

I. WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT FIGHTING SPIRITUAL BATTLES?

Notice the Text says,

Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.

We cannot win the battle, - We cannot defeat our foe, - We are not called to do either.

We are called to stand firm; to stand our ground!

The Lord has set us free from Satan's grasp.

Our commission is to: *Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.*

If we put on the whole armor of God, we will be able to stand our ground.

II WHO OR WHAT IS OUR ENEMY?

We know that Satan has a number of names.

The ruler of this world -John 14:30

“Devil” means accuser -Revelation 12:7-11

The God of this age -2 Corinthians 4:4

“Satan” means adversary

Satan is a deceiver and a destroyer -Revelation 12:9

Tempter -Matthew 4:3

Roaring Lion -1 Peter 5:8, 9

Murderer and Liar -John 8:44

Satan is a created being, limited in his knowledge and ability.

He is not all powerful, all knowing, or present everywhere.

He is however a strong enemy, and we cannot afford to ever underestimate him.

III. WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

Satan's fall from heaven is symbolically described in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28.

Jesus witnessed Satan's fall. “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.” Luke 10:18

Satan fell because of pride.

He desired to be God, not to be a servant of God.

A third of the angels followed him and were cast out as well.

IV. WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HIM?

He is extremely powerful and cunning. The only one to ever defeat him was Jesus Christ.

His purpose is to destroy the Kingdom of God.

We know what he's about.

Job 1:6, 7

Here we see he has freedom to come and go in the heavenly realms. [Just as the angels do]

Here we also see his limitations.

Not only is he limited by what God allows,

he cannot understand that the very presence of God is a blessing in and of itself.

He was convinced the only reason Job was faithful was because God had blessed him.

We know his final destination is the lake of fire.

V. SATAN POSSESSES GREAT EVIL POWER, AND WE DARE NOT UNDERESTIMATE HIM.

To underestimate his power is to:

Underestimate the immensity of the spiritual struggle we are facing.

Underestimate the corresponding need for Divine Enablement.

Remember the words of Jude!

Jude 8-10

Our protection against Satan's attacks is assured only if and when we take up the full armor of God.

It is essential that our Armor is complete.

The battles will be fierce, but we can hold on to this great truth:

1 John 4:4 Amplified Bible

We will be engaged in Battle, but the war is already won in Christ.