



Lesson 1 – Welcome to the War

For many believers, a war rages around them for their soul and the souls of those they know and love, and they are essentially unaware. We are starting a series on answering hard questions, but we need to start by realizing that hard questions are part of a much bigger picture – the war between God and Satan.

We are in a Spiritual War

The Bible often uses the imagery of war to describe our new life in Christ. We face a real enemy who wants to destroy us destroyed.

We face a _____ foe (Ephesians 6:10-12)

The nature of this war is not physical, but spiritual. We live in a culture where the spiritual is often ignored or minimized, but Scripture is very clear that the spiritual is real.

We face a _____ foe (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

Satan launched his first attack against humanity by lying. People have been blinded by Satan; they are spiritually ignorant and deceived.

We face a _____ foe (Colossians 2:15)

Colossians 2:15 teaches that Christ “spoiled” principalities and powers, that He defeated them and turned them into spoils of war and triumphed over them. The consistent teaching of the New Testament is that through His death and resurrection Jesus overcame the powers of darkness, and now it’s just a matter of time.



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The Weapons of Our War

So how do we fight in this war? While there will be opportunities for answering hard questions, answering hard questions alone will not release someone from the grip of the devil. Only the Holy Spirit can do that, and He does that through prayer and the power of the Word.

The _____ (2 Corinthians 4:4-6)

You and I don't have what it takes to face the devil head on in a battle over someone's soul. But God can break through and get people to see who are spiritually blind.

The _____ of _____ (Hebrews 4:12)

The normal pattern is for the Holy Spirit to use the Word of God to change minds. It is through the living and powerful Bible that God brings conviction (Hebrews 4:12) and makes people wise to salvation (2 Timothy 3:15).

_____ (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Paul asked that prayer be made for rulers and authorities because God desires that all people be saved. Based on everything that we've seen so far in this lesson, this point is a natural conclusion. We should use God's Words and we should be in prayer!

People have questions, and God has answers. But the greatest need of people is not to have their questions answered or even to be shown that what they think is wrong. People's greatest need is salvation. Satan has lied to people and only God can break through the deception. Yet God has chosen to work through us as we prayerfully share His Word. Along the way will we find ourselves wrestling with challenging questions and seeking to provide answers, but we must never forget that this is much more than two people having a friendly intellectual argument. This is a war for the souls of men and women, and we are on the front lines.

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