

What is the spirit world? The Bible teaches the existence of an unseen, nonphysical, spiritual realm that is divided into two kingdoms—the kingdom of righteousness ruled by God, and the kingdom of evil ruled by Satan (Eph.6:12). We humans were created by God in His image (Gen.1:27), which means we are more than merely physical beings—we possess a spiritual element, an eternal soul/spirit (1 Thess.5:23). Thus, we are connected to the spirit world, and what happens in the spirit world directly affects us and our physical world (Dan.10:13).

What is spiritual warfare? There is an unseen conflict taking place every moment in the spirit world—a spiritual warfare—between God and Satan (Eph.6:12). While God promises that His Holy Spirit within believers is more powerful than Satan and his schemes (1 Jn.4:4), God still calls every Christian to be alert and prepared (1 Pet.5:8). God has equipped us with spiritual armor and weaponry that assures us victory against the spiritual forces of evil (Eph.6:13-18).

“I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

“Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 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 firm” (Ephesians 6:10-13)

3 Steps to Standing Firm in Spiritual Warfare:

1. Rely on the Lord’s Strength. (v.10)

“Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.” (v.10)

- What advantage does Satan have over humans?

“I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.” (Philippians 4:13)

- What advantage does Jesus have over Satan?

“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself [Christ] likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil.” (Hebrews 2:14)

*“The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.”
(1 John 3:8)*

2. Recognize the Enemy’s Strategy. (v.12)

“We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.” (v.12)

- **Satan is a spirit being.**

“We do not wrestle against flesh and blood...” (v.12a)

- **Satan is strategic.**

“...rulers...authorities...cosmic powers...spiritual forces...” (v.12b)

- **Satan is sinister.**

“...cosmic powers over darkness...spiritual forces of evil...” (v.12c)

Names and Titles of Satan that describe his activity:

- “the father of lies” (John 8:44)
- “the deceiver” (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- “the accuser of brethren” (Revelation 12:10)
- “the tempter” (Matthew 4:3)
- “the god of this age” (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- “the ruler of this world” (John 12:31)
- “the prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2)
- “the lion seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8)
- “an angel of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14)

3. Remember Your Armor’s Sufficiency. (v.11, 13)

*“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil...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 firm.”
(v.11, 13)*