

# SPIRITUAL WARFARE! (Part 3) "NEVER GIVE UP!!!" EPHESIANS 6:10-20

#### > Three STRAGIES to VICTORY!

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

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, Socialism/Communism, Psychology.

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

#### (v11) Who is this devil?

- (1) <u>Satan's existence</u> 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) <u>Satan's origin</u> is found in Ezekiel Ch. 28 and he is referred to as "the anointed cherub" and his rebellion is found in <u>Isaiah Ch. 14</u> in the five "I will's" and according to Rev. 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. Satan is not equal with God or Jesus Christ; he is a created angel of the highest rank.
- (3) There are as many as 40 different titles given to Satan in Scripture; i.e.- 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), and the murderer and the liar (John 8:44). He 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, read 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;

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

- (1) Principalities are demons that have the oversight of nations.
- (2) <u>Powers</u> are the privates who are the demons wanting to <u>possess human beings</u>.

- (3) <u>Rulers of darkness of this world</u> are those demons that have charge of Satan's <u>worldly business</u> (crime, drugs, immorality, cultural corruption, etc.).
- (4) <u>Spiritual wickedness in high places</u> demons in the heavenlies who have charge of religion.

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

- (v14) Have your waist girded with <u>TRUTH</u>! (John 3:16-21; John 17:17)
  - 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 & quench the fiery darts of the wicked one! (Rom. 10:17)
- (v17) Take the helmet of SALVATION! (Eph. 2:8,9)
  - Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the WORD OF GOD! (Matt. 4:1-11)

#### > (v18-20) STRATEGY #3 – PRAY & PERSEVERE!

- <u>Watch & Pray</u> 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
- <u>Pray for boldness</u> 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.