

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Lies

Jn 8:44

“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

Ac 5:3; 13:10; 2 Co 11:3

Temptations

Ge 3:1-5

1Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” **2**The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, **3**but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” **4**“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. **5**“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

1 Ch 21:1

Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel. (contrast Ps 20:7)

Mt 4:1-11

1Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **2**After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. **3**The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” **4**Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” **5**Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. **6**“If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”” **7**Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” **8**Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **9**“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” **10**Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” **11**Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Jn 13:2, 27

2The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus... **27**As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. So Jesus told him, “What you are about to do, do quickly.”

Death

He 2:14-15

14Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— **15**and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

Schemes

Ep 6:11-12

11Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. **12**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

2 Co 2:10-11

Accusations

Zc 3:1-5

1Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan ^a standing at his right side to accuse him. **2**The Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?" **3**Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. **4**The angel said to those who were standing before him, "Take off his filthy clothes." Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put fine garments on you." **5**Then I said, "Put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the Lord stood by.

Re 12:7-12

7Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. **8**But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. **9**The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. **10**Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. **11**They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. **12**Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short."

Suffering

Jb 1:6-12

6One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them. **7**The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it." **8**Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." **9**"Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. **10**"Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. **11**But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face." **12**The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

Jb 2:1-7

Lk 13:10-16

10On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, **11**and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. **12**When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." **13**Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God. **14**Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath." **15**The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? **16**Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

2 Co 12:6-7

6Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, **7**or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.

"Demons can and do attach themselves to objects, to houses, or other buildings, to animals and to people."
(Wagner and Pennoyer, *Wrestling with Dark Angels*, p. 76)

Influence on governments

1 Ki 22:15-23

15When he arrived, the king (Ahab) asked him, “Micaiah, shall we go to war against Ramoth Gilead, or not?” “Attack and be victorious,” he answered, “for the Lord will give it into the king’s hand.” **16**The king said to him, “How many times must I make you swear to tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the Lord?” **17**Then Micaiah answered, “I saw all Israel scattered on the hills like sheep without a shepherd, and the Lord said, ‘These people have no master. Let each one go home in peace.’” **18**The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Didn’t I tell you that he never prophesies anything good about me, but only bad?” **19**Micaiah continued, “Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne with all the multitudes of heaven standing around him on his right and on his left. **20**And the Lord said, ‘Who will entice Ahab into attacking Ramoth Gilead and going to his death there?’ “One suggested this, and another that. **21**Finally, a spirit came forward, stood before the Lord and said, ‘I will entice him.’ **22**“ ‘By what means?’ the Lord asked. “‘I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouths of all his prophets,’ he said. “‘You will succeed in enticing him,’ said the Lord. ‘Go and do it.’ **23**“So now the Lord has put a deceiving spirit in the mouths of all these prophets of yours. The Lord has decreed disaster for you.”

Da 10:12-14, 20

12Then he continued, “Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. **13**But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. **14**Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come”... **20**So he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece will come...”

Re 16:12-16

12The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East. **13**Then I saw three impure spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. **14**They are demonic spirits that perform signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty. **15**“Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed.” **16**Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

Re 20:1-3, 7-8

1And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. **2**He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. **3**He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time... **7**When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison **8**and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—and to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore.

Ruling this world

Jn 12:31

“Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.”

Ep 2:1-3

1As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **2**in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. **3**All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts.

1 Jn 5:19

We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

Opposition

Mt 13:18-19

18“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: **19**When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.”

Mt 16:21-23

21From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. **22**Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” **23**Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

1 Th 2:18

For we wanted to come to you--certainly I, Paul, did, again and again--but Satan blocked our way.

Lk 22:31-34

31“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. **32**But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.” **33**But he replied, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.” **34**Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.”

Masquerading through false teachers

2 Co 11:13-15

13For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. **14**And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. **15**It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

1 Ti 4:1

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

Spiritual blindness

2 Co 4:4

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

2 Ti 2:26

24And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. **25**Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, **26**and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

Empowering Anti-Christ

2 Th 2:9-12

9The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, **10**and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. **11**For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie **12**and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

Protection for Christians (Armor of God)

Lk 10:19

“I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.”

Ja 4:7

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Ep 6:10-20

10Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11**Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. **12**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. **13**Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. **14**Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15**and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. **16**In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17**Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. **19**Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, **20**for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

1. Belt of truth—reliability like belt hold pieces in place (Jn 17:17)
2. Breastplate of righteousness—covers sins like breastplate covers vital organs (Ro 3:22-24; Is 59:17)
3. Shoes of Gospel—sharing good news everywhere (Is 52:7)
4. Shield of faith—protection from devil as shield protects from attacks (Ps 91:4)
5. Helmet of salvation—guards mind with peace as helmet protects head (Ph 4:7)
6. Sword of Spirit—offensive weapon of Word (He 4:12)
7. Prayer—call for help through conversation, supplication, intercession

Therapy

1. Alleviates physical, emotional, or mental harm done by demons
2. Without salvation, no amount of therapy will solve one’s spiritual needs (Jn 5:1-14)
3. With salvation, there must be trust in God’s provision or withholding of comfort (2 Co 12:7-10)
4. Power exhibited through Jesus’ cloak (Lk 8:44) and Paul’s handkerchiefs/aprons (Ac 19:12)

Occult Activity

1. Repentance from occult activities and worshiping of Satan/demons
2. No distinction of Satan-worshippers and “regular” unbelievers (Ep 2:1-2)

Ancestor Spirits/Ghosts

1. Ancestor spirit worship focuses on alleviating fear and ascertaining the future
2. Christ is only remedy for fear, is always with us, and will not let go (Re 1:17-18; Mt 28:20; Jn 10:28)

Binding/Loosing

1. “Binding strongman”—Jesus frees from satanic bondage & delivers from evil (Mt 12:29; Co 1:13)
2. Prayers focus on God’s power to bind demonic forces and bring salvation through Jesus

Rebuking

1. Involves verbal confrontation of Satan or demons (Mt 4:10; 17:18; Ac 13:8-11; 16:16-18)
2. False teachers condemned for ignorant, pride-filled rebukes of demons (2 Pe 2:10-13; Jd 1:8-11)
3. Focus prayers to God for His power and work in saving souls

Naming

1. Tactic believed to gain power or authority over demons as Jesus learned Legion’s name (Mk 5:9)
2. Not suggested or practiced anywhere else in Scripture

Repentance

1. Confessing and repenting of known sin so Satan has no foothold (Ep 4:27)
2. Necessary for salvation (Ac 2:38; 3:19; 20:21)
3. Once in Christ, “there is therefore now no condemnation” (Ro 8:1)