

5. The War against Your Soul

Once we repent and give our lives to Jesus, He declares us to be holy, spotless and blameless. Yet, we still live in the shell of our bodies, our flesh. The quest to grow into what we will ultimately be for all eternity is a war. We are opposed by three formidable foes. Yet, we are commanded to fight for our own holiness.

Read the following passages. Note God's warnings and instructions concerning the nature of the battle.

Read Rev 12. Vs 7 says, "Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep God's commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1 John 2:15,16 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If you love the world, love for the Father is not in you. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life; is not from the Father but is from the world.

Gal 5:16-19 So I say, live by the Holy Spirit's power. Then you will not do what your sinful nature wants you to do. The sinful nature does not want what the Spirit delights in. And the Spirit does not want what the sinful nature delights in. The two are at war with each other. That's what makes you do what you don't want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit; you are not under the authority of the law.

1 Peter 2:11 Beloved, I beseech you, to abstain from the passions of the flesh that wage war against your souls.

Memorize 1 Peter 2:11

Questions:

1. What are your three primary enemies in your quest for purity?
2. Which of these three are you most aware of and how are your engaging the enemy of your soul?
3. Which of these three do you consider to be the most dangerous and why?
4. Pick one of the verses and answer: What does the verse say? (Paraphrase—Rewrite the verse in your own words.)

5. How can I apply the truth of this verse to my life today?

Discussion: How do these three enemies of our souls work together to defeat us? What are some of the tactics of that the enemies use against us?