## faith gives

# SPRUM God's Armor for Victory & Protection

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE GUIDE

### **Victory in Spiritual Warfare** A Complete Scripture and Prayer Guide

As Christians, we know there is an unseen battle waging around us. This guide will walk you through Satan's tactics and how to fight back God's way.

We've been told since day one of our Christian journey that there's a war raging all around us. An unseen war where Satan uses fiery arrows of deceit, discord, and doubt to tear us apart. Since we have a tendency to get stuck in the day-to-day, we may not even realize when we've found ourselves in the midst of a violent spiritual battle. Thankfully, we have weapons at our disposal.

This guide will walk you through how to detect Satan's battle tactics, what to know about angels and demons who protect and attack us, and how to fight the war God's way.



### What Is Spiritual Warfare?

As said in **Ephesians 6:12**, our struggle is ultimately against "spiritual forces of evil," meaning the real battle is the spiritual warfare of good versus evil. There is a spiritual war ongoing for the hearts of man, as the forces of evil want to turn us away from God and separate us from Him. But for those with God through Jesus, the battle is already won as Christ overcame death with the resurrection. We must be born again of spirit with faith in Jesus to be saved from the "second" death of the spirit (John 3).

The Bible tells us to be watchful and to guard our hearts against the iniquity of sin. Evil can only enter us when we allow it to live in our hearts, like a vampire who must be let into your house. The first step to engage in this grand spiritual warfare is recognizing it exists and to genuinely examine your heart. "For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." (Romans 1:17)

Understand that there is a war, and you are in it. Like it or not, all of us are caught up in the spiritual war that's taking place between good and evil. If you don't engage in the war, you'll still be affected by it – and you'll be much more vulnerable to evil than you would if you decided to fight as God calls you to do. So be active; not passive. Engage in spiritual warfare with the confidence that God's power working through you is greater than any evil working against you. Your prayers can help prevent bad things from happening to people and usher good things into people's lives. Listen to the Holy Spirit's promptings for guidance about how best to pray for what's most needed – and then pray to advance God's kingdom on Earth and stop the spread of evil.

Know your commander and stand on His side. Your commander in spiritual warfare is Jesus Christ, who leads two armies: the army of holy angels in heaven and the army of prayer warriors on Earth. Jesus chose you, saves you, gives you an eternal inheritance of blessings, and lives in your soul as the Holy Spirit. Jesus wants you to choose His side in the spiritual war, and to remember that the power He gives you is more powerful than evil. Your commander Jesus is the greatest example of a prayer warrior; by studying his life on Earth you can learn how to serve God without fear.

Recognize who your true enemy is. Your enemy is Satan, the highest-ranked of the fallen angels who rebelled against God. Satan is your adversary, accuser, tempter, and deceiver. He works by trying to convince you to doubt God's truth and believe his lies instead. You open doors for your enemy to attack you whenever you deliberately disobey God and choose to sin. It's vital to run away from temptations to sin and pray against Satan's plans to hurt you and other people.

Be certain of your authority in prayer. Jesus has given you the authority to pray in His name and to know that He will answer your prayers according to God's will and at the right time. Be confident that you can pray to usher God's power into any situation.

#### Further Reading: What Is Spiritual Warfare by Rebecca Mashburn



### What Are Satan's Strategies in Warfare?

### **Deception: Satan's Strategy to Trap**

Satan's strategies are all aimed at trying to kill, steal, and destroy us. Satan hates us. He hates God. His hatred is manifested through his schemes to destroy God's people. Satan will use every tactic possible to get our focus off of the Lord and onto ourselves. One of Satan's greatest tools is deception. When we least expect it, we can be lulled into a trap set by the enemy. We must become more aware of Satan's schemes and take the steps to fight back.

Let's go back to the beginning and see how Satan first appeared. Read Genesis 3:1-8and let's look at Satan as the serpent. The serpent is described as "crafty". His tactic against Eve is to question her and what she believes of God. Eve's choice reflected her heart. She is tempted to question God's goodness and best for her. Eve wants to be like God.

