

Spiritual Warfare: Defend Yourself

Review: Violent Zeal against whatever hinders God's government (Isa 9:7)
not People, Principalities and Powers (Eph 6:12)
look beyond personalities (1 Jn 5:19) - don't fight them, free them

Two Errors in dealing with devils

Overestimating: Fear (story: midnight call), Denial (sowing/reaping)

(Lk 10:17-20) ¹⁷Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." ¹⁸And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰"Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Jesus (His government) is always the focus, not devils (minimum attention necessary)

Underestimating: Ignorance, Indifference

(Ho 4:6) ⁶My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.*.

salvation: joined war in progress - no neutrality, dmz (target 1 Pet 4:12)

"Why does God allow...?" - Why do we?

(examples) sovereignty, authority, responsibility

We're responsible for defending ourselves. (teach children)

You can't afford to be ignorant of your authority or afraid to use it.

Ephesians 6:10-18 - Armor of God

Strength in Him, Stand (4x) = Defense: don't be moved out of your position in Him

Offense: His increasing government/advancing kingdom destroys devils works

(Mt 11:12, 1 Jn 3:8) ex: Worship (Isa 42:10-13)

wisdom (army) - "Needless Casualties of War" by John Paul Jackson

We can always defend ourselves, others.

Belt of **Truth**: vs father of lies (Jn 8:44)

(2Th 2:9-10) ⁹The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

(Jn 17:17) ¹⁷Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word* is truth. (self deception Jam 1:22)

Breastplate of **Righteousness**: has effect (Isa 32:17-18) - protection (vs open doors)

prayer walking story (Isa 54:17)

Feet/Gospel of **Peace**: devils really want to move you out of this position (Rom 16:20)

(Isa 26:3) ³You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind* is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

(Phl 4:6-7) ⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds* through Christ Jesus.

(Col 3:15) ¹⁵And let the peace of God rule (umpire) in your hearts,

Shield of **Faith**: vs darts (lies)

Agreement (Amos 3:3) - Choice: agreement and challenge

devil's limited access (permission): God (Lk 22:31), us (1 Pet 5:8, Prov 26:2)

Helmet of **Salvation**: saved, delivered, healed

Sword of the Spirit: **Word***

Prayer in the Spirit: powerful way to keep ourselves in Him (Jude 20)

Standing in this Armor, we can exercise His Authority against demonic attack.