

JESUS: Who Wins in Spiritual Warfare?

Sermon Series : Jesus

Speaker : Dr. Gerry Breshears

Date : November 12, 2017

Scripture : Eph 6:10-17; Gen 3:1-15; Matt 4:1-11

I. Foundations for Warfare

- A. War is real (Eph. 6:12)
- B. Jesus has condemned the Prince of this World (John 12:31; 16:11; 2 Cor. 4:4; 1 John 3:8)
- C. We are light in the Lord (Eph. 5:8; Col. 1:12-17)
 - 1. Dominion of darkness vs. kingdom of light/Son
 - 2. Live as children of light
- D. Our basic weapons (Eph. 6:10-20)
 - 1. Resist and stand firm
 - 2. Put on the armor which is Christ and Christlikeness

II. Warfare Lost (Gen 3:1-15)

- A. Devil's Tactics
 - 1. What kind of a God would say this?
 - 2. Explain God's agenda
 - 3. God is not trustworthy, does not care about you
- B. Eve's Failure
 - 1. Talk about God instead of with God
 - 2. Study God alone
 - 3. Check things out by her own perception and experience
 - 4. Live life independently
- C. God's rescue
 - 1. "Where are you?" invites confession
 - 2. "Who told you that?" goes to our identity
 - 3. Promises Messiah

III. Warfare Won (Matt 4:1-11)

- A. Devil's Tactics
 - 1. What kind of a God would say this?
 - 2. Explain God's agenda
 - 3. God is not trustworthy, does not care about you
- B. Jesus' Victory
 - 1. Speak God's Word, out loud, to the Devil = stand firm
 - 2. Command the Devil: "Get away from me" = resist
 - 3. Do Jesusy stuff (eg. worship, pray, serve, evangelize, heal, etc. Find what Jesusy stuff works for you!)

IV. For Jesus Followers

- A. Satan's scheme is to rob us of our true identity and God's blessing
- B. When Satan reminds me of the trouble in my life and suggests God doesn't care, look at the life of Jesus and remember how much He cares
- C. Talk with God rather than about God
- D. Confess wrong beliefs about God to Him with a "priest"

Answers at Q&A

- 1. § IV.D: A priest = any spiritually mature Christian you can trust. We need someone to help us!
- 2. Put on Christ VS Christlikeness: When you put on *Christ* that is going from darkness to light (eg. salvation; repentance); *Christlikeness* is the transformational way of living where we think and act more like Jesus.

(Sermon Qs on next page)

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QUESTIONS

1. Would you say you are more prone to underemphasizing or overemphasizing Spiritual Warfare? (Why?)
2. What are the implications of Gerry's teaching for your day-to-day life?
3. What "Jesusy stuff" works for you?