Satan knew the weaknesses of man better than Adam and Eve knew themselves. Satan's objective was to make Eve think that God was withholding from her. He challenged God's

commands by twisting His words to cause Eve to doubt God. When Eve tried to clarify God's one, single command, Satan challenged God's reasoning. Eve's pride got the best of her as she wanted to become wise in her own eyes, so she ate the fruit. Pride means to lift one's head above another, to hold contempt for another, to compare oneself with others. Pride can be hidden in the heart as well as openly displayed. God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5; Proverbs 3:24). So if Satan can get us into pride, we will make choices against the will and ways of God. Additional descriptions are self-exaltation, being puffed up; arrogance, haughtiness, insolence, putting oneself above others, looking down upon others, scorn, contempt. None of us are exempt from this innate human trait.

#### **Temptation: Satan's Strategy to Entice and Lure**

Let's take a lesson from Genesis about Satan's use of the eyes to bring temptation into our lives. Read **Genesis 13:5-17**. When Abram and Lot returned from Egypt, the land was too crowded with both of their flocks. So, Lot's men started a fight with Abram's. When Abram suggested they part, Lot sees that the plain of Jordan was "well-watered, like the garden of the Lord". Lot chooses to settle in Sodom with people who were "wicked and sinned greatly against the Lord".

Abram, however, listened to God and choose (or "got") his land as a blessing. By following God's direction and remaining obedient, Abram was promised all the land he could see and offspring that would last forever.

Lot, like Eve, saw Sodom and Gomorrah as "good to look at." Their lusts of their eyes was looking at the fruit (and the land) and seeing how beautiful they looked. Sadly, both followed Satan's deception. Clear consequences resulted in their lives, as they do in ours when we follow Satan's deceptions. Satan cannot force us to sin. He cannot control the behaviors of a believer, but he can place thoughts into our minds and lead us into temptation as a powerful strategy to lure us into sin. The enemy uses temptation as a strategic tool "to entice to do wrong by promise of pleasure or gain" (Merriam-Webster). Our flesh loves pleasure. Our flesh loves to feel good and feed its desires. No one knows that better than Satan, which keeps him actively seeking ways to tempt us.

#### Lust: Satan's Strategy to Open the Door to Sin

**1 John 2:16** tells us that Satan uses these three ways to tempt us: Lust of the flesh - lust of the eyes - pride of life

Pride opens the door for temptation and Satan uses lust as part of the strategy to lead us into temptation. Lust is an overwhelming desire or craving; thus, lust gives Satan a foothold to tempt our flesh. We are born as a natural man, with specifics needs to be met. The natural man has three major components: the body, the soul and the spirit. The body "needs" to be touched, fed, to be free from pain, to rest, and to work (or exercise). The soul is made up of our mind, emotions and will. The soul has needs that are controlled by what we think, how we feel and what we want. These things motivate us and/or affect the decisions we make on a daily basis. That's why lust is such an effective tool of the enemy. Satan knows how to use lust to play on our body and soul. If we know Jesus as our Savior and Lord, our spirit is awakened to understand the conflict between how we were born (the natural man) and how we are to be as the spiritual man.

Lust affects both the natural and the spiritual man. The only difference is that the Christian senses the conviction greater and has the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome it more easily. And understand that conviction is a good thing...not bad. Without conviction, lust would continually lead us into sin and sin causes death. As we said before, for the natural man, it is an eternal death, separation from God. For the spiritual man, it is a death of all that God has for you here on earth.

