



SPIRITUAL WARFARE: INEVITABLE TO THE END OF TIME

(PART TWO)

A Study of Daniel 10 • "Spiritual Warfare in the Heavenly Places"

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

"(Spiritual) Warfare Basics"

1. All Christians are involved in Spiritual Warfare whether you know it or not.

Ephesians 6:12, NIV84 -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 Corinthians 10:3–5, TLB – [Paul says]³ It is true that I am an ordinary, weak human being, but I don't use human plans and methods to win my battles.⁴ I use God's mighty weapons, not those made by men, to knock down the devil's strongholds.⁵ These weapons can break down every proud argument against God and every wall that can be built to keep men from finding him. With these weapons I can capture rebels and bring them back to God and change them into men whose hearts' desire is obedience to Christ.

1 Peter 5:8–10, NASB -⁸ Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.⁹ But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

2. Satan—and his demons—are not dead, but they are defeated.

Colossians 2:15, NLT -¹⁵ In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

James 4:7–8, NLT -⁷ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you.

- Think about what one learns from a study of "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" and "The Book of Daniel"—*and all of God's Word!*

3. Most Christians totally underestimate the reality of Spiritual Warfare.

Revelation 12:10, TLB -¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens, "It has happened at last! God's salvation and the power and the rule, and the authority of his Christ are finally here; for the Accuser of our brothers has been thrown down from heaven onto earth—he accused them day and night before our God.

Luke 22:31, TLB -³¹ "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to have you, to sift you like wheat...

1 Peter 5:8, TLB -⁸ Be careful—watch out for attacks from Satan, your great enemy. He prowls around like a hungry, roaring lion, looking for some victim to tear apart.

4. Becoming a Christian does not mean we will no longer have problems; we are at war and will experience "dark valleys."

Psalm 23:4, TLB -⁴ Even when walking through the dark valley of death...

A. What to remember in the dark valleys of life:

i. Dark Valleys are inevitable

John 16:33, TLB -³³ I have told you all this so that you will have peace of heart and mind. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows; but cheer up, for I have overcome the world.

James 1:2, NASB -² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials...

ii. Dark Valleys are unpredictable.

James 1:2, NASB -² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,

Jeremiah 4:20, NLT -²⁰ Waves of destruction roll over the land, until it lies in complete desolation. Suddenly my tents are destroyed; in a moment my shelters are crushed.

iii. Dark Valleys are impartial (Matt. 5:45)

Matthew 5:45, GNB -⁴⁵ For He gives His sunlight and it falls on both the evil and the good, it rains on the just and the unjust alike.

iv. Dark Valleys are temporary. (1 Peter 1:6, 2 Cor. 4:17)

1 Peter 1:6, TLB -⁶ So be truly glad! There is wonderful joy ahead, even though the going is rough for a while down here.

2 Corinthians 4:17, NLT -¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!

396 times, God's Word says, "And it came to pass..."

v. Dark Valleys will result in a greater purpose.

1 Peter 1:6-7, NASB -⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷ so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ...

B. What do we do in the Dark Valleys of Life?

i. Refuse to be eternally discouraged and/or depressed.

Psalms 23:4, NASB -⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me...

ii. Remember that God is with you.

Psalms 23:4, NASB -⁴ ...for You are with me...

Isaiah 43:2, TLB -² When you go through deep waters and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown! When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up—the flames will not consume you.

iii. Rely on God's protection

Psalms 23:4, NASB -⁴ ...your rod and staff comfort me.

Psalms 34:19, TLB -¹⁹ The good man does not escape all troubles—he has them too. But the Lord helps him in each and every one.

The Lord is my Shephard.... – Ps. 23.1

(Loved-one...you have to get this part right. – Pastor Joe)

5. The difficulties we experience as Christians will come from one of seven sources:

Source	Action
Is it the natural consequence of foolish actions and/or decisions?	Learn from your mistakes (Proverbs)
Is it the temptations of Satan?	Endure or (if possible) run from sin (1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Tim. 2:22)
Is it the discipline of God as a consequence of sin?	Confession, repentance, and/or restitution* are the biblical prescription for sin. *Seek restitution if possible; if needed. (James 1:15; 1 John 1:9)
Is it the testing of God, designed to cause spiritual growth?	Pray for wisdom—how does God want you to grow? (James 1:2-5)
Is it the consequence of other people's sin in our lives?	Pray, forgive, and process your story, knowing God brings "good out of bad" (Rom. 8:28; Isaiah 59:3)
Is it the realm of the invisible, spiritual warfare?	Keep praying and keep the faith (Dan. 10, Eph 6:12)
Is it just life in general? You must realize that "we live in a fallen world" that will not be fair be right, or even make sense.	As kindly as it can be put, "get over it." (Ps. 34:19)

6. Adversity caused by any one of these six sources is allowed by God through a perfect blending of two biblical principles:

A. Galatians 6:7-8 - "One reaps what one sows, good or bad."

B. Romans 8:28 - "God can turn even the bad into good."

Romans 8:28, NLT -²⁸ And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

7. Christians are to flee or resist temptation.

"Don't address the demons; pray to God and just claim the blood of Jesus and re-surrender to God."

8. When you sin, confession and humble repentance before God will restore you to a right fellowship with Him. (James 1:9)

9. All believers must use the same weapons in Spiritual Warfare.

Warfare Praying, Fasting, God's Word, Discernment, Church (fellowship/encouragement) and by putting on the full armor of God.