

Understanding Ways to Fight a Spiritual Enemy, part 1

Message Summary: Angels, demons and Satan are not mythical or imaginary figures created by humanity. They are supernatural created beings that are very active in the affairs on planet earth. The Bible is very clear about these spiritual beings and their interaction with humanity. Whether or not we want to be engaged in this spiritual struggle, we are part of it. The real battle is not against flesh and blood people. It's not human vs human. There are spiritual forces behind what we physically see taking place on earth.

The Spiritual Realities

1. There is a spiritual reality we cannot see. Colossians 1:16

- A. Angels, Demons and Satan are real. 2 Kings 6:17
- B. We are part of a cosmic struggle. Ephesians 6:12

2. Who is Satan and who are demons?

- A. The origin of Satan. Ezekiel 28:11-19; Isaiah 14:12-17
- B. The origin of demons. Revelations 12:9

3. What is their purpose?

- A. Satan's purpose. Romans 1:25
- B. Demon's purpose.

4. What are their tactics? 1 Timothy 4:1

- They promote the lie of Romans 1.
- They promote and advance wrong thinking.
- Inflict people with bodily disorders and disease.
- They can possess individuals.
- Influence the thinking of believers.
- Demons can create a "foothold" in the lives of believers.

5. What is our responsibility? Ephesians 6:10-11

- A. Make this a priority in your spiritual growth.
- B. Pray asking God to open your eyes – your spiritual eyes.
- C. Resist fear.

LifeGroup QUESTIONS: *All LifeGroups Begin this week*

BEGIN IT- (5min) Praise & opening prayer.

OPEN IT- (10min) Does this topic about angels, demons and Satan make you uncomfortable, intrigued, or fearful in any way? How do you feel about this topic?

EXPLORE IT- (60min) Review Sunday's sermon outline and allow the group to share their notes and comments. Now answer the following questions:

1. How do you feel about being part of a cosmic struggle? Have you ever sensed you are a part of the spiritual struggle going on? How so?
2. Discuss the origin of Satan and demons. What was Satan's sin?
3. What is the purpose of Satan and his demons? How is this purpose playing out on earth right now?
4. Describe some of the tactics used by Satan and demons. Can you give example of these tactics you see in our culture right now?

APPLY IT- (15min) What is our responsibility in this struggle? Discuss the three ways we can begin growing in this area.