Sunday, October 31, 2021

Standing in This Present Darkness

Ephesians 6:10-13

David H. McKinley

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[10]Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. [11]Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. [12] For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. [13]Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. —Ephesians 6:10-13

Our Calling:
- Believe—1:1-2:10
- Belong—2:11-3:21
- Become—4:1-5:9
- Battle—6:10-23

"Our goal in this study is to shift our focus from simply living and managing our lives to knowing and living out our calling."

1. Remember: Spiritual Warfare is a _____, Not a _____

[1]And you were dead in the trespasses and sins [2]in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience [3]among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. —Ephesians 2:1-3

World—External Foe
Flesh—Internal Foe
Devil— Infernal Foe

• Satan is Our _____

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. —John 8:44

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. —John 10:10

Notes:

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal. —Martin Luther

• Satan is Our _____

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. —Revelation 12:10

• Satan is on the _____

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

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God has willed His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him. —Martin Luther

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
—Matthew 6:13

2. Recognize: Spiritual Warfare Calls Us to _____, Not _____

"The saddest symptom about many so-called Christians is the utter absence of anything like conflict and fight in their Christianity. They eat, they drink, they dress, they work, they amuse themselves, they get money, they spend money, they go through a salty round of formal religious services once or twice every week. But the great spiritual warfare—its watchings and strugglings, its agonies and anxieties, its battles and contests—of all this they appear to know nothing at all."
—J.C. Ryle

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.
You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same;
And He must win the battle. —Martin Luther

Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.
—Matthew 28:20

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WARREN
A WAY OF LIFE

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Notes: