



## Our Struggle

Ephesians 6:10-12

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Ephesians 6:10-12, “10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” (NIV)

▪ **Our struggle is continual.**

▪ **Our struggle is spiritual.**

Our biggest problems are ultimately not with people!

▪ **Our struggle is invisible.**

How do you see the world?

### The 2 Worldviews:

1) **Naturalistic** Worldview: Ultimate reality is physical.  
(Western View)

2) **Spiritualistic** Worldview: Ultimate reality is spiritual.  
(Non-Western View / Biblical View)

**It is only as we engage in the spiritual world intentionally that we will live in the physical world effectively.**

From a biblical perspective, the spiritual world is real, whether we acknowledge it or not.

Ephesians 2:1-3, “1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts...” (NIV)

### The 3 Enemies of Christians:

1) The **“flesh”**: The enemy in me. (personal)

2) The **“world”**: The enemy around me. (societal)

3) The **devil** / the “ruler of the kingdom of the air”: The enemy above me (supernatural).

Ephesians 6:11, “...take your stand against the devil’s schemes.” (NIV)

2 Corinthians 2:11, “in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.” (NIV)

Revelation 12:9, “...the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world...” (NIV)

**Satan’s primary scheme is to deceive me to not trust God.**

Genesis 3:1-6, “1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God really say, “You must not eat from any tree in the garden?”’ 2 The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, “You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.”’ 4 ‘You will not certainly die’” the serpent said to the woman. 5 ‘For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.” (NIV)

James 1:14-15, “14 but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.” (NIV)

### Stages of Deception:

**Stage 1: Deception** (mind)

**Stage 2: Desire** (emotions)

**Stage 3: Disobedience** (will)

**Stage 4: Death** (spirit)

Genesis 3:15, “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.” (NAS)

Galatians 3:16, “The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say ‘and to seeds,’ meaning many people, but ‘and to your seed,’ meaning one person, who is Christ.” (NIV)

1 John 3:8, “...The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.” (NIV)

**Because of Jesus Christ, we do not fight for victory – we fight from victory!**

# Demonology 101

## Satan's Origin

**Satan is an angel created by God who was named Lucifer.** (Psa. 148:2-5; Col. 1:16; Isa. 14:12; Eze. 28:11-15)

**Lucifer led a rebellion in heaven with a third of the angels against God.** (Isa. 14:12-14; Eze. 28:15-16; Rev. 12:3-4, 7)

**Lucifer and the angels rebelled because of pride. He wanted to be like God.** (Isa. 14:12-14; Eze. 28:17; 1 Tim 3:6)

**God squelched the rebellion and cast Satan and the demons (fallen angels) out of heaven to earth.** (Isa. 14:12, 15; Eze. 28:16-19; Lk. 10:18; Rev. 9:1; 12:8-10; Jude 6)

**God gave people dominion over the earth to advance God's mission around the world, but Satan wants to rule the earth.** (Gen. 1:28; Psa. 115:6; Matt. 28:19) **Though the ultimate battle is between God and Satan, we have now become targets in this war.**

## Satan's Organization

Ephesians 6:12, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." (NIV)

**Each title seems to represent a particular category of demon activity and level of rank and authority. Satan's spiritual forces are highly organized and structured for action.**

**Some demons are more evil than other demons.** (Matt. 12:45; 2 Pet. 2:4)

## Satan's Operation

**What does Satan do?**

Ephesians 6:11, "...take your stand against the devil's schemes." (NIV)

2 Corinthians 2:11, "in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes." (NIV)

**Satan's names reveal his schemes:**

**Satan – "Adversary"** (Job 1:6-7; 1 Thess. 2:18)

**Devil – "Slanderer"** (1 Pet. 5:8; 1 John 3:8)

**Lucifer – "Shining One"** (Isa. 14:12)

**Abaddon – "Destroyer"** (Rev. 9:11)

**Beelzebub – "Lord of Flies" / "Lord of Filth"** (Matt. 12:24)

**Belial – "Worthlessness"** (2 Cor. 6:15)

**Prince of Demons** (Matt. 12:24)

**Prince of this World** (John 12:31)

**Ruler of the Kingdom of the Air** (Eph. 2:2)

**God of this Age** (2 Cor. 4:4)

**Evil One** (1 John 5:19)

**Enemy** (Matt. 13:39)

**Thief** (John 10:10)

**Tempter** (1 Thess. 3:5)

**Accuser** (Rev. 12:10)

**Roaring Lion** (1 Pet. 5:8)

**Dragon / Ancient Serpent** (Gen. 3:4; Rev. 12:7, 9; 20:2)

**Father of Lies / Liar** (John 8:44)

**Murder** (John 8:44)

**Angel of Light** (2 Cor. 11:14)

**Deceiver** (2 Cor. 11:3; Rev. 12:9; 20:3)

## Satan's Outcome

**At the end of the world, Satan will be judged and cast into hell eternally.**

**Eternal Fire** (Matt. 25:41)

**Lake of Fire** (Rev. 20:12)