

## Victory Over Satan and Demons (Part 2)

Creflo Dollar  
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### Scripture References

1 Peter 5:8, 9  
James 4:7, 8

Ephesians 5:19  
Ephesians 6:10-12

### Summary

*When we consider the spiritual battle we're fighting, we must remember the focus of our fight. Because of what Jesus did, we are not fighting **for** victory, but **from** victory. No matter what it may look like in the natural, the devil and his demonic forces have already been defeated; the fight is now focused on our minds and whether or not we believe this. Therefore, the essence of spiritual warfare consists of understanding and maintaining the victory that has been obtained. We do this by renewing our minds according to God's Word, which enables us to see what is going on around us through the lens of the Bible instead of through a worldly view. We are not going up against humans, but against the forces of hell that have already lost the war and been stripped of all authority and power. Cloaking ourselves in the protective armor of the Word not only gives us a fighting chance, but helps us win.*

#### **A. Satan uses three ways to try to trick us into not following God:**

1. Demonic forces.
  - a. Suggestion is Satan's most powerful weapon; he uses demonic influence in an effort to defeat us.
2. Our own sinful nature.
  - a. Our sinful natures are composed of the areas of our unrenewed minds. If we don't renew those areas with God's Word, the enemy will focus his attacks there.
3. The structures of the world.
  - a. Whatever is right according to the Word is wrong according to the world. Most people determine right and wrong according to the norms and values of society; the devil tries to get us involved in this worldly structure.

#### **B. To maintain the victory Jesus won for us, we must remember some critical points:**

1. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world (1 Peter 5:8, 9).
  - a. We must be aware of the battle; some people are completely unaware that a fight is even taking place. Satan wants to keep us in the dark on this.
  - b. The devil is our enemy; however, he can only devour people who are ignorant of God's Word. Satan tries to lead us astray.
2. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded (James 4:7, 8).
  - a. We must learn how to rebel against Satan. We do this by living a lifestyle that is rebellious against him.
  - b. To resist is to actively fight against. To flee is to run in fear.

- c. The best way to resist the devil is by getting closer to God. We push away from Satan's influence by running to God.
  - d. We do this by attaching ourselves to God, not by attaching ourselves to anger and unforgiveness. Attaching ourselves to these emotions is attaching ourselves to darkness.
  - e. To hang on to anger and unforgiveness is to give Satan power over our lives. This is important; we may even need to preach this point in the gospel to *ourselves*.
  - f. Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs... (Ephesians 5:19).
3. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:10-12).
- a. We must get dressed in the armor of God. The full armor consists of the various truths in the gospel as well as what Christ has accomplished for us.
  - b. This Scripture pertains to dressing not our bodies, but our minds; we need to do this daily.
  - c. The enemy is constantly talking to us, pumping deceit and falsehood at us. Clothing ourselves in the Word helps us to withstand his strategies and lies.
  - d. We must go to the root of the issue; spiritual forces, not people, are our enemy.
  - e. Principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness in high places are the four classes of demons we fight.

Category: righteousness/salvation

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