

Spiritual Warfare

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to God and to Christians who are going through challenges of Satan.

INTRODUCTION

As Christians, we are faced with different challenges on daily basis. Obviously, it is not a perfect world that we live in. Some of the challenges that we face are spiritual which are reflecting in our realities. Although, it is not only Christians who are faced with challenges in life but this book is good for Christians because of the Holy Bible verses.

The reason for the harsh realities in every corner of the earth is because Satan (once upon a time a good angel, but now full of evil) is the Prince of this earth. Satan has one goal which is to capture many souls to be destroyed with him in the lake of fire. Satan is an aggressive enemy of mankind who is overseeing the killing of many innocent people including children around the world. Sometimes, Lucifer is causing deadly sickness and disease, famine and economic depression among others. You can give this book or the e-book to non-Christian friends because Satan attacks everyone born to this world and want to ensure that they do not come to the knowledge of light till they depart from this world. Leaving this world without the knowledge of light may lead the soul into eternal darkness. A good illustration is that without sun, moon and electricity, the world is a dark place. However, it is not the darkness that we see now but thick darkness which shall lead into eventual destruction of one's soul.

Whatever tribulations that human beings are faced with today cannot be compared to the torment or joy to come, but choose joy and not torment. This book encourages you to choose and walk on the path of light. This book also enlightens the reader on spiritual warfare, how humans are trapped in the warfare and how to effectively overcome in spiritual warfare using the right spiritual weapons. This book concludes that, although, there are battles but the war is whether a person earn eternal life with God (which is victory) or ends in destruction with Satan (which is considered a lost war).

Chapters

- Chapter 1 Spiritual warfare
- Chapter 2 Satan as the Head Enemy
- Chapter 3 Winning the Battles and the War
- Chapter 4 Weapons for Spiritual Warfare
- Chapter 5 Deliverance
- Chapter 6 Kingdom War and Battle for the Soul

Chapter 1

Spiritual warfare

Warfare has been described as the process of military struggle between two nations or group of nations. It is also an armed conflict between two massed enemies, armies or the like.

To understand spiritual warfare, you must first believe the concept of evil forces against good. Christians do engage in spiritual battle every day and the grand war is whether the Christian earn an eternal life or not. Spiritual warfare is not fought in the physical realm and physical weapons are not used.

The world we live in is spiritual because it was formed by God who is Spirit. (Genesis 1:1). It is also important to mention that spirits live together in this world with humans. The proof that spirits live in this world is in the book of Revelation 12:9 which mention that Satan the devil (spirit) and his fallen angels (spirits) has been hauled to the earth. Also, the book of Revelation 5:6 proves that the lamb carries the presence of the seven Spirits of God to all the earth. However, conventional human eyes cannot see these spirits and it does not mean that the spirits cease to exist on earth.

The challenge on earth now is that the spirits present are two rival powers with previous war history. Their war history is in Revelation 12:7 and since after the war in Heaven, these spiritual armed forces meet on earth again to continue their struggle until the last day which is biblically referred to as the day of the Lord or judgement day.

How are humans trapped in their spiritual warfare?

This book will mention four reasons that trap humans in spiritual warfare

1. Because God is interested in mankind as in Psalms 8:4, Satan also show interest in mankind which leads to conflict of interests.
2. Since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, God has planned to bring man back to restoration and Satan does not want this to be successful.
3. God has prepared Paradise for mankind for eternity and Satan knowing this is all out to fight this plan. Satan, who has made himself a rival power to God, has determined to thwart God's plan for mankind and ensure that humans should not enter into the Paradise of God.
4. The fourth reason humans are involved in spiritual warfare is that among the inhabitants of Heaven and earth, only God is to be worshipped. Read Nehemiah 9:6. Satan on the other hand demands that human should worship him directly or indirectly through idolatry

Since Satan was hauled into the earth, he has seized the government of this world from the control on humans. In other words, Satan is the de-facto ruler of this world. John 14:30. The reality is the challenges people face which are way beyond their control and decaying governments in most countries of the world. However, the mission of Jesus on earth is to destroy the work and stronghold of Satan as in 1John 3:8. This same Jesus' mission on earth reinforced the spiritual warfare on earth due to the extreme enmity between Jesus and Satan. Needful to say that after Jesus' mission on earth, Matthew 28:18 says all the authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to him, including the spiritual forces. Mankind has been employed to be soldiers of Jesus Christ to subdue satanic reign on earth. Mankind involvement in spiritual warfare should be strictly spiritual without any physical assault. Read Ephesians 6:12. Spiritual warfare is real and it is ongoing until the end of days.

