Introduction
How would you feel if you were a soldier and tomorrow you knew that you were going to war?
We’ve gone from the throne room to the battlefield.
If we are going to be victorious as Christians,
- We need to understand the battle we are in.
- We need to know our enemy.
- We need to know the resources that are at our disposal.

I. We are in the midst of a great spiritual war.

God’s plan is to bring all things in heaven and on earth under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:10
The church is to be a witness for God to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms and to bring the good news of the gospel to the nations. Ephesians 3:10

It is a supernatural battle. Verse 12
- The primary battle is in the heavenly realms.
- “If our gospel is veiled, it is because the god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the image of God.” II Corinthians 4:4

How do we fight as unseen foe?
We pray!
These demonic forces are highly organized.

“Then he continued, “Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.” Daniel 10:12-14

It is a personal battle. It is our struggle. Verse 12
Nobody else can fight this battle for you, except Christ.
The battle will be lost if we try to fight in our own strength.
The reason that so many churches are seeing so few prisoners set free is that they are fighting the wrong enemy and they are fighting with the wrong weapons.

II. We face a terrible foe.
He is called Lucifer, the devil, Satan and the deceiver.
He was once one of the highest of God’s creation. Isaiah 14:12-15
He is powerful, but he is not equal to God.
But Satan is cunning and he has a strategy to divide the church and destroy human lives.

What are some of his methods?

- Doubt – “Did God really say?” Genesis 3:1
- Temptation – He makes sin look good. Genesis 3:6
- Pride – You don’t need God. You can be your own god. Genesis 3:4
- Pleasure – Eat, drink and be merry. Luke 12:19
- Idleness – David – II Samuel 11
- Fear – “He prowls around like a roaring lion” I Peter 5:8
- Lies – “He is the father of lies.” John 8:44

He knows the lie and the lure that works best on you and me.

Think about Jesus. How did he resist temptation and defeat Satan at every turn?

- When tempted in the wilderness, he answered with Scripture. Matthew 4:1-11
- Before every major event in his life and ministry he prayed. In fact, he prayed continually.
- He was filled with the Spirit – without limit. John 3:34
- His mission was to do the will of God. John 4:34

If those things were necessary for Jesus, how much more do we need them?

III. There is only one way to victory and it is through Jesus Christ.
Be strong in the Lord.
Put on the full armor of God.
God has given us everything we need to walk in victory, but it’s up to us to use it.
Stand your ground.
When the day of evil comes. When the battle rages around you.
When we walk with Christ, clothed with his armor, we walk in victory.

Conclusion
Where has Satan been attacking you?
What have you done to resist him?
What will you do going forward?