Lust is a desire in our flesh that must be kept under the control of the Holy Spirit living within us. When the Bible tells us to flee from lust (1 Corinthians 6:9) it points out the dangers that come from allowing lust to control our decisions and behaviors (Romans 6:12). When we are lured into temptation, this almost always involves a component of lust on our part. When we act on our lusts, we fall into sin. Temptation in and of itself is not a sin. We can resist temptation by identifying these tactics used by the enemy. However, sin still needs to be forgiven and forgiveness only comes from Jesus. Jesus alone saves sinners.

Sinners need a Savior. But sinners keep sinning because it is their nature to sin. That is why Paul says in **Romans 7:18-19**, "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice." Jesus, as our Savior, saves us from our sin. Jesus, as our Lord, wants us as sinners to be dependent on Him. As sinners, we will not become sinless in behavior, but we do become guiltless of our sin as we grow in our relationship with the Lord. Sin hurts, destroys and kills the sinner. Sin brings death--the death of dreams, the death of the peace of God and death to a spiritual life set apart by God.

**Further Reading: Spiritual Warfare: Understanding Satan's Strategies** by Tonilee Adamson and Bobbye Brooks



### **Signs Satan Is Attacking You**

It's sometimes difficult to discern when the devil has hatched schemes against you. Although not comprehensive, below is a short list of some ways to know if Satan is attacking you.

### Sudden or extreme onslaught of various troubles, losses, and trials

This is a ruthless attack that Satan often brings against believers. It seems to come out of nowhere, and it's just one thing after another. It's hard to even see straight, you feel your life is suddenly spinning out of control. Job's life is an example to us of what this may be like (Job 1-2). The devil went to God to ask him if he could torment Job, thinking he would try to lead him away from the Lord through the many struggles he faced. As we know from the book of Job, this righteous man stood strong. Though it seemed he was losing everything dear to him, he knew that God held him secure through all the loss and hardship around him. God will never allow the enemy to have full control, he doesn't have the final say over our lives. We may face battles and attacks in this world, but we can trust in our Mighty God to be our shelter through it all.

#### Attacks of physical danger, illness, life-threatening loss

We know from God's word that the enemy wants nothing more than to "steal, kill, and destroy" our lives and all we love (John 10:10). He is a thief, a roaring lion, and preys on God's people. He desires to silence our voices and take us out of this world to shut off the light of God's love and hope through Christ. Many of us may have experienced near death experiences, sudden and terrible illness, or holding loved ones who were at the brink of heaven. And yet God intervened to keep us here longer. There are many stories in the Bible of God's people under great physical attack and danger, and so many miracles that God performed to bring them safely through. Even when it didn't make sense. Even when it seemed to be the end.

Daniel faced lions in the lion's den (**Daniel 6**). His attackers thought he'd be gone by morning, but God intervened and shut the mouth of every lion. Be assured, God is still shutting mouths today. If you're facing attacks, and feel your life has been threatened, our God is a miracle worker. The Bible reminds us that our times are in His hands. We can be confident that He knows every day we are to be here on earth, and He will keep us, and our loved ones, safely in His care until He calls us home to heaven. There's no reason to fear, stand strong through prayer and His word.

#### Increased temptation and luring towards sin or wrong choices

Though we live with daily struggles and temptations all around us, many times there are spiritual attacks on our lives that put us at greater risk to go astray. It is a battle, a ruthless one, and the enemy will fight hard against us. He desires not only to bring us down, but also all those around us. He loves to see news stories splashed across headlines of believers who have fallen, who have made terrible choices of sin. He loves disunity among Christians and wants nothing more than to break up families and every relationship we hold dear. We must stand strong and stay aware. Don't give him a foothold into your life, don't give him even an inch of room. He'll come in and wreak havoc and try to lead us astray faster than we even know what happened.

Often when we find ourselves weary, already weakened, we're on his radar. Jesus Himself is our greatest example of this when He faced the devil's temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11). He was fasting, He was hungry, he was physically weakened, and tired, and of course the enemy jumped on that time to bring on the temptations to a greater degree than ever. One slip-up is all he was looking for. One wrong move. One "yes" to sin. But Jesus stood strong and resisted his attacks, every single one. He spoke God's word out loud, He held fast to truth and stepped over Satan's vicious lies and attacks. And He leads us to the same today. Don't be taken unaware. When you start sensing strong pulls away from God's truth and ways, you can know who is at the bottom of it all.

