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**Series:** This is War!

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## SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Hello and welcome back to "This is War!"

God is still good. God is busy teaching us His Word. We're going to learn more truths. Join me as we study more and discuss God's Word.

Today I will focus on spiritual warfare. God does not want us to be ignorant or clueless... clueless about what is going on in the spiritual world. Something is happening in the spiritual world. Something is happening. What is happening?

Let's look in the Bible. Hosea 4:6 says, *"My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. 'Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.'"*

You see, when people do not follow God's laws and God's Word, things happen that are disruptive and those things we do not like. We become negative, miserable, and hurt. What we don't know may hurt us.

So, what do we do? God wants us to learn, learn, and continue learning. The only way we will continue to learn is to remain hungry for God's Word. When you are hungry, you will have a burning desire to study, learn, and want to know more about God. When you are hungry for food, what do you do? You eat. It is the same with God's Word. We are either hungry or not hungry.

Excuse me...when we are hungry for God's Word, study the Bible, and spend time in prayer, He will give you, through the Holy Spirit, wisdom and help you learn more.

Now, here's a question. Why do we, as Christians, have spiritual warfare? Why? Why do we sense the battle within our own flesh? Why?

First of all, let me back up a little bit. You know, there has to be a reason for spiritual warfare. There has to be a reason for the United States of America (U.S.A.) to go to war. You don't go to war just to test a new bomb dropped from an airplane or to try a new rocket launcher. You must have a reason. There was a reason for the Gulf War. Saddam Hussein

wanted to overtake oil fields in foreign land. So, we went to war to prevent him from doing this.

Now, regarding spiritual warfare, it is very clear that Satan and his demons do not want God's people to continue receiving His blessings. Satan does not want anyone to become saved, be healed, get a better job, and have a strong marriage. You see...the Bible says very clearly that Satan's goal is, as John 10:10 says, *"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full [abundantly]."*

The word abundantly means plenty...overflowing. Satan does not like you and me. Satan is not in the business of giving you and me blessings. Satan hates you because you belong to Christ. What's more...Satan knows that if you receive blessings from God, you will open your "big mouth." You will tell others about how God is blessing you. People will wonder when you talk about God and Jesus saving your life and helping you. Then, they might become saved, too. They will tell other people, too. This means Satan will lose more people as they are saved. Satan does not want that to happen.

Ephesians 6:10 makes that very clear. Remember, I shared that with you before... Ephesians 6:10-13. Put on the full armor of God. Use your shield. Satan will throw arrows of negativity at you and try to discourage you. Satan's goal is to discourage you so you won't tell other people. Satan is trying to make you a weak Christian. That's Satan's goal...to make you a weak Christian.

And, you know what...Satan is jealous. Oh, yes, he's jealous of you. You're going to heaven, but he's not going there. Heaven's beautiful! It's awesome! Satan knows that. He knows you're going to enjoy yourself in heaven and he's not. How do you think that makes him feel? Do you think he's happy that you're going to heaven? No way. He's mad. He's angry. His goal is to make you a weak Christian...make you go astray from the Lord.

Satan is throwing arrows of negativity at you. He can't force you, but he can throw "darts" at you to try to confuse you and make you feel negative. Then, you'll feel weak, you'll stop going to church, stop reading the Bible, and stop praying. That is his goal.

So, that's why he likes to attack you. But, we must stand strong. We must resist. The only way we will know how is to read the Word of God. When you read the Word, the Word of God will build you up. It will build your spirit. Your spirit will become sensitive. You'll know what's going on in the spiritual world. That only happens through reading and knowing the Word of God.

The Word of God and prayer must work together. You can't have one without the other. They must be together. Amen.

Stand strong. Remember this...don't give up. You and I can make it through spiritual warfare. We can defeat Satan and his plans. We are not quitters. We are winners through Jesus Christ.

Wow! Can you imagine? Can you imagine that Satan is jealous of you? Satan may be thinking, "You're lucky...you're going to heaven...you're lucky..." Can you imagine that? How does that make you feel? You should feel good that you're going to heaven! Satan is not going...too bad. I'm excited that the Lord is building a home for me. I'm excited...I'm looking forward. Can you imagine that? That's inspiring.

Jesus has prepared a place for you. Jesus is making a home for you, your own home with your own name on it. Wow! You and I are blessed.

Well, I hope to see you again in my next sermon. Thank you for watching. God bless you.



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