Questions

1. Mention 3 reasons why humans are trapped in spiritual warfare
2. Prove it that spirits are on earth with humans

Church is beyond a place of worship, it is a battle field

Jesus himself is the founder of the Church. His church replaced the old Temple. In Matthew 27:51, the veil of the old temple was rent in twain. Recall that before the verse Matthew 27:51, only the Priest had access to God's presence, especially, in the inner room. Today in the church of Christ through grace, everyone have access directly to God.

As much as the church of Christ is to worship God, it is also a place where Jesus recruits and empowers his human soldiers. These soldiers of Jesus Christ regularly engage in spiritual warfare using varieties of weapons available. Prayer is one of the age-long weapons most widely used in spiritual warfare. Interestingly, it is not only Christians who pray because almost all the religions in the world offer prayers to their respective gods or the Almighty God.

Churches of Christ are supposed to be hotspot of spiritual warfare. A formidable battle ground where people take their stand against the oppression of Satan and his evil forces as the evil forces continue to wage war against the church. Christians need to be aware that Satan wants to destroy them along with the church. Jesus knew this which is why He said the gates of Hades will not prevail against the church in Matthew 16:18. It is noteworthy in Matthew 16:18 that Jesus made claim of the church by saying "my church". According to Colossians 1:18; Jesus is the head of the church and Christians are the body of the church. Satan enmity with Jesus is the reason for the continuous spiritual warfare against the church. However, the war has been won and Jesus earn the victory in John 19:30 when He said, it is finished. He also confirms his victory in John 16:33 and Matthew 28:18.

Therefore, the spiritual warfare of Christians today is a known victory but Satan is not a slacker as he still continues to intensify his offensive attacks on Christians on all fronts to subdue them under his oppression. It is left for the Christian to use spiritual weapons to face Satan and his angels and they will flee. Read James 4:7. Any circumstance that reduces the joy of life in you might be a spiritual attack that needs to be rebuffed.

Spiritual warfare is real. Jesus fought this war as a leader; therefore, as follower, one must expect to face the challenges of life. Jesus, when in agony prayed fervently such that his sweat was like drops of blood in Luke 22:44. That you do not believe in spiritual realm or spiritual warfare does not mean that it does not exist. In fact, your ignorance will give Satan chance to confuse and frustrate you and quench the peace that God has promised you. Believe in spiritual realm and warfare so that you can prepare your defense against these unseen forces. Remember also that attack is the best form of defense. You must regularly engage in some kind of fire-for-fire prayers.

Your church should be involved in fervent prayers and launching of various attacks on the enemy's camp. Such roaring prayer is not just spiritual exercise, it is self-deliverance from satanic oppressions and attacking the enemy's camp is your defense. Know that Satan is the head enemy. If you do not destroy the evil forces against your life, they will surely destroy you. Satan the master of the evil forces is a roaring lion looking for whom to devour in 1Peter 5:8. The evil forces in the spiritual realm are destroyers seeking prey everywhere in all parts of the world. You cannot afford to be a victim of the evil forces. Awake in the spiritual realm. Be spiritually conscious to rebuff spiritual attacks on your job, family, finances, business, health, peace of mind, joy of life, etc.

Questions

1. What are the dangers of sluggish prayers if Jesus himself prayed hard in Luke 22:44?
2. Who owns the church?

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Mankind is not totally blind to spiritual realm. There are some people with spiritual gifts to see the spiritual beings, hear them and talk to them. A good example is a Prophet. Prophet usually has a gift to communicate in the spiritual realm. Anyone who believes in the Prophet must also believe in the spiritual realm and spiritual warfare. Another example or proof of spiritual warfare is in the book of 2Kings 6:11-17. From the previous scripture, you will understand the formidable spiritual defense around the Christians who believe in Jesus and Yahweh (YHWH) God. The spiritual defense is what Psalms 91:11 is talking about.

Is spiritual warfare for Christians alone?

