

THE REAL ENEMY

Ephesians 6:10-18

Everyone in the world is in the middle of a raging spiritual war. We as believers must recognize that our enemy is very real, but through Christ, we have the power to fight effectively. Scripture reveals that Satan and a whole empire of evil spirits oppose God and His kingdom. However, the enemies are fallen angels; while it is important not to underestimate their capabilities, we mustn't be deceived into thinking their power is greater than it is. They are simply no match for God. When Jesus rebuked demonic forces who tormented people, they were forced to obey. Jesus gave His disciples authority over these spirits (Luke 10:17-20), AND TODAY He gives the same to us.

1John 4:4 says that, through the Holy Spirit, we have already overcome the enemy because "greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world." But if we fail to take up our position in Christ, we will feel overwhelmed and defeated.

Though Satan cannot have our souls, he will try to disable us. When we give in to temptation, he may say, "You're a weak, unworthy sinner who will never be able to really serve God." If we believe such accusations, we run the double risk of ceasing to listen to the voice of Truth and forgetting our true identity in Christ. Instead, we can resist the Devil (James 4:7) and say, "I reject that! It came from you, and I rebuke you in Jesus' name-I take that thought captive to Christ." (2 Corinthians 10:5) We have that authority!