### **Further Reading: 5 Signs You're in Spiritual Warfare and How to Fight It** by Debbie McDaniel



### What Are Principalities & Powers?

These beings are a part of the rank of the kingdom of darkness and include fallen angels that were kicked out of heaven with Lucifer. The intent of the spirits is to hinder the purpose of God on earth and to take as many people as possible with them to hell in the process.

A lot of what these spirits stand for has been glamorized through media, books, songs, and other outlets. However, Christian materials, films, books, songs, magazines, etc. do have a presence in society and are gaining as the appetite of the public desires something better to feed off.

Witches really exist. There are people who communicate with the dead that are possessed by spirits. So, what we use to think was a bunch of hocus pocus has legitimate backgrounds in some respect. Demonic spirits can camouflage themselves. **2 Corinthians 11:14** says "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." Principalities and powers are not just relegated to individuals. These beings cover territories. Their presence is felt in cities. Some cities may have a principality of murder hovering over it. Another city may have a hindrance principality operating in their region. Another can have racism or sexual perversion. Some may have a gang principality or kidnapping principality operating over their region. Unfortunately, there are spirits operating that are too numerous to name.

We have protection and help as Christians. We can pray one for the other. We can fast. We can guard our eyes, ears, and other senses from wickedness. Christians should read the Word and stay prayed up. As Saints, be on the lookout for a sister or brother who might be oppressed and pray for them. Sometimes, we as Christians think we have seen it all when something strange happens in the spirit world.

There are probably testimonies that you or I am not prepared to hear. Jesus did perform an exorcism when He delivered Mary Magdalene from seven devils (Luke 8:2). There are other references to Jesus casting out devils. In Luke 8:27-33, you will find where Jesus casts legions of devils out of a man. This man had been possessed for a long time. The devils even pleaded with Jesus on where their destination would be. They wanted to remain in the area and begged Him to cast them into the swine.

Understand that at the name Jesus, the devil must flee. When I say the devil, I also mean a power or a principality. The devil is not like God and is not omniscient or all-knowing. The enemy is only allowed to vex man for a season and only with God's permission. In the second chapter of Job, the devil asked permission to oppress, harass, afflict, and steal from Job. God told him that he must spare Job's life.

So it is safe to assume that more than one spirit can be oppressing a person that does not have the Holy Spirit. A Christian may have the Holy Ghost and still will come under testing from the devil. As Christians, we need to seek God for the Holy Spirit. We can plead the blood against the devil. We may not be at the level of Paul or others who cast out spirits, but we can go to God in prayer to obtain grace and mercy to help in a time of need. Paul cast a fortune-telling spirit out of a girl in the Bible. Her masters were not happy because they had been making money off her possession (Acts 16:16-18).

**Further Reading: What Are Principalities and Powers in the Bible?** by Dr. Sandra Hamer Smith



### How Do God's Angels Protect Us?

The idea that the powers of darkness seek to destroy us can strike fear into even the bravest hearts of men. Thankfully, not only does God fight for us, but he has a heavenly army on our side as well.

### Angels keep watch over people.

"For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways" (**Psalm 91:11**). According to Charles Spurgeon in his exposition, The Treasury of David, the protection that's promised here is broad, keeping us in all our ways. Therefore, we cannot say exactly how God's angels keep us. We do not know whether they repel demons, counteract spiritual plots, or even ward off the more subtle physical forces of disease. Perhaps one day we will stand amazed at the manifold ways in which angels have served and protected us.