Spiritual warfare is not for Christians alone. Spiritual warfare is among spiritual beings but in one way or the other humans, whether Christians or not, are trapped in spiritual warfare. The ultimate aim of Satan for mankind is to lead human into destruction along with himself. Therefore, Satan the devil, attacks every human whether they are Christians or not. The non-Christians usually resolve to appease the spirits with sacrifices in order to avert their terrible conditions. Both Christians and non-Christians are confronted with harsh realities which results from ongoing spiritual warfare between good and evil. People engage in many spiritual activities to seek relief from their difficult realities. They involve in activities like horoscope, fortune telling, enchantments, idolatry and wizardry among others which are biblically sinful. You may read Leviticus 19:26-31 if you do not believe that horoscope or time observing is a sin.

Having discussed the reality of spiritual warfare, it is important to mention that the warfare is intense for the Disciples of Christ Jesus in order to dissuade them from following Jesus and keeping the statutes of God. There will be a lot of worldly pressure or environmental influences to make the Christian backslide. Satan the enemy will use people and situations to stab Christians hard and lure them to sin. As much as a prayer-less Christian is a powerless Christian, so also a sinful Christian is a defeated Christian. Spiritual warfare is not only in the place of prayer, it is also a struggle of what choices we make in our lives between good and evil. Tempting situations, events and people are satanic tools to befall the Christian.

Sin is bad for a Christian engaging in spiritual warfare. Another formidable weapon for spiritual warfare is holiness. A Christian should continuously choose **well (good)** above **evil**. As a Christian, do not give in to the sin or idolatry which has been said that will solve your problems; take your stand. Endure in holiness and pray fervently as Jesus did in gethsemane. As long as there are human beings on earth, challenges facing them will continue because the ruler of this current system of things on earth is Satan, but his time is limited. Whatever challenges that you are facing, do not compromise your Christian principles, endure a little longer and use necessary spiritual weapons; and God shall see you through the challenges.

Finally, spiritual warfare is real and mankind is trapped in this war. To be victorious, mankind need to build very close relationship with God through Jesus who conquered Satan. Use the necessary spiritual weapons to engage the evil forces against your life in order to live a fulfilled life on earth. Let's ask this question; what is spiritual warfare? It is an ongoing war between spiritual beings. It is happening in the spiritual realm. It is an armed struggle between good and evil. It is a catastrophic war between the kingdom of light and kingdom of darkness. It started in Heaven and continued on earth. Mankind is trapped in spiritual warfare and needs formidable weapons to engage the enemy and enjoy their life on earth. The end of the ongoing spiritual warfare is the last day which is also called the day of the Lord or judgement day.

Questions

1. Where did spiritual warfare started from?
2. Is spiritual warfare for Christians alone?

Chapter 2

Satan as the head enemy

Satan is real. He was once a holy person enjoying the glory of Heavenly places. He was once a favorite of God with his musical gifts. Satan or Lucifer is a very attractive person full of glory to behold. God formed him to be a perfect creature with special abilities and powers. Read Ezekiel 28:13-19. The fall of Satan is from his pride and his ambition to become the Almighty God. Satan did not fall from the glory of Heaven alone, he convinced some angels who also fell with him. Satan and these fallen hosts of angels are now the principalities and powers of darkness in the world of mankind today. The book of Isaiah 14:12-17 clearly talks about Satan's ambition which led to his fall and his judgement.

Since the fall of Satan, he has become an abject enemy of God, Jesus, the saints and entire human race. The saints could be referred to as human beings saved by the blood of Jesus Christ. Satan the enemy, knowing the mission of Jesus Christ on earth used King Herod to hunt for his life at birth. Read Matthew 2:16. Since the birth of Jesus, Satan the enemy has been waging war against him in order to thwart his ministry on earth. Satan even used nature to attack Jesus in Mark 4:35-41. The peak of Satan's war with Jesus was the temptation in the wilderness. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Satan in his deep knowledge of the scripture appeared to tempt Jesus from the scripture. Thank God for the anointing of Jesus, Satan might have defeated him in the wilderness. Remember that in the same manner, Satan appeared to Eve and her man in the Garden of Eden to tempt them and he defeated them. Therefore, glory to God for the anointing of Jesus Christ to overcome the temptation of Satan in the wilderness.

Satan finally used the Jewish hierarchy to seriously hunt Jesus until they killed him through crucifixion.

