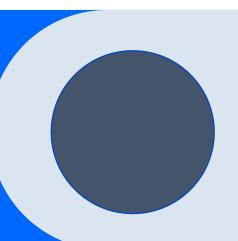


Spiritual Warfare

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Pastor Davenport – January 7th, 2024





What are we going to be doing?

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What is going on here?

Introduction

Our time together is meant to help us know that the victory over death and the grave is already won. We are children of the King!

His victory is ours!

¹³ And you, who **were** dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities^[a] and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Colossians 2:13-15

Romans 6:3-11

³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self^[a] was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free^[b] from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Spiritual Warfare Definition

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

Ephesians 6:12

What's going on here?

- Satan is the accuser/deceiver.
- In John 8:44b, Jesus described the devil's central activity: "He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies."
- Satan wants to lead you astray. Jesus said that lying is the devil's native language. This activity of lying, deception, promoting errant beliefs, spreading half-truths, and justifying wrongs brings a result that Satan most delights in: separating you from a saving walk with Jesus. His lies, Jesus said, result in murder.

What's going on here?

- The last part of Revelation 12:12b reveals Satan's attitude:
 "But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down
 to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"
- If you believe in Jesus or are even contemplating a walk of faith, Satan has you as his target. He has declared war on your life. His aim is to take aim at you.
- 1 Peter 5:8 reinforces: "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."