### Angels minister to believers.

"Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14)

According to Matthew Henry: "The saints, at present, are heirs, not yet come into possession. The angels minister to them in opposing the malice and power of evil spirits, in protecting and keeping their bodies, instructing and comforting their souls, under Christ and the Holy Ghost. Angels shall gather all the saints together at the last day, when all whose hearts and hopes are set upon perishing treasures and fading glories, will be driven from Christ's presence into everlasting misery."

### Angels are involved in children's lives.

"Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 18:10).

Angels are involved in the lives of Christians. We have angelic activity around us every day. Angels are at work in our lives, protecting us, guiding us, and sometimes even speaking to us. But they work undercover. We could describe them as God's secret agents.

**Further Reading: Do We Have a Guardian Angel** by the Christianity.com Editorial Staff



### How to Fight Back

### First, I acknowledge the adversary.

Satan is real (1 Peter 5:8-9).

When you're being attacked, welcome to the club. It's proof that you're a believer. The fact is, the more you make an impact for God, the more the devil is going to fight you. You never outgrow it. It just gets more intense.

If there were no devil, why would God send His Son to fight what does not exist? The Bible says God sent Jesus Christ to defeat the works of Satan. The Bible says that Satan is the prince of this world. Jesus said so. He never disputed Satan's right to work all across the world. The Bible says in **1 John 3:8**, "The Son of God came for this purpose: to destroy the devil's work" (NCV).

#### Second, I accept God-given authority.

Most believers are very ignorant about the authority they have for use against the devil. **Matthew 28:18-19** says we have all authority in heaven and earth. Then Jesus says, "Therefore go and make disciples...." He transfers the authority to you and me.

He does that because He's given us a specific mission (**2 Corinthians 5:20**). When you send an ambassador to another country, the ambassador has the full authority to represent that country. The Bible says that you -- as a believer in ministry -- are Christ's ambassador.

#### Third, I put on the full armor of God.

Take a look at the famous passage on spiritual armor in **Ephesians 6:11-17**. When the Apostle Paul wrote this, he was in prison. He was chained 24 hours a day to a Roman guard. Sitting there chained to this centurion, Paul looked at him and saw a model for spiritual armor.

The Roman had on a breastplate -- a piece of metal to protect his chest from spear attack. He had a strong, leather girdle around his waist to protect him. He had on boots, a shield, a helmet and a sword. Paul says just as the Roman soldier goes out to do battle, when you're in ministry you'll need to be dressed for battle.

You put it on -- before you teach that Bible study, before you teach that Sunday School class, before you play that note in worship. In all these things, you need to put on your armor of God.

I do this every time I speak. I mentally run through this list, putting on the full armor of God. I say, for instance, "Lord, I put on the helmet of salvation that will protect me from the thoughts the devil will try to give me. I don't want to think the devil's thoughts. I don't want to think my thoughts. I want to think Your thoughts, that I may be a voice for You. I put on the belt of truth. Lord, I want to share the truth, not falsehood. I want to lead people into righteousness."

#### Fourth, I aim the weapons God gave me for warfare.

Not only do we have some armor, but also we have some weapons to use when we're involved in ministry. Remember, we're not fighting against physical people. We're fighting against spiritual forces.

The battlefield for spiritual warfare is primarily in the thought life, in your mind (2 Corinthians 10:4-5). Notice what Paul says the weapons do: They demolish arguments -- that's the way people think. They pull down pretension -- that's the way people think. We take every thought captive.

Further Reading: Four Biblical Principles for Spiritual Warfare by Rick Warren



### What Is the Armor of God?

Along with having angels and God protect us, we have weapons at our disposal to defend, and in the case of the Sword of the Spirit, fight back. Let's take a look at our arsenal.

### The Belt Of Truth

The Believer's Integrity - A soldier in Paul's day had a leather girdle or belt that he tightened about his waist to protect his loins and carry his weapons of warfare, such as a dagger or sword. The belt also held his tunic together so it wouldn't be snagged. In Christian armor, it is the integrity that holds everything else together. If you do not have integrity in the big and small things of your life, you are going to lose the battle. Would people say that you are a woman or man of integrity? If not, then you cannot win the battle.

