



...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

- 1 Cor 14:8



Lesson Objectives

This series intends to:

- *help us learn about the enemy and his schemes*
- *give us practical tactics to counter his attacks*
- *embed worship into our daily lives*





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Theme Scriptures:

The Battle:

- *Ephesians 6:10-12 – Our struggle*
- *1 Peter 5:8 – Enemy prowls looking to devour*
- *2 Corinthians 4:4 – god of this age has blinded minds*
- *Luke 22:31 – Satan desires to sift us like wheat*

The Victory:

- *Ephesians 6:13-18 – The armor of God*
- *Ephesians 4:17-23 – be made new*





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Weekly Theme Devotional:

more later





Lesson Outline

Battle Preparation

- Week 1 - 12/2 A Battle for your Heart and Mind*
Week 2 - 12/9 Know your Enemy (and His Weakness)

Scheme

Tactic

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Week 3 - 12/16</i> | <i>Temptation Process</i> |
| <i>Week 4 - 12/23</i> | <i>Separation</i> |
| <i>Week 5 - 12/30</i> | <i>Lies</i> |
| <i>Week 6 - 1/6</i> | <i>Pleasure</i> |
| <i>Week 7 - 1/13</i> | <i>Pain (& Fear)</i> |
| <i>Week 8 - 1/20</i> | <i>Guilt</i> |
| <i>Week 9 - 1/27</i> | <i>Apathy</i> |
| <i>Week 10 - 2/3</i> | <i>Relationships</i> |
| <i>Week 11 - 2/10</i> | <i>Success</i> |
| <i>Week 12 - 2/17</i> | <i>Distraction</i> |
| <i>Week 13 - 2/24</i> | <i>Fatigue</i> |





Battlefield tactics

Lesson Outline

Battle Preparation

- Week 1 - 12/2 A Battle for your Heart and Mind*
Week 2 - 12/9 Know your Enemy (and His Weakness)

	<u>Scheme</u>	<u>Tactic</u>
<i>Week 3 - 12/16</i>	<i>Temptation Process</i>	<i>Pray</i>
<i>Week 4 - 12/23</i>	<i>Separation</i>	<i>(Feet) Gospel of Peace</i>
<i>Week 5 - 12/30</i>	<i>Lies</i>	<i>(Belt of) Truth</i>
<i>Week 6 - 1/6</i>	<i>Pleasure</i>	<i>(Breastplate of) Righteousness</i>
<i>Week 7 - 1/13</i>	<i>Pain (& Fear)</i>	<i>(Shield of) Faith</i>
<i>Week 8 - 1/20</i>	<i>Guilt</i>	<i>(Helmet of) Salvation</i>
<i>Week 9 - 1/27</i>	<i>Apathy</i>	<i>(Sword of) Spirit</i>
<i>Week 10 - 2/3</i>	<i>Relationships</i>	<i>Forgive/Ask for Forgiveness</i>
<i>Week 11 - 2/10</i>	<i>Success</i>	<i>Humble Yourself</i>
<i>Week 12 - 2/17</i>	<i>Distraction</i>	<i>"... think about such things"</i>
<i>Week 13 - 2/24</i>	<i>Fatigue</i>	<i>Refresh</i>





Battlefield tactics

Temptation Process

Satan's Master Strategy: Ephesians 4:17-19

**Darkening of
Understanding**

- Confuse understanding and fog reasoning
- Gen 3:1-6
- no consequences??

**Hardening of
Heart**

- Heart = ability to discern what is right, best, consequences
- Hardening = petrified; turn to stone

**Loss of
Sensitivity**

- Eph 4:19 *Accept sin... it will eventually take control*
- Selfless emotions replaced by selfish emotions

**Immersion in
Sensuality**

- Insatiable; craving more... stronger, more demanding
- All sin is addictive

**Spiritual
Destruction**

How can we break this chain?





Battlefield tactics

A Battle for

The Christian Life - described as a battle for Heart and Mind

Do you feel like you are in a battle?

“Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses” – 1 Tim 6:12

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.” – 2 Cor 10:3-4

“What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight.” James 4:1-2

Jesus sending out the disciples - Matt 10:16-30

- What are we fighting for?

