

# Spiritual Warfare & The End Times

## *Walking in Freedom*

World Outreach Church  
Sermon Discussion Guide  
Sunday Sermon: **August 27, 2023**



From Genesis to Revelation, spiritual warfare is the primary component in the narrative about the challenge against God's purposes for Adam and his descendants, and we're invited into that when we become citizens of God's Kingdom. But there are unique directions given for the end of the age because there are seasons in our lives when we need to make an intentional effort to draw closer to the Lord and eliminate the provisions our enemy needs: Rob them of "beans and bullets." God is our Deliverer. Through the cross, He has given us the tools we need and a pathway to spiritual freedom ...

### I. GETTING STARTED

- A. Truth Encounter (Not a Power Encounter)
- B. Aware Not Afraid

Mark 4:40-41 <sup>40</sup> *He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"* <sup>41</sup> *They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"*

- C. Filled with the Spirit

Ephesians 5:15-21 <sup>15</sup> *Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise,* <sup>16</sup> *making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.* <sup>17</sup> *Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.* <sup>18</sup> *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.* <sup>19</sup> *Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,* <sup>20</sup> *always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.* <sup>21</sup> *Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

### II. THE WILL TO RESIST

1 Peter 5:6-11 <sup>6</sup> *Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.* <sup>7</sup> *Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.* <sup>8</sup> *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.* <sup>9</sup> *Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.*

<sup>10</sup> *And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.* <sup>11</sup> *To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

James 4:7-10 <sup>7</sup> *Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.* <sup>8</sup> *Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.* <sup>9</sup> *Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.* <sup>10</sup> *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.*

1. **When has the Holy Spirit intervened on your behalf? Share an event or time where God's work was unmistakable.**
2. **Describe a time in your life where you insisted on going your own way; unwilling to walk in humble obedience to the Lord but were able to come to a place of humility. What did you learn from this experience?**

### III. ELIMINATE PROVISIONS OF YOUR ENEMY

Romans 13:12-14 (NASB<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>12</sup> *The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.* <sup>13</sup> *Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.* <sup>14</sup> *But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.*

1 Peter 2:11 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

Galatians 5:16-18 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>16</sup> *So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.* <sup>17</sup> *For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.* <sup>18</sup> *But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.*

3. **What safeguards do you put in place that help you abstain from your own sinful nature?**
4. **Consider your role in the Body of Christ. How can you become more effective in enriching those around you in every area of your influence with your time, talent, and resources?**

### IV. CHOOSE FREEDOM

5. **Read the following scriptures and prayers together as a group.**

- A. **Confess Your Faith in Christ and in His Sacrifice on Your Behalf**

Romans 10:9 *That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

***Lord Jesus Christ, I believe that You are the Son of God and the only way to God; and that You died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the dead.***

**B. Repent of All Your Rebellion and Sins**

Mark 1:15 *"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"*

***I give up all my rebellion and all my sin, and I submit myself to You as my Lord.***

**C. Claim Forgiveness of All Sins**

1 John 1:8-9 <sup>8</sup> *If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

***I confess all my sins before You and ask for Your forgiveness—especially for any sins that exposed me to a curse. Release me also from the consequences of my ancestors' sins.***

**D. Forgive All Other People Who Have Ever Harmed You or Wronged You**

Mark 11:25 *And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.*

***By a decision of my will, I forgive all who have harmed me or wronged me—just as I want God to forgive me. In particular, I forgive \_\_\_\_\_ (name the person or persons).***

**E. Renounce All Contact with Anything Occult or Satanic**

Acts 19:18–19 <sup>18</sup> *Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. <sup>19</sup> A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas.*

***I renounce all contact with the occult or anything satanic. I cancel all Satan's claims against me.***

**F. Pray a Prayer of Release from Any Curse**

Galatians 3:13 *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."*

***Lord Jesus, I believe that on the cross You took on yourself every curse that could ever come upon me. So I ask You now to release me from every curse over my life—in Your name, Lord Jesus Christ! By faith I now receive my release and I thank You for it.***

**G. Now, Believe That You Have Received and Go Forward in God's Blessing**

Galatians 3:14 *He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.*

***Lord, I now open myself to receive Your blessing in every way You want to impart it to me.***

## PRAYER

Father, thank You for Your Word for its truth. Lord, You've called us to this time and place. We did not choose the circumstances or the season of our birth. You chose those things for us, and we believe You've given us everything we need for life and godliness—not to be overcome or overwhelmed, but to be difference makers. We invite You to bring to our awareness anything within us that limits, hinders, or diminishes what You would do and what You've created us for. Help us to see it. May we have the courage and the boldness to take Your truth and to walk into the light. Thank You for our spiritual freedom. In Jesus' name, amen.

- **Lord Jesus Christ, I believe that You are the Son of God and the only way to God; and that You died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the dead.**
- **I give up all my rebellion and all my sin, and I submit myself to You as my Lord.**
- **I confess all my sins before You and ask for Your forgiveness—especially for any sins that exposed me to a curse. Release me also from the consequences of my ancestors' sins.**
- **By a decision of my will, I forgive all who have harmed me or wronged me—just as I want God to forgive me. In particular, I forgive \_\_\_\_\_ (name the person or persons).**
- **I renounce all contact with the occult or anything satanic. I cancel all Satan's claims against me.**
- **Lord Jesus, I believe that on the cross You took on yourself every curse that could ever come upon me. So I ask You now to release me from every curse over my life—in Your name, Lord Jesus Christ! By faith I now receive my release and I thank You for it.**