### The Breastplate Of Righteousness

The Believer's Purity - The breastplate of a soldier was sometimes made of woven chain and used to cover the soldier's vital organs. For the Christian, the breastplate is righteousness. The enemy wants to attack you not only with lies, but also with impurity. He wants you to read filthy magazines, watch immoral movies, and engage in all temptations of the flesh. The bottom line is that Satan wants to get into your heart and mind. He's looking for a crack in your armor. And don't be fooled. Satan knows where that crack is. Is your heart pure before God? If not, then you cannot win the battle.

### The Shoes Of Peace

The Believer's Tranquility - A Roman soldier's would have hobnails on the sole, very much like football cleats because when they were fighting they needed solid footing from which to move.

Unless you have a solid footing of peace, you can never make war. Sounds like a contradiction, doesn't it? When Satan comes against your tranquility, he throws out stones and briars of doubts and discouragement to cause you to stumble. Do you have peace right now? If not, then you cannot win the battle.

### The Shield Of Faith

The Believer's Certainty - The Roman soldier's shield measured approximately two by four feet and was made of wood covered with leather. In that day, soldiers dipped arrows in oil, then lit them and shot them at the enemy. These shields were vital to protect the solider from getting burned.

Satan is going to fire flaming arrows of doubt at you. He wants to place subtle doubts in your mind about God and His Truth. He knows a spark can ignite a big fire. You will need to feed your faith and starve your doubts. Are there any seeds of doubt in your mind today? If there are, then you cannot win the battle.

#### **The Helmet Of Salvation**

The Believer's Sanity - A soldier used a helmet to protect his head because if his head was wounded, he wouldn't be able to think. Every believer needs to have the mind of Christ under the control of Almighty God.

When a person is saved, for the first time he has his right mind. A person without the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ has a form of insanity. They do not operate with the mind that God made them to have. The most important thing for you to have at all times is an assurance of your salvation. Do you know that you are saved? If you aren't, then you cannot win the battle.

#### Sword of the Spirit

The Word of God - When we are tempted, the most effective weapon that God has given to us as believers is the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Jesus modeled this so beautifully during His temptation in the wilderness. When the devil tried temptation after temptation against Him, Jesus used the sword of the Spirit. Jesus spoke the Word of God to Satan. In **Luke 4:1-13**, Jesus responded, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord God only. Him only you shall serve." and again brought the Scripture back into context, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"

The sword of the Spirit works. Memorize Scripture and use the Word of God to defeat Satan's lies and attacks.

God has a plan for our lives. The enemy has a plan for us too. We just have to decide which voice we're going to listen to, and who we're going to choose to follow each day. And chances are, if we don't make a determined choice to follow God, we may eventually fall into the evil one's trap. God gives specific instructions in his Word, he gives us all we need to stand strong in this life. Yet all too often we race through busy, full days, ill-equipped,

unprepared, or simply not aware of what we're up against, or who the real enemy even is. If you're a believer living like salt and light in this dark world, you won't go for long without encountering obstacles and attacks he'll hurl straight your direction. This battle is real, it's intense.

Focusing here today, putting on His armor, staying alert, and praying, that God will equip believers everywhere to "stand strong."

Further Reading: The Armor of God - What it Is and How to Use It by Debbie McDaniel



### **Spiritual Warfare Prayers**

Jesus, sometimes I can almost sense the heaviness of pressure mounting and the ominous presence of darkness around me. I recognize my enemy is at work again. Whether he's trying to discourage me to get sidetracked, to fall into temptation, to give up, or to take my eyes off you, he's always hanging around.