“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat.” - Luke 22:31

“For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” – Col 1:13-14

“They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. Although they know God’s righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.” – Rom 1:29-32





Battlefield tactics

A Battle for Heart and Mind

- *Against who?*

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. 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.” - Eph 6:10-12

Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. - Rev 12:7-9

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.” - 1 Pet 5:8

“He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil.’ - Matt 13:37-39

- *What do you know about the enemy?*
- *How do they wage battle? What are their tactics?*
- *Can we be victorious?*
- *What defense and weapons has God provided?*

...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

- 1 Cor 14:8





Battlefield tactics

Know your
Enemy

How well do you know your adversary in this battle?

The Enemy is...

*"The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the **devil**."*

– Matt 13:28-29

*"Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, **Satan** comes and takes away the word that was sown in them."* – Mark 4:15

*"...in order that **Satan** might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes." - 2 Cor 2:11*

*"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the **devil's** schemes"*

– Eph 6:11

Is he real - or a symbol of the evil that exists?¹

- 47% of evangelical Christians; 69% Catholics; 65% mainline Protestants say "just a symbol"

- Is there something – beyond human weakness – working to bring out the worst in us?

- Where does evil come from? Can we eradicate it? Is it a human (not spiritual) malady?

"If we could just get people to treat each other with dignity and respect... then... "

- Believing there is a devil, served by angels (demons) today is not popular = his leverage

- Denying satan's reality = deny his **power**; spiritually naive

- What do you know about satan?





Battlefield tactics

Know your Enemy

- *satan is?*

God's glorious creation, full of wisdom and beauty - Ezekiel 28:12-17

Father of Lies - "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." - John 8:44

Defiant to God - "Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him." - Rev 12:7-9

Rules the World - "We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one." 1 John 5:19 (control of system, order; but NOT owner - Ps 24:1)

"I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me..." - John 14:30

"For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world." - 1 John 2:16

Rules the Air - "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 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". - Eph 2:2

*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.* - Eph 6:12





Battlefield tactics

Know your Enemy

- What *satan* does?

“Satan rose up against Israel and **incited** David to take a census of Israel.” - 1 Chron 21:1

“this woman... whom **Satan has kept bound** for eighteen long years...”. - Luke 13:16

“Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to **sift all of you as wheat**. - Luke 22:31

“...devil had already **prompted** Judas...to betray Jesus...**entered into him**” - John 13:2; 27

“...Ananias, how is it that Satan has so **filled your heart**...” - Acts 5:3

“The god of this age has **blinded the minds of unbelievers**...” - 2 Cor 4:4

“...the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now **at work** in the disobedient.”- Eph 2:2

“...the devil, who has **taken them captive** to do his will.” - 2 Tim 2:26

“Satan himself **masquerades as an angel of light**.” – 2 Cor 11:14

-What *satan* is NOT? – Equal to God

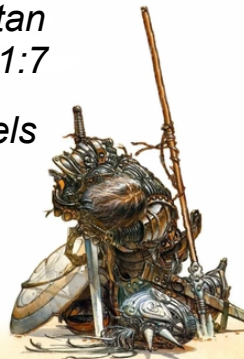
-**All powerful (omnipotent)** – “The Lord said to Satan, “Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger.” – Job 1:12

-And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.” 1 Cor 10:13

-**Everywhere (omnipresent)** – “The Lord said to Satan. “Where have you come from?” Satan answered the Lord, “From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it.”– Job 1:7

-**All Knowing (omniscient)** - “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” – Matt 24:36

-...they spoke of the things... even angels long to look into these things.” – 1 Pet 1:12





Battlefield tactics

Know your Enemy

- Respect the Enemy

“...the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment. This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the flesh and despise authority. Bold and arrogant, they are not afraid to heap abuse on celestial beings; yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not heap abuse on such beings when bringing judgment on them from the Lord. But these people blaspheme in matters they do not understand. They are like unreasoning animals, creatures of instinct, born only to be caught and destroyed, and like animals they too will perish.- 2 Pet 2:10-12

In the very same way, on the strength of their dreams these ungodly people pollute their own bodies, reject authority and heap abuse on celestial beings. But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not himself dare to condemn him for slander but said, “The Lord rebuke you!” Yet these people slander whatever they do not understand, and the very things they do understand by instinct—as irrational animals do—will destroy them. - Jude 8-10





Battlefield tactics

Know your
Enemy

- Preparations against the Enemy (weakness) - 2 Chron 20:1-30

“...Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord before the new court, and he said, “O Lord, the God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against You. Did You not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel and give it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever? They have lived in it, and have built You a sanctuary there for Your name, saying, ‘Should evil come upon us, the sword, or judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and before You (for Your name is in this house) and cry to You in our distress, and You will hear and deliver us....’

