

Spiritual Warfare: How We Lose Our Battles

Enter Genesis 3:1-7

1) We Excuse Our Sin:

Isaiah 5:20; “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!”

Jeremiah 2:35; “Yet you say, because I am innocent, surely his anger shall turn from me. Behold, I will plead My case against you, because you say, I have not sinned.”

What were they guilty of?

Verse 27; “For they have turned their back to Me, and not their face.”

Verse 32; “Yet My people have forgotten Me days without number.”

2) We Fail To Apply His Truths:

Psalm 1:1-3; “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.”

3) Deception:

Jeremiah 17:9; *“The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; who can know it?”*

Isaiah 44:20 speaks of an idolater who is misled by his own “deluded heart.” And the prophet Obadiah identifies arrogance as one of the roots of self-deception.

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall” (Proverbs 16:18).

James 1:22 warns us against deceiving ourselves:
“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

4) Shallow or Divided Love For Christ

Matthew 6:24; “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

Leads to:

5) Apathy:

Psalm 51:12-13; “Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You.”

6) Doubt:

James 1:5-8; “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord.”