

Having an eternal perspective

Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

(2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

It is already in your heart

He has made everything appropriate in its time. He has also set eternity in their heart, yet so that man will not find out the work which God has done from the beginning even to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and to do good in one's lifetime; moreover, that every man who eats and drinks sees good in all his labour; it is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will remain forever; there is nothing to add to it and there is nothing to take from it, for God has so worked that men should fear **Him. (Ecclesiastes 3:11-14)**

You were lied to!

- Joh 8:44 "You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.
- 1Jn 3:8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.
- Col 2:15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

Divine

The Kingdom of God – The rule of Christ and His church Eph 1:20 & 2:6

Spirit realm – The Heavenly Places

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

(Ephesians 6:12)

Earthly – The World

Man given rule and responsibility which he handed over to Satan

Gen 1:26 Rom 8:22

The Battle

- Eph1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,
- Eph1:20b when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*,
- Eph2:6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,
- Eph3:10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly *places*.
- Eph6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

Who is our enemy?

- **"How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, You who have weakened the nations! "But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, And I will sit on the mount of assembly In the recesses of the north. 'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.' "Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, To the recesses of the pit. "Those who see you will gaze at you, They will ponder over you, saying, 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms,**
- **(Isaiah 14:12-16)**

See the long game plan

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- (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

Weapons

- **And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**
- **(Ephesians 6:17)**
- **Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.**
- **(Colossians 3:15-16)**
- **For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.**
- **(Hebrews 4:12)**

Lessons from Abraham

- Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."
- (Genesis 22:1)
- Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go over there; and we will worship and return to you."
- (Genesis 22:5)
- By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.
- (Hebrews 11:9-10)
- But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; (Hebrews 11:16-17)

Stand Firm

- Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.
- (Ephesians 6:10-13)

- **Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**
- (Romans 8:35-39)