“...and he said, “Listen, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: thus says the Lord to you, ‘Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God’s. Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the valley in front of the wilderness of Jeruel. You need not fight in this battle; station yourselves, stand and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.’ Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out to face them, for the Lord is with you.”

“...Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, O Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, put your trust in the Lord your God and you will be established. Put your trust in His prophets and succeed.” When he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who sang to the Lord and those who praised Him in holy attire, as they went out before the army and said, “Give thanks to the Lord, for His lovingkindness is everlasting.” When they began singing and praising, the Lord set ambushes against the sons of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; so they were routed...

**...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call,
who will get ready for battle? - 1 Cor 14:8**





Battlefield tactics

Temptation Process

How well do you know your advisory's method?

A Battle for the Heart and Mind...

"The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness." – 2 Thes 2:9-12

- God gives Light and Truth; Satan brings Darkness and Lies

Deception

- Are there patterns to temptation; deception?

"So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. " Eph 4:17-19





Battlefield tactics

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- Selfless emotions replaced by selfish emotions

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- All sin is addictive

**Spiritual
Destruction**

How can we break this chain?





Battlefield tactics

Prayer

We need a tool to break the chain...

“...And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” – Eph 4:18

“I call on the Lord in my distress, and he answers me. Save me, O Lord, from lying lips and from deceitful tongues. What will he do to you, and what more besides, O deceitful tongue? He will punish you with a warrior’s sharp arrows, with burning coals of the broom tree.” - Psm 120:1-4

*“...And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”
– Matt 6:13*

“On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.” - Luke 22:40

“So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall! No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.” - 2 Cor 10:12-13





Battlefield tactics

Prayer

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” – Col 4:2

“Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thes 5:16-18

“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will... in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” - Rom 8:26-27: 37

*“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will **guard your hearts and your minds** in Christ Jesus.” – Phil 4:4-7*

***...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call,
who will get ready for battle? - 1 Cor 14:8***





Battlefield tactics

Separation

Separation from God

How would you describe the relationship of God and Man BEFORE Satan entered the picture?

“Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed” – Gen 2:8

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it” – v15

“The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.” – v18

“Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name – v19

“The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame” – v25

What was the result of Satan’s attack on Adam/Eve?

*“...You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it **you will surely die.**” Gen 2:16b-17*





Battlefield tactics

Separation

Separation from God

What was the result of Satan's attack on Adam/Eve? Cont...

"...Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" - Gen 3:7-11

Curse of the Serpent – crawl on your belly; enmity... he will crush you; **fear**

Curse of Woman – increase pain in child birth; desire for man; **fear**

Curse of Man – cursed the ground; tough life; dust to dust; **fear**

*"...And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. After **he drove the man out**, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life." – Gen 3:22-24*





Battlefield tactics

Separation

Separation from God

Sin has entered... what is the result?

“...But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.” - Isaiah 59:2

“...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...” – Rom 3:23

“Then they will cry out to the Lord, but he will not answer them. At that time He will hide his face from them because of the evil they have done.” Micah 3:4

Satan knew the consequence of man's disobedience...

“Joshua said to the people, “You are not able to serve the LORD. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins.” – Joshua 24:19

“...Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy...” Lev 19:2

How can Satan use this separation from God?

- fear - shame/guilt - hopelessness





Battlefield tactics

Separation

Separation from God's People

How does Satan use separation from God's people?

*“let us **draw near to God** with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us **encourage one another** — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” - Heb 10:22-25*





Battlefield tactics

Gospel of Peace

(feet)

Preparation for battle – why is footwear important?

- Every soldier needs good footing; must protect their feet;
- Provides confidence in their foundation; Enables endurance.

What is the ‘Gospel of Peace’?

- The “good news” that peace with God is within reach;
- Peace with us is desired by God – to return to our intended relationship
- Although Holy - He made a way for us to NOT to fear Him...
- Peace is available when we believe the promises of God

“...remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been **brought near** through the blood of Christ. For **He himself is our peace**, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus **making peace**, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. **He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near**. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household.

