



The Invisible War

Pastor Brad Howard - October 29, 2023

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. 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. 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.

Ephesians 6:10-13 NLT

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV

Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive (kidnapped) by him to do whatever he wants. (emphasis mine)

2 Timothy 2:26 NLT

SOME WARNINGS

- WE NEED BALANCE

Be sober [well balanced and self-disciplined], be alert and cautious at all times. That enemy of yours, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion [fiercely hungry], seeking someone to devour.

1 Peter 5:8 AMP

- WE NEED WISDOM

Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.

Proverbs 4:7 NKJV

BIBLICAL WISDOM IS THE ACQUIRED SKILL OF APPLYING KNOWLEDGE RIGHTLY, OR SKILL IN THE DISCIPLINE OF GODLY LIVING.

So don't go to war without wise guidance; victory depends on having many advisers.

Proverbs 24:6 NLT

...I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

Romans 16:19-20a NIV



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WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU'RE UNDER ATTACK

1. BEGIN WITH PRAYER AND WORSHIP TO THE LORD.

Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off!

Acts 16:25-26 NLT

"Worship is when we give our deepest affections and highest praise to something or somebody. It's when we prize God above everything else and put Him first in our lives."

And 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 Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:18 NIV

2. ACTIVATE GOD'S WORD VOCALLY

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 NLT

Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT BY EVERY WORD OF GOD.' "

Luke 4:1-4 NKJV

3. WORK IT OUT

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

James 2:26 NKJV

Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

James 2:26 NKJV

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:7 NIV