Satan has formed a formidable kingdom of darkness to wage war against evangelism of the gospel, the church and human race. Satan is real and his angels are real. Satan was able to scoop one-third of the angels in Heaven in a fierce fight. Read Revelation 12:3-4. These formidable kingdoms of darkness or evil forces have Satan as their head and are sworn to engage the saints in fierce spiritual warfare. Revelation 12:17 is talking about the exclusive anger of Satan to destroy those who keep the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ i.e. the Christians. This is why the Christians and the church must acknowledge that there is ongoing spiritual warfare; a fight against the devil and his cohorts. As long as you bear the testimony of Jesus and keep the commandments of God, you are a potential enemy of Satan.

Remember Satan's wrath in Revelation 12:17, so be ready to engage him in battle because he will try to attack you with difficult realities. He will fire bullets, throw darts and obstacles at you in order to bring you down.

Needful to say that if Satan was able to bring down one-third of powerful angels from Heaven and Satan the enemy was able to befall the first man (despite the fact that Adam was formed directly by God) then, human race need Jesus. Human race need Jesus because he has through the power of God defeated Satan. Do not underestimate this great enemy who seems invincible. Take up spiritual weapons to repel the works of Satan in your life.

Questions

1. For what reason did Satan fall from Heaven?
2. What are the similarities between the temptation of Adam and Eve and the temptation of Jesus Christ?

Satan does not want to be destroyed alone

Satan, knowing that God has already judged him to be destroyed in lake of fire, is working hard to go down with the entire human race. Psalms 8:4 talks about the love of God for human race and Satan is aware of this love. God also invested the blood of Jesus to redeem the souls of mankind and Satan is also aware of it. Satan ultimately wants the sacrifice of Christ to go in vain by converting mankind to satanic ways through many means. Satan the enemy also sends his angels or by himself gather with the children of God. Read Job 2:1-2. This is why there are witches, wizards and familiar spirits present in the church today. The church is always under attack from evil forces and more reason why the church must beef up their spiritual security through defensive and offensive prayers. Every prayer in the church must be in spirit, steady and fire-packed.

Satan is not an easy adversary. He is aggressive and ruthless. He even showed up against the high Priest in Zechariah 3:1-2. The previous verses confirmed that even senior Ministers in churches today are not exempted from satanic attacks. In fact, Satan targets the ministers of God most because the fall of a minister of God can cause many following Christians to fall or backslide. Satan and his forces are very hardworking; working tirelessly in both day and night to discourage people from doing the will of God. Read Revelation 12:10. The Holy Bible also mention in Revelation 12:10 how Satan will test Christians even till death.

The good news is that one can use spiritual weapons to break the bond of evil forces over life, job, family, business, finances, career, etc. In Daniel 10:13, the Holy Bible reiterate the power of relentless prayer. Therefore, as a born again Christian, if there is something you are praying about which you have not received, do not relent; keep on praying. Intensify your fire-packed prayer with fasting or switch to another spiritual weapon because Satan the head enemy might be hindering your prayers.

Christians must also know that their enemy, Satan the devil, is very wise in his ways. He also has the ability to transform from one form to another to fulfil his purpose. This is why Apostle Paul wrote “And no marvel; for Satan, himself is transformed into an angel of light” 2 Corinthians 11:14. Apostle Paul also mention in 2 Corinthians 2:11 that “lest Satan should get an advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices. Ephesians 6:11 also warn Christians against the devious or cunning ways of the devil. The Holy Bible also talks about the depths of Satan in Revelation 2:24.

However, there are seven important values of human race that Satan the head enemy attacks which are discussed below

- 1 Job/Business – God gave Adam a job from the beginning which is to take care of the garden. The Holy Bible also emphasize in James 2:17 that faith without work is dead. Job is a very important part of our lives. Satan attack a lot of people’s jobs and businesses to drag them in suffering or poverty.
- 2 Health – The natural food, fruits and herbs in the Garden of Eden would have ensured that mankind knows no sickness, not even aging. But the reality today is different kinds of sicknesses and diseases. Surely, Satan can cause sickness and disease on people and he is really doing that in our world today.
- 3 Human government – From the beginning, God told man to have dominion over all things on earth and multiply i.e. to govern. But the truth is that since Satan deceived man to fall in the Garden of Eden, Satan has taken the government of this world away from man. And in most places in the world, you will find occult people in positions of control and dominance.
- 4 Family – Satan is on a grand campaign to corrupt marriages in our societies. Infidelity is on the rise. Marital problems, barrenness, divorce and separation is increasing. There is also attack on family finances, moral and spirit of the marriage.
- 5 Nation (Israel) – Israel which is the first nation of God’s inheritance is regularly under threat or attack from neighboring nations. Not only Israel, other nations are rising against nations with threats of nuclear warheads. This is satanic.
- 6 Jesus – Jesus is one of the gifts of God to human race. The spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ is been attacked by Satan the enemy. Christians are finding evangelism very difficult but can easily undertake pyramid marketing schemes.
- 7 Church – As this book mentioned earlier, church is a battle field and spiritual warfare hotspot that is constantly under attack. Such attacks as spiritual attacks, terrorism, finances and numerical depreciation. False churches and corruption of good ones are on the rise.