- Eph 2:12-19





Battlefield tactics

Gospel of Peace

(feet)

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and **do not be afraid**. - John 14:27

Eternal Life - “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. – John 3:16

Daily Life - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. – Prov 3:5-6

Provided Spiritual Support - the Spirit helps us in our weakness... And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will. – Rom 8:26-27

...No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, **will be able to separate us** from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Rom 8:37-39

**...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call,
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Battlefield tactics

Lies

Impact of the Lie

Father of Lies

“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don’t you believe me? Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.” - John 8:44-47

“The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.” - 2 Thes 2:9-12

What is the Lie ?





Battlefield tactics

Lies

What is the Lie? Romans 1:18-32

- *The wrath of God...against those who **suppress the truth***
- *What may be known about God...God has made it plain*
- *Invisible qualities—eternal power/divine nature—understood from creation,*
- *People are without excuse.*
- *They knew God but neither glorified him nor gave thanks to him*

- *Thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.*
- *They claimed to be wise, they became fools*
- *Exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images*
- ***Exchanged the truth about God for a lie,***
- ***Worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator***

Because of this...

- *God gave them over to shameful lusts.*
- *Not worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, over to a depraved mind,*
- *Filled with every kind of wickedness...God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful*
- *No understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy.*
- *Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things*
deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also
who practice them.

*deserve
approve of those*





Lies

Modern day examples of Satan's Lie/s?

- *There is no God... creator, sustainer*
- *Distort who God is... policeman, desiring mistakes, unfair, angry, detached*
- *Physical science is the only truth... spiritual (religion) is myth*
- *"Truth" is relative and/or situational*
- *"Truth" is individual – what "I" believe, desire or understand*
- *"Truth" is current popular opinion – majority*
 - *"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it." – Matt 7:13*
- *The created is "god" – attributed characteristics – knowing; flawless; powerful*
- *There are multiple Gods – ways to God*
 - *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." – John 14:6*
- *"Truth" is found in trivia – distracting from "THE" truth*
 - *"But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. In their greed these teachers will exploit you with fabricated stories. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping. For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment..." – 2 Pet 2:1-4*





Battlefield tactics

Belt of Truth

“Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth...” - John 14:27

“Wherefore girding up the loins of your mind, be sober and set your hope perfectly on the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ”. – 1 Pet 1:13

“...and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” – 2 Tim 3:15-17

*Jesus answered, “I am the way and **the truth** and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. – John 14:6*

What does it mean to understand that Jesus is “the Truth”?

- *Back to understanding we are the creation – NOT the creator*
- *“God is not a man, that he should lie,
nor a son of man, that he should change his mind.*

Does he speak and then not act?

Does he promise and not fulfill?” – Num 23:19





Battlefield tactics

Belt of Truth

- *The Word will lead the way to understanding Truth*
- *“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” - John 17:17*
- *There is a knowable, definable ‘Truth’ - even if you do not accept it*
- *“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.” - Gal 6:7*
- *You will have to defend the Truth... as it anchors you*
- *“...I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.” – 2 Tim 4:1-5*

*...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call,
who will get ready for battle? - 1 Cor 14:8*





Battlefield tactics

Temptation Process

Satan's Master Strategy: Ephesians 4:17-19

**Darkening of
Understanding**

- Confuse understanding and fog reasoning
- Gen 3:1-6
- no consequences??

**Hardening of
Heart**

- Heart = ability to discern what is right, best, consequences
- Hardening = petrified; turn to stone

**Loss of
Sensitivity**

- Eph 4:19 *Accept sin... it will eventually take control*
- Selfless emotions replaced by selfish emotions

**Immersion in
Sensuality**

- Insatiable; craving more... stronger, more demanding
- All sin is addictive

**Spiritual
Destruction**

How can we break this chain?





Battlefield tactics

Pleasure

How does Satan use Pleasure?

Satan confuses understanding to tempt the emotions

- truth & logic lead people from evil
- cast doubt on the truth of anything that contradicts his goals
- enough to confuse not persuade – gives strength to selfish emotion

Temptations come to use through emotions/feelings (most)

- emotions have the strength to overpower reasoning; selfish
- intellect guides us : Emotions drive us
- once emotions are aroused
 - the mind is more susceptible to deceit; less able to fight

“Pleasure Principle” - Freud

Id

sinful nature

Ego

consciousness

SuperEgo

conscience

- Sarx (greek) = ‘flesh’ (KJV); ‘sinful nature’ (NIV) – unwilling instrument; selfish; drive for pleasure
- Consciousness = moral; governance; often at odds with sarx
- Conscience = deals with real world; daily decisions between id and superego





