel) so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places*

II. IT IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

4 descriptions of the evil minions that do Satan's bidding:

12...the world forces of this darkness...

Eph 4:18 - being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart...

John 12:46 - I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.

Acts 26:18 – (Paul was called to preach the gospel) to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God...

Col 1:13 - For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son,

1 Pet 2:9 - But you are A CHOSEN RACE ... so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Rom 13:12 - ... let us lay aside the deeds of darkness...

Eph 5:8, 11 - 8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light ... 11 Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness...

II. IT IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

4 descriptions of the evil minions that do Satan's bidding:

12...the spiritual forces of wickedness...

Eph 1:3 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

Eph 5:19 – speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord...

***Jer 23:11** - For both prophet and priest are polluted; Even in My house I have found their wickedness," declares the LORD.*

***Jer 33:5** - ... I have hidden My face from this city because of all their wickedness:*

***Mark 7:21–22** - 21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, 22 deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.*

***Rom 1:28–29** - 28 ... God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness...*

JOHN STOTT – *These demons have no moral principles, no code of honor, no higher feelings. They recognize no Geneva Convention to restrict or partially civilize the weapons of their warfare. They are utterly unscrupulous, and ruthless in the pursuit of their malicious designs.*

II. IT IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

4 descriptions of the evil minions that do Satan's bidding:

12...the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

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4 descriptions of the evil minions that do Satan's bidding:

12...the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Eph 1:20–21 - 20 ... He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion...

Eph 2:6 - and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Job 1:6-12

Dan 10:13, 20 - 13 "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was withstanding me for twenty-one days; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia. ... 20 .. and behold, the prince of Greece is about to come.

II. IT IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

4 descriptions of the evil minions that do Satan's bidding:

12...the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

2 Cor 11:14 -Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

William Bridge – Satan will tell us 100 true things in order to get us to listen to the 101st thing he says – the lie by which he traps us.

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- II. IT IS A SPIRITUAL BATTLE
- III. IT IS A WINNABLE BATTLE

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13...and having done everything, to stand firm.

Eph 6:18 - With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints...

Rom 8:33–35, 38–39 - 33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect...34 who is the one who condemns?... 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ?... 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.