

# Armor of God Part 1

Steve Berger July 10, 2016

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## The Armor of God

- The Armor of God is a resource God gives us in order to be victorious in spiritual warfare
- Spiritual warfare is an undeniable biblical truth
- **Danger** — denying it, downplaying it, or dramatizing it... remember Flip Wilson's character, Geraldine — “the devil made me buy that dress”
- **Goal**- to see spiritual warfare from a biblical perspective, and then learn to use the armor of God in order to win our battles... we need some wins around here!

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## The Reality of Spiritual Warfare

- **Ephesians 6:12**

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

*Listen... our wrestling and warfare ISN'T against people, it's against demonic hierarchies...*

- **principalities**- chief magistrates, high ranking, overseeing demons
- **powers**- jurisdictional rulers, demons over certain jurisdictions and areas
- **rulers of darkness of this age**- rulers of shadiness, darkness, evil
- **spiritual hosts of wickedness heavenly places**- demonic depravity that inhabits the atmosphere... “prince of the power of the air”

*We've got to learn to see past people, the natural realm — and see the demonic spirits working behind their wickedness... then respond, pray, and battle accordingly.*

*Remember Jesus and Peter... “Get behind me, Satan.” Jesus saw beyond person!*

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## More Emphasis on Spiritual Warfare

- **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

***Our warfare, weapons, and victory are spiritual, not natural! No warring against flesh, weapons not flesh, weapons are mighty in God, pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments from every high thing, (every principality, power, ruler, spiritual host), that exalts itself against God***

**Pictures of Spiritual Warfare — forces that are both “for” and “against” us**

- situation is Syria attacking, surrounding Israel, Elisha and his servant

- **2 Kings 6:15-17**

And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” And Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

**Three things... 1) people who don't understand the realm of the spirit are usually fearful in the realm of the flesh... 2) people who understand the realm of the spirit are usually confident, composed and calm in both realms... 3) we need to pray that we see what's going on in the realm of the spirit — there are more with us and for us, than against us!**

- Daniel praying, fasting, seeking God for 21 days, has a vision, angelic visitation

- **Daniel 10:11-15**

And he said to me, “O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.” While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. Then he said to me, “Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come.” When he had spoken such words to me, I turned my face toward the ground and became speechless.

- on first day — his words were heard — prayers are heard in heaven
- the angel came because of his words/prayers... LET'S PRAY!!!
- **prince of kingdom of Persia withstood**, fought against angel for 21 days, Michael came to help... **left alone with kings of Persia...** battling, fighting over prayers
- **Daniel 10:20-21**  
Then he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.”

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## One More Picture

- **Revelation 12:7-9, 12b**

And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him... for the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.

- *spiritual warfare in heaven, Satan and angels are cast out of heaven, come to earth with great wrath –*
  - *1) **because** cast out and no chance of returning, 2) because people are made in image of God, 3) because Christians have been redeemed and are heaven-bound*

- **Luke 10:18-20**

Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.

- *do not need to be afraid of devil's wrath; we have authority to trample on him*

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## Summary

- **1 John 4:4**

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

- *Satan fell, came to earth with great wrath, waging warfare*
- *we have weapons that are mighty in God to be victorious over him*

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## Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever personally experienced spiritual warfare?
2. Why is it hard to see beyond the physical realm into the spiritual realm to see the root cause of a problem?
3. Have you ever thought God did not answer your prayer, when perhaps you did not pray it through?
4. Read Luke 10:18-20. Why is it more important to rejoice that your names are written in heaven?
5. Read 1 John 4:4. Memorize it together.

**JOIN US — HOUSE OF PRAYER**

**Tuesday, July 12 — 6:30 p.m. — Sanctuary**

**Make your prayer requests by going to [www.gracechapel.net/prayer](http://www.gracechapel.net/prayer)**