Battlefield tactics

Pleasure

Sinful Nature vs. Spirit Desires

“Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.” - Romans 8:5-8

Sin can be “fun”

“By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time.” - Hebrews 11:24-25

Satan’s sneak attacks

- looking for unprotected areas; not frontal assault which allows preparation*
- bidding time waiting for your weakness; right opportunity*
- pressures and stress... anxiety... mis-focus/mis-direct*
- exploit your resulting emotions*

deceiving – wanting – doing – repeating – justifying - craving - dying





Battlefield tactics

Breastplate of Righteousness

What is a Breastplate?

- Protection for your body (flesh); central; protects heart, lungs, organs

What is Righteousness?

- Right standing; right behavior; free from guilt/sin; confidence of right/clean

301 scriptures on righteousness:

- Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death - Prov 11:4
- My tongue shall speak of Your word, for all Your commandments are righteousness. – Ps 119:172
- Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame. - 1 Corinthians 15:34

How does Righteousness as a Breastplate protect us?

- Covers the unprotected areas
 - God sees reality – He knows weaknesses and consequences of choices
- “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the **righteousness of God.**” - 2 Cor 5:17-21





Battlefield tactics

Breastplate of Righteousness

*“Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance, in troubles, hardships and distresses; in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; in truthful speech and in the power of God; with **weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left**; through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.” – 2 Cor 6:4-10*

Does our righteousness protects us?

•But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. – Isa 64:6

•Therefore, son of man, say to your countrymen, ‘The righteousness of the righteous man will not save him when he disobeys, and the wickedness of the wicked man will not cause him to fall when he turns from it. The righteous man, if he sins, will not be allowed to live because of his former righteousness.’¹³ If I tell the righteous man that he will surely live, but then he trusts in his righteousness and does evil, none of the righteous things he has done will be remembered; he will die for the evil he has done. – Ezek 33:12-13

•In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. - Jer 23:6

•JEHOVAH-TSIDQENU





Battlefield tactics

Who's righteousness protects us?

Breastplate of Righteousness

- *Imputed (gift) and Imparted (action) righteousness*
- *Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: “Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him.”– Rom 4:4-8*
- *What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, **not having a righteousness of my own** that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the **righteousness that comes from God** and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. – Phil 3:8-11*
- *It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, **our righteousness**, holiness and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30*





Battlefield tactics

Breastplate of Righteousness

How can we use the Breastplate of Righteousness?

- *“But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on **faith and love** as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” – 1 Thes 5:8-11*
- ***Faith and love** also protect our hearts. It's interesting to study how faith and love relate to righteousness. Faith works "through love" (Galatians 5:6) and Abraham's faith (which was shown by his doing what God said to do) was "accounted to him for righteousness" (Romans 4:3; Genesis 26:5). "Faith," as the motive within, and 'love,' exhibited in outward acts, constitute the perfection of righteousness“... Jamieson, Fausset and Brown commentary*

...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

- 1 Cor 14:8





Battlefield tactics

Pain (Fear)

Is it ok to be mad at God?

- He understands human anger
- He does not hold it against us

Satan uses Pain to (attempt to) mis-focus us

- “Strike everything and he will surely curse you to your face” - Job 1:11
- took his herds; killed his servants and killed his children in a single day
- woke a wealthy man; went to bed broke and childless
- “In all of this Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing” – 1:22
- painful sores – head to toe; lost support of wife 2:7-10
- “Job did not sin with his lips”
- sent 3 friends to attack his righteousness - proud, defensiveness
- Job 38-42 – God’s’ chastisement for questioning
- Satan seeks to exploit our emotions

How does God react to our anger?

John 11

- Both Martha and Mary – upset; what could have caused delay...
- Why did Jesus weep?
- Divine reaction to anger, doubt and questioning – he wept





Battlefield tactics

Pain (Fear)

“...and in the same way the Spirit also helps our weaknesses for we do not know how to pray as we should but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words, and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God” - Romans 8:26-27

How does God react to our anger?

John 11

-Both Martha and Mary – upset; what could have caused delay...

-Why did Jesus weep?

-Divine reaction to anger, doubt and questioning – he wept





Battlefield tactics

Shield of Faith

What is a Breastplate?

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Battlefield tactics

Guilt

What is guilt?

