

ND2-008 **Knowing Spiritual Warfare**

Outline:

A. What is Spiritual Warfare? Whom do we battle against?

1. Knowing the enemy in Spiritual Warfare

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” (Eph 6:12) (Satan: resistor, betrayer)

Satan has many names: the Devil, the great dragon, the serpent (Rev 12:9)/the ruler of this world (John 14:30)/ the spiritual hosts of wickedness (Eph 6:12)/ Roaring lion (I Peter 5:8)/ the spirit who works in the sons of disobedience (Eph 2:2)/ Transforms himself into an angel of light (II Cor 11:14)/ Father of lies (John 8:44)...

2. Recognize the nature of the warfare: Its comprehensiveness, seriousness, and continuity

a) Comprehensiveness:

“The whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.” (I John 5:19b, Eph 2:2)

b) Seriousness:

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. (John 10:10)

c) Continuity:

“The rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall. “ (Matt 7:27)

“When the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time” (Luke 4:13)

- **Spiritual warfare is inevitable in our lives – although there’s a price to pay, not fighting is even more costly**

B. What attitude should we have in facing spiritual warfare?

1. Don't be negligent, be alert and pray

- *“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.” (Matt 26:41)*
- *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” (I Peter 5:8) / “...let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.” (II Cor 10:12)*
- *“Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.” (Luke 22:31)*

2. Recognize the deception of the enemy

- *“...lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices. (II Cor 2:11)*
- *“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of*

the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. (Eph 2:1-3) / "The last enemy that will be destroyed is death." (I Cor 15:26)

(Sin, world, flesh, death, and the power of darkness are most common devices the enemy used to corrupt people)

3. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the spiritual forces of evil – We have only one enemy

- *Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against ...the spiritual forces of evil (Ephesians 6:12)*
- *"Though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal..." (2 Corinthians 10:3-4) / "...abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul." (1 Peter 2:11)*

4. It is not striving to win, but standing on the ground of the victory of Christ – take the victory of Christ and live out the victorious life

- *"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ... of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.." (Philippians 2:9-11)*
- *"...on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matt 16:18-19)*

5. It is not just a personal battle, it is closely related to the body of Christ

(Example) Achan committed a crime alone (Joshua 7:16-26), Moses' prayer (Ex 17:11, 32:32)...

"And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it." (I Cor 12:26)

C. What is the way to victory in spiritual warfare?

1. Stand firmly on the victorious foundation of the Lamb, to be more than a conqueror through Christ

- *For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. (I John 3:8b) / "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ." (II Cor 2:14)*
- *"...that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil." (Heb 2:14b)*
- *"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name" (Ph 2:9)*
- *"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (Luke 10:19) / "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matt 18:18)*

- *“...they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.” (Rev 12:11)*

2. Rely on the power of the Holy Spirit, be alert and pray in the Spirit

- *“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds.” (II Cor. 10:3-5)*
- *“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— ¹⁹and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel.” (Eph 6:17-19)*

3. Put on the whole armor of God and resist the devil by faith

- *“Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7)*
- *“...your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in the faith” (I Peter 5:8-9)*
- *“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the ¹wiles of the devil. ²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of ³the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” (Eph 6:11,13)*

4. Keep from sinning and leave no room for the devil

- *“ know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.” (I John 5:18)*
- *“...nor give place to the devil... And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.” (Eph 4:27, 30)*
- *“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. (I Cor 10:13)*

5. Keep yourself in the love of God

- *“... Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword...yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” (Romans 8:35-39)*
- *“...Pray in the Holy Spirit and keep yourself in the love of God” (Jude 20b-21)*

6. Avoid a solitary life, live in the protection of the body of Christ

- *“..Church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.” (Ephesians 1:23)*
- *“if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness” (Galatians 6:1)*

- *“Five of you shall chase a hundred...your enemies shall fall by the sword before you.” (Leviticus 26:8)*

Meditation, Practice, Discussion

□ Content Review: Based on the theme verse and content of this lesson, what are some questions you may have?

1. What is spiritual warfare? Whom do we battle against in Spiritual warfare? Why do we battle in spiritual warfare?

2. What attitude should we have in facing spiritual warfare? Why?

3. In order to overcome spiritual warfare and be victorious, what do we need to pay special attention to?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

□ Further Reflection: The impact of this lesson on me, the revelation of the Holy Spirit, and additional thoughts

1. According to the three natures of spiritual warfare mentioned in the class (comprehensiveness, seriousness, and continuity), please spend at least 10 minutes in deep meditation and prayer on these, so that you can recognize that you are already in, and will always be in the serious spiritual warfare throughout your life. Please share any insights you have with the group members.

2. Please share with your group a specific spiritual battle you are currently experiencing or a weakness that is often exploited by the enemy.

How does this kind of spiritual warfare or weakness that I have been dealing with, impact the body of Christ (including: my family, group, ministry team, etc.)? How should I face it?

□ The Path to Implementation:

1. Refer to the six key points of overcoming the spiritual warfare described in the course. Based on the spiritual warfare you are currently experiencing or your weakness you mentioned above, please list the specific insights you have learned or experienced after studying this class, and share them with your group members.

Please intercede and encourage each other in the next two weeks.

Note: If you feel that there is no obvious or specific spiritual warfare or any weakness, please ask the Holy Spirit to help reveal to you, so that we'll learn to be alert to any of the enemy's devices and his work (which is going on all the time), and simply record it each day. Share with the team members in the future.

.