Satan has been busy in these recent centuries corrupting these seven values of mankind.

Questions

1. Why is it that Satan targets mighty ministers of God?
2. List only, the seven values of human race that Satan the enemy is attacking

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Good news is that God is much more powerful than Satan and Jesus Christ also conquered Satan. If you read the book of Job 1:9-12, you will understand that Satan could not come near Job until he was permitted. In verse 10, God's hedge around Job kept Satan away despite Satan's power and his powerful angels. Also, Ezekiel 28:18-19 is talking about how Satan shall be turned into ashes upon the earth in the sight of men. What ridicule! Isaiah 14:16 talks about how God will reduce Satan the enemy to nothing so that people will wonder if this is the man who shake the nations and kingdoms. Good news also is that despite the authority and power of Satan on this earth, Jesus Christ has been given all the authority and power in Heaven and on earth. Matthew 28:18

Satan has turned himself into an enemy of God by attacking the statutes of God. He commits sin or we rather say he is the originator of sin, 1John 3:8. Read Revelation 13:6. The previous verse is not talking only about Satan but people who indulge in blasphemy against God, ministers of God or the church. It is not only the persecution of church or the servant of God that is a sin, but blasphemy against the church and servants of God is a sin.

As we discuss Satan and his cohorts, it is necessary to mention that one of his strongest angels is a whore. This whore has powerful influence on mankind which is why the Holy Bible say **flee**. The scripture encourages one to fight against Satan for example in Luke 10:19, but advices one to flee from this whore. Read 1Corinthians 6:18. If you want to know more about this whore and the judgement, read Revelation chapter 17.

However, you need to cheer up because Jesus Christ has conquered the world satanic government. Satan has no power against God. The Holy Bible records that one angel from Heaven came down to bound him in Revelation 20:1-2 and the Holy Bible did not mention that the angel is Michael or Jesus. So, rest assured that God of Heaven has enough power and army to deal with Satan decisively. God can immediately solve the challenges that Satan attack Christians with but He may allow such challenges to linger a little longer for reasons which could be:

- a. To train you (Like the disciples of Jesus Christ)
- b. To test your love for Him (Like in Abraham's situation)
- c. To prove the devil wrong about you (Like in Job's situation)
- d. Because you remain in sin (Isaiah 59:1-2) or,
- e. Your association (2 Corinthians 6:15-18)

Also know that Satan is cunning and a deceiver who deceive the whole world; the founder of false religion and the master of heresies. Be watchful and pray that you do not lose your battle against Satan. Whether you like it or not, if you are reading this, Satan is your sworn enemy and he plans to destroy you if you do not take your stand against him. Apostle Paul in 2Corinthians 11:3 wrote about the wiles of Satan as he used his wiles to deceive Eve in Genesis 3:1-5. You will need to equip yourself with verses from the Holy Bible, pursue holy life, fast and pray fire-packed prayers to defeat Satan in your life.

Needful to mention that there is going to be final war between Satan (his people and his angels) and the Heavenly host. The Holy Bible says in Revelation 20:7-10 that Satan will deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the final war. This scripture also recorded that the number of satanic angels and human beings are like the sand of seashore. Revelation 20:7-10 is the last spiritual warfare before Satan will be casted into lake of fire.

Brethren, whatever you are going through now cannot be compared to the torment and joy to come. Choose joy and not torment. Endure and pray. Prepare your mind for everlasting life with God. This life is a journey and the journey is full of battles. Face the battle and finish strong. Be a soldier with high rank in Jesus Christ. In this world's spiritual warfare, Satan is the head enemy and he has angels and human beings in his hosts. However, those who are in Christ Jesus are more than conqueror and they shall surely overcome life battles.

Questions

- 1 List any 3 reasons why God may allow Satan to trouble a Christian
- 2 Where in the Holy Bible is the last spiritual warfare?

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