- Emotion (pain) resulting from feelings of having violated moral standard
- Realize our failure; carry a burden; feelings of worthlessness, shame

Where does guilt come from?

-Spiritual guilt – knowledge/realization we have broken God's law

- Used by Spirit to help change our behavior
- "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." I John 1: 9
- "Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him. Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother." I John 3: 4-10





Battlefield tactics

Guilt

- **Worldly guilt** - Did not meet expectations; associates with decisions
 - mistakes, not followed man's rules; let others/self down
 - NOT associated with sin
 - "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel --which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned." Galatians 1: 1-10

What is Shame?

- Guilt comes from looking at the sin;
- Shame comes from looking at yourself (failure); meditate on guilt
- Draws us away; inward; to hide; toward depression... Stronghold

"The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments (**cast down imaginations**) and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete. You are looking only on the surface of things. If anyone is confident that he belongs to Christ, he should consider again that we belong to Christ just as much as he." - 2 Cor 10:4-7





Battlefield tactics

Helmet of Salvation

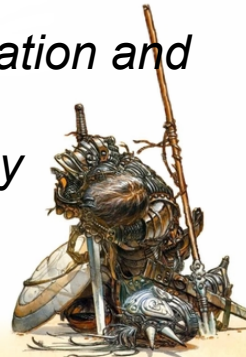
How does Satan use Guilt/Shame?

- Accuser – stands accusing us to God and to ourselves
- self-doubt; weakness; embarrassment...
- damage relationship with God
- fear** to admit failure, **fear** to ask for help; **fear** to approach the throne...
- “...If anyone is **confident** that he belongs to Christ...”

Godly conviction is from LOVE; Satan's is from Fear...

“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will **have confidence** on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.” – 1 John 4:16-18

“...Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.” - Rev 12:10





Battlefield tactics

Helmet of Salvation

Why a Helmet?

- *Protection for your mind, how we think*

Why protect your mind with “Salvation”?

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.” – Isa 1:18

“The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust...” – Ps 103:8-14

“...while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. – Titus 2:14

“You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.” – Micah 7:19

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...”” Rom 8:1





Battlefield tactics

Helmet of Salvation

How does confession release us from guilt?

*"Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord"-- and **you forgave the guilt of my sin**.... Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found... Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!" Psalm 32: 1-11*

Salvation gives us confidence to approach God?

"...let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water." – Heb 10:22

"How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!" – Heb 9:14

"...For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins." – Heb 10:2

...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

- 1 Cor 14:8





Battlefield tactics

Apathy

What is apathy?

- lack of interest, emotion;
- going through the motions – without conviction
- lack of passion or commitment to outcome; lazy

How does Satan use apathy against us?

-toward (gospel of) peace - “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. - John 14:27

-toward the truth – “Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.” - Gal 6:7

-toward righteousness – “It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.” 1 Cor 1:30

-toward faith – “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” – Heb 11:1

-toward salvation - “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...” - Rom 8:1





Battlefield tactics

Apathy

How does apathy manifest itself?

Loss of zeal – “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”
– Rom 12:10-12

- ...making him doubt whether the first days of his Christianity were not, perhaps, a little excessive. Talk to him about "moderation in all things." If you can once get him to the point of thinking that "religion is all very well up to a point," you can feel quite happy about his soul. A moderated religion is as good for us as no religion at all - and more amusing. - Screwtape Letters; C.S. Lewis (pp. 28).

Loss of spiritual growth – “We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.” - Heb 5:11-14

- “A few weeks ago you had to tempt him to unreality and inattention in his prayers; but now you will find him opening his arms to you and almost begging you to distract his purpose and benumb his heart. He will want his prayers to be unreal, for he will dread nothing so much as effective contact with the Enemy.” - Screwtape Letters; C.S. Lewis (pp. 36).





Battlefield tactics

Apathy

How does apathy manifest itself?

Consumed with secular things

- “ No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.” – 2 Tim 2:2
- “ The seeds falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word making it unfruitful...” - Matt 13: 22

How do we become apathetic?

- Self Focus (Comfort)** - “ ... but I have been the Lord your God ever since you came out of Egypt... When I fed them they were satisfied; when satisfied, they became proud; then they forgot me...” Hosea 13:4-6
- Take our eyes off the Perfecter** – “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses. Let us throw off everything that hinders and the din that so easily entangles and let us run with preference the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith... consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. - Heb 12:2-3





Battlefield tactics

Sword of The Spirit

What is the Sword of the Spirit?

