

## CHRISTIAN WARFARE

### Ephesians 2:1-3

**Ephesians 6:12** As Christians we all have to admit that we are in a war. Our warfare is not a physical fight but a spiritual one, a spiritual warfare between good and evil. There are three primary fronts in the war; they are **The world, The flesh, and the Devil.**

### THE WORLD

**I John 2:15** When the bible speaks of “*the world*” it is referring to the evil world system of beliefs, philosophies, and practices that will not acknowledge the Lord God of heaven and earth.

**James 4:4** In warning and rebuking these believers James is very harsh in condemning the conduct of those that have turned away from their walking with God and have returned to the things of the world.

**Colossians 2:8** Paul is warning some believers within this church that have abandoned biblical truth and gone back to the philosophy and traditions of scientists and false teachers of lost men.

**Titus 2:11-13** Paul is giving Titus the teachings that he wants him to pass on to those believers he is responsible for. Paul shows the great difference between living for the world and living for Christ.

### THE FLESH

**Galatians 5:17** Paul shows us that the flesh, (*the fallen, sinful nature of man*), and the Holy Spirit are in a war for control of man's soul.

**Romans 7:18-23** Paul helps us understand how hard the war is to win against the power of the flesh. If Paul had such a battle with sin and the flesh and was no doubt the greatest Christian on earth, how important is it for us to take heed to the many warnings he gives within all his writings

**I Corinthians 9:27** Paul was concerned with the Corinthian church so much that he told them of his struggles with the flesh. He constantly had to *keep under my body* which means to beat, to smite and to bruise his body. The word *castaway* means one that has not stood the test, not approved, unfit.

### THE DEVIL

**I Peter 5:8-9** The bible warns us from Genesis to Revelation about Satan being our enemy. God warns us of Satan's temptations and hatred for believers. He is waiting to trap us and to kill us.

**Matthew 13:19** This verse tells of the parable of the sower and is overlooked and undervalued to the point that Satan has blinded the minds of most Sunday school workers and soul winners.

**II Corinthians 11:13-15** The bible teaches that the anti-Christ will be a great deceiver like Satan himself, it also warns us that Satan has been deceiving millions in the churches for millennium.

### CHRISTIAN STRATEGY

**I Timothy 6:11-12** Now that we are familiar with our enemies, we need to have a strategy for dealing with them. Paul gives Timothy and all believers the proper strategy for winning the war.

**I Timothy 6:11** Any time we are in a fight or a war, there is a time to move forward and a time to retreat. Paul tells Timothy to *Flee these things*. What things was Paul referring to?

**I Timothy 6:9-10** Paul tells Timothy to flee from the desire to be rich and the love for money.

**I Timothy 6:5** Contrary to the latest preaching craze in health, wealth and prosperity, the bible clearly tells us to stay away from those that have a message that says those things are spiritually right.

**I Timothy 6:11** One of the strategies for winning the war is to *follow after* several spiritual things.

**Righteousness** – means to live a life pleasing to God, purity, integrity, honesty and correctness.

**Godliness** means piety toward God or reverence and loving God's character. **Faith** means a simple trust and belief in all the scriptures say about God and Christ. **Love** means having Godly compassion and good will toward others and a desire to do what is best for others. **Patience** means perseverance and enduring. **Meekness** means having a deep sense of your own unworthiness in the sight of God and submission to God's will

**I Timothy 6:12** Paul says *fight the good fight of faith*. The word fight from the Greek means to agonize or to contend in a contest with the enemy.