

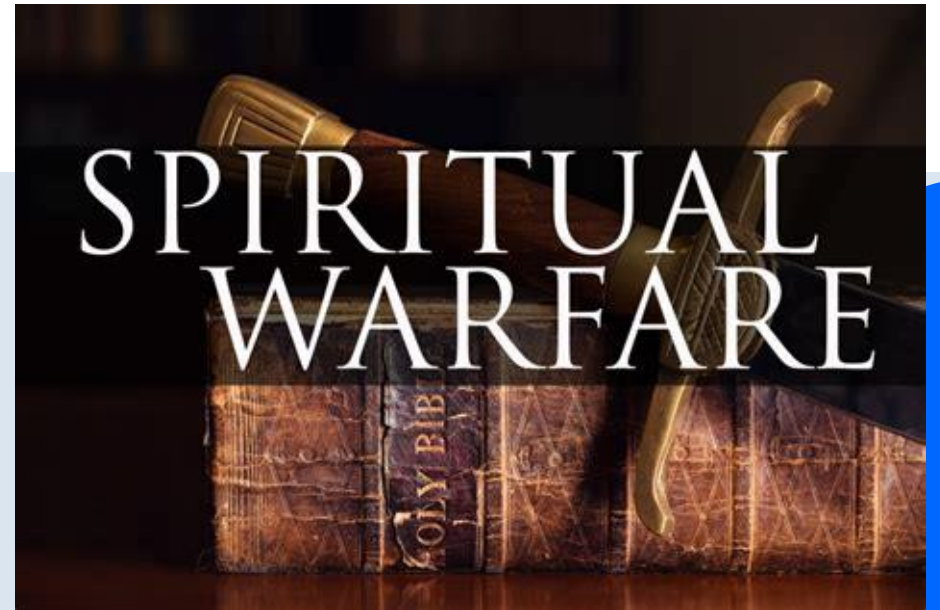


SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Spiritual Warfare

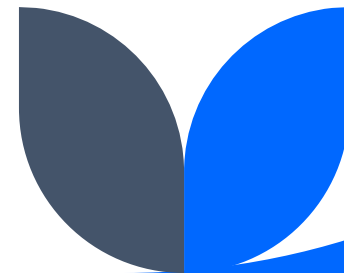
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Pastor Davenport – January 14th, 2024



Opening Prayer – ML's Morning Prayer

I thank you, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that you would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings of life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your Holy angel be with me that the evil foe may have no power over me.
Amen.



Who said this...?

“Why should you fear? Why should you be afraid? Do you not know that the prince of this world has been judged? He is no lord, no prince anymore. You have a different, a stronger Lord, Christ, who has over come and bound him. Therefore let the prince and god of this world look sour, bare his teeth, make a great noise, threaten, and act in an unmannerly way; he can do no more than a bad dog on a chain, which may bark, run....



Who said this...

here and there, and tear at the chain. But because it is tied and you avoid it, it cannot bite you. So the devil acts toward every Christian. Therefore everything depends on this that we do not feel secure but continue in the fear of God and in prayer; then the chained dog cannot harm us. But this chained dog may at least frighten him who would be secure and go ahead without caution, although he may not come close enough to be bitten.”

Who said this...

“The white good-looking devil is the one who does the most harm, the devil who eggs people on to commit spiritual sins, which are not regarded as sins at all but as pure righteousness and are defended as such...

Therefore he must embellish them with a fine appearance and gloss them over with these holy names: God’s Word, the worship of God, a divine life, etc.”



Who said this...

“When God’s holy Word arises, it is always its lot that satan opposes it with all his might. At first, he rages against it with force and wicked power. If that promises no success, he attacks it with false tongues and erring spirits and teachers. What he is unable to crush by force he seeks to suppress by cunning and lies. This was his strategy at the beginning. When the Gospel first came into the world, he launched a mighty attack against it through Jews and Gentiles, shed...

Who said this...

much blood, and filled Christendom with martyrs. When this did not succeed, he raised false prophets and erring spirits and filled the world with heretics...And we must be prepared for this, and by no means allow it to disturb us, for so it must be, as Paul tells the Corinthians: “There must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized”.

What Luther Says, CPH 1959

pp. 391-404



Opening Hymn – A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Verse 1

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon
He Helps us free from every need
That hath us now o'er taken
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal



Opening Hymn – A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Verse 3

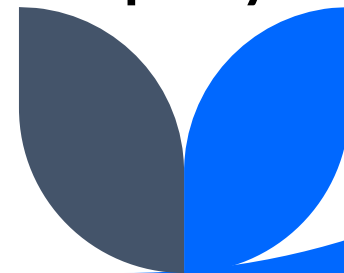
Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us, We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not over-pow'r us.

This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.



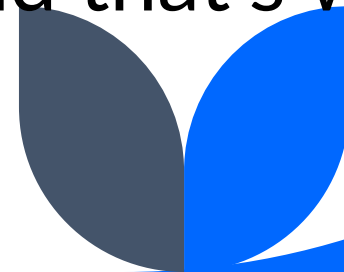
What's going on here?

- Ephesians 6:11 talks about how the devil is scheming (plan of action) against us. What are his plans?
 1. First, he'll try to attack your standing with God. *What is your standing with God?*
 2. Second, he'll attempt to screw up your life as a servant of God on this earth, i.e. attack your contentment – 9th and 10th commandment stuff.
 3. Third, he'll try to drain you of the eternal hope you have in your Savior. *What is your eternal hope?*



What's going on here?

- In 2 Corinthians 11:14b it says, “Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.” But that is only more deception. It is definitely a disguise because Satan’s attitude is anger, rage, and fury to the core. And that is what he wants to take out on you. He wants you to suffer the wretchedness of separation from God that he is suffering.
- Misery loves company. Satan wants you to be his company in eternal death.
- The Bible says in 1 John 3:8b that the reason that Jesus came was to destroy the work of the devil – and that’s what He did through His death and resurrection.



What's going on here?

What does this “wrestling” with sin and the devil look like in your life?

How often does this happen?

Are you aware of what is going on?

Does it help knowing who you're wrestling with?
Why?