I need your supernatural power, Lord, to stand strong and not surrender. Physical force won't help, because you've said the weapons of our warfare are different from those in this world. As believers, ours are powerful and can demolish strongholds and lies. These supernatural weapons originate from you. By your precious name and blood, Jesus, I'm asking you to confuse Satan and cancel his attempts to shut me and my influence down. Help me not to become discouraged or to give in when heavy times of testing come.

When I'm tired and weak, you are strong, Lord, and you are my only source of help. I cannot fight without you. Teach me how to pray and to trust you to pull down those

strongholds that keep me or others helpless. Guard me from the isolation that leaves me exposed and vulnerable. I believe you destroyed the power of my enemy by your death and resurrection. But like a bad penny, my enemy keeps showing up, whispering lies, twisting the truth, and attempting to inflate my selfish pride. He never gives up.

I am declaring the devil and his demons liars today, Lord. Through the power of your precious name and blood, I agree with your Word and the truth that you are in me and that you are greater than my enemy who wants to rule the world. You, your Word, and prayer, Lord, are my secret weapons. I belong to you, and that fills me with a powerful God-confidence. I want to constantly dress in the spiritual armor you give me. Help me use it to defend others from Satan's fiery darts as well. No one and nothing can snatch me away from your hand.

Strengthen my faith, Lord. Forgive my sins, so that I may be clean in your righteousness. Make me brave, so I can stand and fight the spiritual battles in my life and in our world. Give me your wisdom and discernment so I won't be caught off guard. Together, Lord, we'll win, because in truth, you already have. In Jesus's powerful name before which every knee shall bow, Amen!

Lord Jesus, evil is such a harsh word, and yet Your Word uses it frequently to describe the opposite of good. While we are all capable of sin, I ask Your protection against those who call good evil, and evil good. Guard us from those who scheme against righteousness and from those who twist truth into lies to accomplish their evil intents. May Your angels hover ever near to eradicate fear and fight against dark, spiritual forces we cannot see. Help us cast down every imagination and thought that our enemy tries to use to exalt itself against You.

You dealt our spiritual enemy a fateful blow on Calvary when you died on the cross for us and were resurrected on the third day. While evil still roams, the power of Your name and Your blood rises up to defeat and bring us victory against every evil planned against us. While malicious actions may disturb us, we use the armor of God You have given us to stand firm. You will bring justice in due time for all the harm and needless violence aimed at Your children. Until then, we remain in Your presence, aligned with Your purposes, and we look to You as our Supreme Commander and Protector. Help us to avoid temptation, and deliver us from evil, Lord. You are the Mighty One, the One Who will ultimately bring all evil to light. With You, Jesus, we are safe. Amen.

### **Further Reading: Spiritual Warfare Prayers for Supernatural Help in the Battle** by Rebecca Barlow Jordan



### **Spiritual Warfare Scriptures**

"Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7 "You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world." **1 John 4:4** 

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. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." **2 Corinthians. 10:3-5** 

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith." **1 Peter 5:8-9**  "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their vindication is from Me," declares the Lord." Isaiah 54:17

"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. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Ephesians 6:11-17

"In all these things, we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." **Romans** 8:37

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57

"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 4:6

"But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one." 2 Thessalonians 3:3

**Further Reading: 31 Spiritual Warfare Scriptures: Help for Facing Life's Battles** by Debbie McDaniel

### You've Made it through the Guide!

There is obviously so much more to learn about spiritual warfare. After all, Satan has waged his battles against God since the very beginning. But we hope this guide helped to prepare you for life's everyday battles. Make sure to put on the armor of God daily and to pray without ceasing. God is with you in the battle, and he will. Never leave your side.

#### Photo Credits:

ratpack223 / IStock / Getty Images Plus pamela\_d\_mcadams / iStock / Getty Images Plus Kamonwan Wankaew / iStock / Getty Images Plus serpeblu / iStock / Getty Images Plus, umbertoleporini / iStock / Getty Images Plus Evan Austen / iStock / Getty Images Plus chameleonseye / iStock / Getty Images Plus