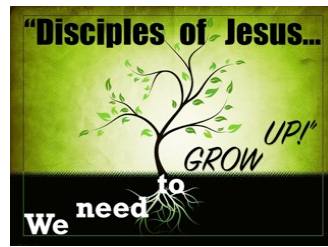


“Disciples of Jesus ... We need to GROW UP!”

Part 22: “Spiritual warfare ... it’s not what you think!”



Ephesians 6:10-20; II Corinthians 10:3-6

Introduction: “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” (I Peter 5:8).

We who by God’s grace are disciples of Jesus Christ need not fear !

I Peter 5:5-11: “ Resist him, firm in your faith ... ” (vs. 9).

We who are disciples of Jesus HAVE everything we need to stand firm in the face of every trial and temptation by the power of God’s Spirit and Word through faith in Jesus Christ!!

Victory is assured to those who are IN Christ!

I. The reality of spiritual warfare ...

Spiritual warfare is LIFE !!

Ephesians 6:10: “Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of HIS might!”

Ephesians 6:11-13: “ ... that you may withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm !” (vs. 13)

Temptations and trials are an everyday part of life that require the power of God to overcome.

Satan is not Lord ; JESUS IS!!!!

I Corinthians 10:12-13: “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful !” (vs. 13).

James 1:2-4: “Count it all joy ... when you meet trials ...” (vs. 2).

I Peter 1:6-7: “ ... so that the ... genuineness of your faith ... may ... result in praise and glory and honor ... ” (vs. 7).

You are not a victim ... unless you choose to be!!

II. The battlefield for spiritual warfare ...

Spiritual warfare is fought WITHIN you ... in your mind, your heart and your will.

II Corinthians 10:3-5: “The weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds” (vs. 4).

Romans 8:31-39: “ ... in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us” (vs. 37).

Romans 12:1-2: “ ... be transformed by the renewal of your mind ” (vs. 2).

Colossians 3:1-4: “Set your minds on things above ... ” (vs. 2).

Philippians 4:4-9,13: “And the peace of God ... will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (vs. 7).

I John 4:4: “He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”

III. The victory in spiritual warfare ...

Galatians 2:20: “ ... It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith ... ”

Ephesians 6:14: “ ... the belt of truth ” ...

Ephesians 6:14: “the breastplate of righteousness” is the perfect righteousness of Christ that is credited to believers by faith in Jesus.

Ephesians 6:15: The “Gospel of peace” brings peace with GOD ! (Romans 5:1-5).

Ephesians 6:16: When temptations or trials come, the “shield of faith ” declares victory in the name of Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 6:17: The “helmet of salvation ” is the assurance that you are one of God’s children through faith in Jesus Christ!

Ephesians 6:17-18: Carrying the “sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God” and “ praying ... in the Spirit ... ”

Disciples of Jesus have VICTORY IN JESUS!!!!