



Go for God!

“VICTORY IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE!”

EPHESIANS 6:10-20

> Three Keys to VICTORY:

> KEY #1 – BE STRONG IN THE LORD & IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT! (v10)

2 Cor 10:3-6 - *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but **mighty in God** for pulling down **strongholds**, casting down arguments and every **high thing** that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.*

- **Strongholds** – Are fortified false religions (i.e.- like a fortified city).
- **Arguments & every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God** - Humanism, Evolution, Secularism, Socialism/Communism, Psychology.

> KEY #2 – PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD! (v11-17)

(v11) **Who is this devil? (Know your enemy!)**

(1) **Satan’s existence** is mentioned in 19 of the 27 New Testament books; in the gospels 29 references are given to Satan, 25 of these by Christ.

(2) **Satan’s origin** is found in **Ezekiel Ch. 28** and he is referred to as “**the anointed cherub**” and his rebellion is found in **Isaiah Ch. 14** in the five “**I will’s**” of pride and arrogance that he will be greater than God. According to **Revelation 12:4** **a third of the angels in heaven** followed him at that time.

- Satan is mighty, but not almighty; wise, but not all knowing; present, but not omni-present. Satan is not equal with God or Jesus Christ; however, he is a created angel of the highest rank.

(3) There are as many as **40 different titles given to Satan** in Scripture:

- **Devil means “accuser,”** because he accuses God’s people day and night before the throne of God (Rev. 12:7-11). **Satan means “adversary,”** because he is the enemy of God. He is also called the **tempter** (Matt. 4:3).

- **In John 8:42-47** - *Jesus said to them (the religious leaders), “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. **You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him.** When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”*

- **Satan** is compared to a **lion** (1Peter 5:8), a **serpent** (Gen. 3:1; Rev. 12:9), and an **angel of light** (2 Corin. 11:13-15), as well as “**the god of this age**” (2 Corin. 4:4).

- **Some of the fallen angels** have already been dealt with by God, in **2 Peter 2:4-5** - *For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of*

darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;

Jude 6 -*And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;*

- A.E. Dickason in his book "**Angels: Good and Evil**" writes about **Satan's wiles or strategies** by saying, "God is light, Satan is darkness and desires to keep light from others. God is love and promotes love; Satan is hateful and promotes hate. God is life and creates life, whereas Satan operates in the realm of death. Satan's counterfeit system may be irreligious. He may deny the existence of God or His control. To explain the world, he substitutes evolution for creation, uniformitarianism for providence, human progress for divine salvation, and man's utopia for God's Kingdom on earth. Atheism, agnosticism, pragmatism, existentialism, and relativism are his substitutes for truth."

- **Satan also promotes counterfeit religions through doctrines of demons (1 Tim. 4:1); and false teachers (2 Corin. 11:13-15) with twisted scripture.**

(v12) ***Satan's army is described in rankings:***

(1) **Principalities** are demons that have the **oversight of nations**.

(2) **Powers** are the privates who are the demons wanting to **possess human beings**.

(3) **Rulers of darkness of this world** are those demons that have charge of Satan's **worldly business**.

(4) **Spiritual wickedness in high places** is demons in the heavenlies who have charge of **religion**.

(v13-17) **PUT ON the ARMOR OF GOD and STAND AGAINST THE ENEMY!**

(v14a) ***Have your waist girded with TRUTH! (John 3:16-21)***

(v14b) ***Put on the breastplate of RIGHTEOUSNESS! (2 Corin. 5:21)***

(v15) ***Shod your feet with the preparation of the GOSPEL OF PEACE! (Acts 16:25-34)***

(v16) ***Take the shield of FAITH and quench the fiery darts of the wicked one! (Rom. 10:17)***

(v17a) ***Take the helmet of SALVATION! (Eph. 2:8,9)***

(v17b) ***Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the WORD OF GOD! (Matt. 4:1-11)***

> **KEY #3 – PRAY & PERSEVERE (v18-20)**

- **Watch & Pray - Matt 26:41- *Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*"**

- **Prayer & fasting - Mark 9:14-29**

- **Pray for boldness - Acts 4:29-31 - *Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.*" And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.**