

Oxford Baptist Church - January 19, 2020 – Pastor Robin W. Pifer
Sermon Series – Ephesians – Transformed for Christ’s Glory
Winter Series – Spiritual Warfare
Message: Our Enemies and Our Victory – Eph 6:11-13

There is a spiritual battle going on between the forces of darkness (Satan’s domain) and the Kingdom of God. James 4:7

Spiritual Battles are fought in Heavenly Places against the Spiritual Forces of Evil with Victory through the mighty power of God.

C.S Lewis – Screwtape Letters – “There are two equal and opposite errors in which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.”

The Spiritual Battle is in the Heavenly Places.

Eph 1:3, 18-22; 2:6; 3:10; 1John 3:8; 1Cor 10:20-21

The Spiritual Battle is not against Flesh and Blood.

- Demonic rulers of a territory. Eph 4:27
- Authorities and powers – demons of influence.
- Powers of this dark world – Political systems - 1Peter 3:22; Acts 4:12; Romans 8:9
- Spiritual Forces of this World -false spirituality.

How can we distinguish between Authentic teaching and counterfeit theology? Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ, Authority of Scripture, Triunity of God – One God, existing in three equal individual persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The deity of Jesus Christ. Total Sinfulness of Human Beings. Salvation is by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Heb 5:14; 1John 4:1

The Spiritual Battle is won through the Mighty Power of God.

2Cor 10:4; Put on the full armour of God. Jesus Christ is the highest authority. Philippians 2:9-11

How can we be free in Jesus Christ and have victory over evil forces?

- Come to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Deliverance is only possible through Jesus Christ. Put on the Armour of God.
- Be Filled with the Holy Spirit by faith.
- Destroy all occult objects in your home. Acts 19:18
- Break off all mediumistic contacts. Horoscope
- Repent and renounce past Satanic or occult practices, confess your guilt and receive Christ’s forgiveness. 2Cor 4:2; Prov 28:13
- Follow - through with your commitment to Christ. Be in prayer and place yourself under the protection of Jesus Christ’s Blood. Heb 9:14; Heb 10:22 Eph. 1:7
- Realize Christ is the Victor over the powers of darkness
- Confess and prayer things through with a mature believer in Jesus Christ.
- Guard against the return of demonic influences. Luke 11:24

Life Group Questions

1. Discuss the quote by C.S. Lewis. Why is this important to understand?
2. The Spiritual battle is in the Heavenly Places. Take time to read the scriptures associated with this point.
3. Why is it important to understand our spiritual battles are not against flesh and blood (people). How does this assist us in our ministry to others?
4. Paul describes the various demonic levels in these verses. How do you see these forces at work today in our culture and world?
5. Why are our beliefs (teaching, theology) so important in distinguishing between truth and error? 1John 4:1
6. Discuss how our spiritual battles are won through the Mighty power of God. Why is it important for us to understand the practical points given to be free in Jesus Christ?
7. Do you have an area of your life that you need to be set free in Jesus Christ? What steps do you need to take? Do you need to talk to a mature believer in Jesus Christ to assist you in your spiritual freedom?