Defensive AND Offensive Weapon

-Roman “gladius” – “the sword that conquered the world”; dual edges and tapered point; designed for close combat

-“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**” – Eph 6:17

-“For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.” – Heb 4:12-13

How do we use the Sword?

Direct Assault

-**Matt 4:1-11** “...The tempter came to him and said... Jesus answered...”

-“Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” – 1 Pet 3:13-15

Strengthen (embolden) the Troops

-“... therefore encourage one another with these words... therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing...-1 Thes 4:18; 5:11





Battlefield tactics

Sword of
The Spirit

What is the Spirit's role on this battle?

Inspired the 'Living' Word

Bring to remembrance these words

Encourages/protects the heart

Brings Fire to the Soul

Enables our Worship

...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

- 1 Cor 14:8





Battlefield tactics

Relationships

How could Satan use relationships to attach us?

- sin; pain; selfishness; disappointment
- using relationships to distract us
- using “love” emotion to confuse us; need to be accepted

How could Satan use our families against us?

• **Sin - abuse; drunkenness; lying; materialism; false accusations; etc.**

“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.” – Gal 5:16-21

• **Weakness - everyone is in this battle – not just you**

“...So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head...His wife said to him, “Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!” – Job 2:8-9

- **Seeing the Unseen – pp 213-215**





Battlefield tactics

Relationships

How could Satan our families against us?

- **Conflict – fighting each other rather than fighting him...**

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”
– Eph 6:1-4

- **Satan looking to leverage the weakest member to destroy the family impact**

- **‘Religion’ - using religion to condemn, separate**

“Jesus replied, “And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition? For God said, ‘Honor your father and mother’ and ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’⁵ But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is ‘devoted to God,’ they are not to ‘honor their father or mother’ with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. You hypocrites! – Matt 15:3-7

- **Forsake responsibilities – to serve God**
- **Treating your family as if they are different than the rest of man – must be “more perfect” because you profess faith/follow God**
 - **Not forgiving... not forgetting**
 - **“letting ego, wants, drives or hurts take you from your post”**
 - **“Love as God does... Act as God acts” – unconditional love**
 - **Seeing the Unseen – pp 222**





Battlefield tactics

Relationships

How could Satan our church family against us?

- **Hypocrisy – deceitful assumption of praiseworthy qualities...**

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel. “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean. “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.” – Matt 23:23-28

- **Koine greek = actor**

“The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.”

- Tim 1-2





Battlefield tactics

Relationships

How could Satan our church family against us?

- **Fratricide** – leaving the battle against Satan to battle each other...
- **Intending to do 'good' they invade God's camps and wound/kill soldiers**

Self-righteous – “The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” – Luke 18:11-14

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ – Matt 7:21-23





Battlefield tactics

Forgiveness

How could true forgiveness (forgive/ask for forgiveness) heal relationships?

- action which humbles us (vs. ego, self-righteousness)
- acknowledges our weakness; impact on others; selfishness
- a 'love' response

How does forgiveness defeat Satan?

- Removes his deception; makes sin visible
- Brings God's healing into the situation
- Releases us from guilt – although perhaps not the consequences

"...Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes." – 2 Cor 2: 10-11

"...Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." – Gal 6:1-2

"...In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold... Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."- Eph 4:32

...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

- 1 Cor 14:8





Battlefield tactics

Fatigue

How does fatigue demonstrate itself in the Christian life?

- tired of ritual; going through the motions; loss of enthusiasm
- human nature to grow tired – in service, in repetition
- loss of joy and peace in service; in worship
- overwhelmed by the expectations of others for me
- so focused on learning about God – does not spend time with God
- “Christian Fatigue Syndrome”

How could Satan use our human nature and fatigue against us?

Focus Fatigue/Distraction - culture of busyness; bus-i-ness; productivity; success metrics; multi-tasking; loss of balance

“The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.” – Luke 8:14

“Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

- 1 Tim 6:9





Battlefield tactics

Fatigue

How could Satan use our human nature and fatigue against us?

Battle Fatigue - tired of fighting the 'good' fight

"...And the smoke of their torment will rise for ever and ever. There will be no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image, or for anyone who receives the mark of its name." This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus."

