

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

"Targeting the Enemy"

Eph. 6:10-12

I. THAT YOU MAY BE ABLE TO STAND AGAINST THE WILES OF THE DEVIL

II. A. WE DON'T ALL FIGHT THE SAME WARFARE

B. Don't fight on same level; Don't have same enemy target.

C. Some of God's people are called to higher level of combat. Go beyond personal problems; universal problems.

1. Pat Robertson
2. James Dobson
3. D. James Kennedy
4. Jerry Falwell

D. Some are fighters; some are lovers; some are loving fighters; some just love to fight.

1. Phil. 1:15-18 - "Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good

will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice."

2. All these ministries have a place, and must be recognized.

E. All do not fight with the same weapons.

1. Some are called to blow a trumpet--to sound the alarm.
2. Others are called to be intercessors.
3. All are a part of the Army of God.
4. All of us have a common enemy; need to join together to win.

III. THREE LEVELS OF ACTIVITY

A. Works of flesh - dealt with through crucifixion of the flesh.

B. Demonic activity - dealt with through deliverance.

C. Higher level activity - dealt with through warfare.

D. Could be considered to be progressive.

1. Basic battle is with the works of the flesh--blame on the devil.
2. Other battles could deal with spiritual activity--demons
3. First two where most immature Christians are doing total

warfare.

4. Dealing with warfare a higher order.

IV. FOUR AREAS OF HIGH WARFARE

A. Principalities

B. Powers

C. Rulers of darkness

D. Spiritual wickedness in high places

V. PRINCIPALITIES (LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT)

- A. Principality is a domain of authority, such as city, county, state, nation, world.
- B. There are rulers over each domain, called principalities.
- C. Each domain has a unique personality.
 - 1. Personality dependent on personality of ruler.
 - 2. Personality dependent on level of spiritual activity in that community.
 - a. Prayer level of community.
 - b. Light or witness of believers.
 - c. Assertiveness of the church.
 - d. Standard or level of values (based on effective influence of the church).
 - e. Resistance to the works of darkness.
- D. Not everyone qualified to deal with principalities
 - 1. Moses with Pharaoh
 - 2. Daniel with Babylon
 - 3. Ezek. 28 - King of Tyrus

VI. POWERS

- A. Means of control over others.
- B. Economic power
 - 1. God of mammon.
 - 2. Money means power; root of all evil.
- C. Media power (Newspapers, printed page, movie industry, pornographic materials, TV, radio).
 - 1. Means of control of men's souls by power of suggestion, influence, lust through gates of the ear and eyes (seek to pervert this generation).
 - 2. Propagator of humanistic concepts seeking to pollute with filth and spread an anti-god message.
- D. Power of music
 - 1. Vehicle of demonic activity to gain souls of men.
 - 2. Used to channel young people into drugs, witchcraft, devil worship.
- E. Political power.
- F. Power of organized crime.

VII. RULERS OF DARKNESS

- A. Blindness, deception, unenlightenment.
- B. Lewd, base, grotesque.
- C. This is the domain of being stripped of your dignity.
- D. Dungeon, prison, gutter.

VIII. SPIRITUAL WICKEDNESS IN HIGH PLACES

- A. A place of false worship.
 - 1. Lev. 26:30 - *"I will destroy your high places."*

2. I Ki. 22:43 - "And he (Jehosophat) walked in all the ways of Asa his father; he turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of the Lord: nevertheless the high places were not taken away; for the people offered and burnt incense yet in the high places."

3. II Kings 18:4 - "He (Hezekiah) removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense of it."

4. II Kings 21:3-6 - "Manaseh built up again the high places which Hezekiah had destroyed; and he reared up altars for Baal...made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards...he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the Lord..."

5. Rise of cultic worship, witchcraft, and devil worship

B. High place also a place of true worship

1. I Kings 3:2 - "Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built unto the name of the Lord, until those days. And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places. And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar."

2. Spiritual wickedness in high places could be disguised, and will represent abomination in the house of the Lord.

3. Great persecution from those who call themselves by the name of the Lord--those who would kill you thinking they're doing God a service.

IX. THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE ARE MIGHTY

A. Through God.

B. Pulling down of strongholds.

C. Casting down imaginations.

D. Every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.

E. Bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

Next Week: What are our weapons?