ULaity Missionary Baptist Church, Incorporated's Bible Study Class Saturday, August 28th, 2021 1:00 p.m.



Topic: Spiritual Warfare

Opening Holy Scripture: II Corinthians 10:3-6: 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, 4 for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

<u>I Timothy 6:12:</u> Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, in which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Philippians 4:4: Rejoice in the Lord always! And again I say, Rejoice!

Questions to Consider:

- 1) What is the war --- the "spiritual war" we are fighting? Who are we fighting? What is the "struggle"---- the conflicts we face? Why are we fighting? How do we fight?
- 2) The Apostle Paul speaks of "warfare". What is "spiritual warfare"?
- 3) What <u>weapons</u> should we, as Christians, be using as we "<u>engage</u>" in this spiritual war? Our armory? Our arsenal? Our strategies? Our modes of operation?
- 4) Are we, as human beings, able to fight these battles alone? Are we self-sufficient?
- 5) What <u>instructions</u> we have received from the LORD?
- 6) What is the <u>victory</u>? What are the victories?

7)	

<u>Definitions:</u> warfare: (a general definition): the act or fact of <u>engaging in a war</u>. A conflict or struggle. Engagement in or the activities involved in war or conflict. The struggle between competing entities.

<u>Spiritual warfare</u>: The Christian concept of fighting against the work of "preternatural" evil forces that intervene in human affairs in various ways.

Preternatural: exceeding what is normal in nature; going beyond nature.

<u>Carnal</u>: 1. (Biblical) pertaining to or characterized by the flesh of the body, its passions and appetites; sensual, temporal, worldly; the lack of spiritual vitality or maturity. 2. bodily, fleshy, corporeal (concerning the physical body)

<u>Christian spirituality</u>: the process of the divine <u>restoration</u> and <u>healing</u> of the <u>broken relationship</u> between the LORD God Almighty and mankind.

Who are we fighting?

<u>I Peter 5:8-9:</u> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

<u>Ephesians 6:12</u>: 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.

Why are we fighting? What are we fighting for?

<u>Philippians 3:8:</u> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.

<u>Colossians 3:24-25</u>: Knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

Do we, as humans, have the power, to wage war against "spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places? Are we self-sufficient? NO!!! We have NO sufficient strength of our own.

Our sufficiency is of God. We go forth and go on in His strength.

II Chronicles 20:15: And he said, "Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: 'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's.'

<u>Deuteronomy 3:22</u>: You must not fear them, for the LORD your God Himself fights for you.

<u>John 16:33</u>: These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.

<u>I John 3:8:</u> He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Philippians 2:13: For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

<u>Philippians 1:6:</u> Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4:13: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

<u>I John 4:4:</u> 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.

Romans 8:31-32: What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Romans 8:37-39: Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

What are we to do?

- Submission to the LORD God: James 4:7-10: Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
- <u>Pray!!!</u> <u>Luke 6:12</u>: Now it came to pass in those days that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Hebrews 5:7: Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear.

<u>Colossians 4:2:</u> Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the world, to speak the mystery of Christ.

• Train and be proactive. I Timothy 4:13: Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

<u>Colossians 3:16</u>: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

<u>Philippians 4:8-9</u>: Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy---meditate on these things. 9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

• <u>Be transformed by God</u>. <u>Romans 12:2</u>: And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Philippians 2:5: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

II Corinthians 3:18: But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

<u>Colossians 3:9-10</u>: Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him.

II Corinthians 10:4-6: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 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, 6 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

The teachings we have learned, the doctrines of the Gospel of Lord Jesus Christ are the weapons. "Strongholds" are pulled down by the Gospel, through the mercy, the grace, and the power of God.

• Be an example, a pattern for fellow believers. I Timothy 4:12: Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

<u>I Timothy 4:6</u>: If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

<u>Proverbs 22:6:</u> Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

In conclusion.....

Ephesians 6:10-11: Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Ephesians 6:13-18: 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

- 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness.
- 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
- 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.
- 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God;
- 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.