– Rev 12:11-13

"...so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. – Heb 12:3b

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. – Gal 6:9

Patience Fatigue - tired of waiting

"Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near." – James 5:7-8

Satan's conclusions – stop; rest; let someone else fight for a while; no reinforcements; you are fighting alone; and ... He is not coming





Battlefield tactics

Refresh

How can we address our fatigue?

Rely on God - stop trying to do it by your strength

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” - Isa 40:28-31

How does God Renew our Strength? - time ‘with’ God

“The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.” So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.” – Mark 6:30-32

*“Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” – Mark 1:35
- Mark 6:32; Luke 4:42; Matt 14:13; Time in the Garden, etc.*





Battlefield tactics

Refresh

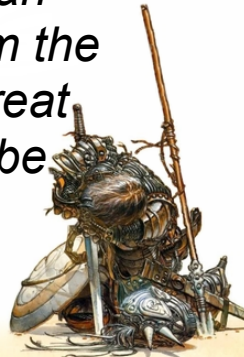
How can we address our fatigue?

Refreshing the Spiritual Solider

“It will be a sign between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.” – Ex 31:17

“The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake...” – Psm 23

“The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward... May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.” – Psm 19





Battlefield tactics

Refresh

How can we address our fatigue?

Refreshing the Spiritual Solider

“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord” – Acts 3:19

*“A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.”
– Prov 11:25*

“I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord’s people..” – Phil 1:4-7

“You know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the Lord’s people. I urge you, brothers and sisters, to submit to such people and to everyone who joins in the work and labors at it... For they refreshed my spirit and yours also. Such men deserve recognition.” – 1 Cor 16:15-18





Battlefield tactics

Refresh

How can we address our fatigue?

Refreshing the Spiritual Solider

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” – Heb 12:1-3

WORSHIP - Refreshing the Spiritual Solider

“Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” – Matt 4:10

*“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will **guard your hearts and your minds** in Christ Jesus.” – Phil 4:4-7*

...if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

- 1 Cor 14:8





Battlefield tactics

Worship
Unto the Lord



Template

Line 1

Week 2 - 12/9 Know your Enemy (and His Weakness)

Scheme

Tactic

Week 3 - 12/16	Temptation Process	Pray
Week 4 - 12/23	Separation	(Feet) Gospel of Peace
Week 5 - 12/30	Lies	(Belt of) Truth
Week 6 - 1/6	Pleasure	(Breastplate of) Righteousness
Week 7 - 1/13	Pain (& Fear)	(Shield of) Faith
Week 8 - 1/20	Guilt	(Helmet of) Salvation
Week 9 - 1/27	Apathy	(Sword of) Spirit
Week 10 - 2/3	Relationships	Forgive/Ask for Forgiveness
Week 11 - 2/10	Success	Humble Yourself
Week 12 - 2/17	Distraction	"... think about such things"
Week 13 - 2/24	Fatigue	Refresh







Battlefield tactics

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Drive



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- My Drive
 - Spiritual Battlefield Tactics - Adult Class Holiday
 - Battlefield Tactics Class Overview
 - Week 1 - Battle for Hearts and Minds**
 - Week 2 - Know [Week 1 - Battle for Hearts and Minds]
 - Week 3 - Temptation Process vs. Prayer
 - Week 4 - Seperation vs. Gospel of Peace (Fee
 - Week 5 - Lies vs. Truth (Belt)
 - Week 6 - Pleasure vs. Righteousness (Breast)
 - Week 7 - Pain/Fear vs. Faith (Shield)
 - Week 8 - Guilt vs. Salvation (Helmet)
 - Week 9 - Apathy vs. Spirit (Sword)
 - Week a10 - Relationships vs. Forgiveness
 - Week a11 - Success vs. Humility
 - Week a12 - Distraction vs. "...think about such

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Battlefield tactics



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*Shield
of Faith*



*Sword
of the Spirit*



*Preparation
of the gospel
of peace*



*Breastplate
of Righteousness*



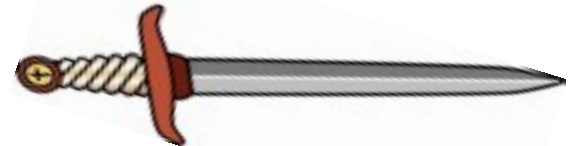
*Belt
of Truth*



*Helmet
of Salvation*



*Praying
Always*



The 
*Unforgiving
Servant*

*Worship
Unto the Lord*