Week One

Day	Insights or practice
M	
T	
W	

Th	
F	

Week Two

Day	Insights or practice
M	
T	
W	
Th	
F	

2. After collecting the assignment, the group leader and the group members will select some scriptures from the handouts that can be used to help each other learn more of the spiritual warfare. These scriptures will become the weapon to war (the sword of the Holy Spirit, not a useless reed). Use one of the passages every day as a scripture for your daily devotion, pray on it, and recite/pray throughout the day.

- Message Transcription (Pastor Yu)

Greetings! brothers and sisters. Peace be to you!

Around 30 years ago, the “World Journal” had an article specifically mentioning that modern Christians are less interested in the messages beginning with the “S” word. For example, when it comes to “sin” or the message about “Satan”, people don't like to hear it. Similarly, when we are talking about spiritual warfare today, this may not be accepted by some people. People feel there are enough difficulties and challenges in life, and the pressure is so great already. Some may think, “ I come to church rarely, and am hoping to hear more about prosperity, positive thinking, or messages that are full of forgiveness, acceptance, and love.” Of course, we will not neglect to preach these kinds of messages, about God's love and His forgiveness, or that the house of God is full of God's grace and blessings. However, like today's topic, good medicine is bitter or unpleasant to hear, but is truly beneficial and necessary for us, and these are not what the enemy wants us to hear. This fundamental truth is too important for us, because truth will set us free! The Son of God came to set us free, and He also set people free through the truth, and led us into His salvation.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of my calling to lay down my profession and serve the Lord in the ministry. In the past 30 years, I have preached many times about “spiritual warfare,” and almost never failed, every time I was attacked or disturbed by the enemy, because he doesn't want us to talk about this. However, in the past when I preached about it, my heart had never been as heavy as this time. Especially in the past year or so, we have experienced waves of unresolved epidemic pandemic; natural and man-made disasters in various places; ethnic opposition and conflicts on political issues; the enemy's destruction of the church... this generation is afflicted and dreadful to watch. Through all these happenings, God is showing us problems that we should not overlook, but have been ignored; should not lose control, but have been out of control. This is the situation of the individual, the family, the church, and even the entire generation.

In fact, what the enemy really wants is to destroy and resist God and His will. As children of God, we, especially those who experienced the work of the Holy Spirit, naturally become the main targets of the enemy's attack. Even though after hearing today's message, we may not be able to win all battles immediately, at least we will know more about the enemy's devices, so that we know how to be alert and humbler, to rely on the Holy Spirit, and to live out what God has destined for us to live. In other words, not only are we free from the snare and control of the enemy, but also actively serve in the church in the name of the Lord, taking power of the Lord, and working together to crumble, expel, and destroy all the destructive work of the devil.

A. What is Spiritual Warfare? Whom do we battle against?

1. Knowing the enemy in Spiritual Warfare

First of all, let us understand what is “Spiritual Warfare?” Who is our enemy?

On this spiritual battlefield, our opponent is a veteran. This fallen archangel has existed since God created the heavens and the earth, when God spread the sky and created all things. This fallen archangel has existed since ancient times, is the father of lies and a master negotiator. When Eve talked to Satan in the Garden of Eden, she was not his equal opponent, and was immediately defeated. What we face today is an enemy that must not be neglected. Ephesians 6:12 tells us: “ *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the*

heavenly places.” “Satan,” the original word means to betray and to resist. Satan exists to resist God and His will. The purpose of Satan's attack is to destroy our relationship with God and destroy the way to fulfill God's will.

The Bible recorded many names of Satan; he has many titles. He is also called:

- The Devil, the great dragon, the serpent (Rev. 12:9)
- The ruler of this world (John 4:30)
- The spiritual hosts of wickedness (Eph 6:12)
- Roaring lion (I Peter 5:8)
- The spirit who works in the sons of disobedience (Eph 2:2)
- Transforms himself into an angel of light (II Cor 11:14)
- Father of lies (John 8:44)
- And in Isaiah, Lucifer, morning star, son of the morning, mammon... etc.

From the different titles listed in the Bible and the description of different perspectives, we can know who this enemy is and who we are fighting against.

2. Recognize the nature of the warfare: Its comprehensiveness, seriousness, and continuity

Today, the enemy aims not only to destroy our body and external environment. These are not the most dangerous things. Moreover, he mainly wants to destroy our relationship with God, destroy our lives, and ruin the accomplishment of God's will. When talking about the nature of warfare, I would like to focus on three points: its comprehensiveness, seriousness, and its continuity.

a) Comprehensiveness: The whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one (I John 5:19b, Eph 2:2)

Ephesians 2:2: “...*the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience*”

Now the whole world is under its sway. This is talking about its “comprehensiveness.”

b) Seriousness: The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. (John 10:10)

The thief comes with only one purpose which is to “steal, kill and destroy” (John 10:10). Today, our opponent in which we battle is an “invisible enemy,” and the whole earth is under its sway. We are exposed, but he is hidden and invisible. He is a spiritual demon in the sky. We are in a dangerous situation; this is indeed a very serious matter.

c) Continuity: the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall. (Matt 7:27)

This is our lifetime battle, and it does not end even when we are gone. Since ancient times, from Adam and Eve to the present, it has not stopped, to the thousand-year kingdom, when Satan was temporarily thrown into the bottomless pit, until at the end of the millennium kingdom, after the trial of the Great White Throne, Satan will be thrown into

the lake of sulfur and fire, and then that will be his fate forever. But before that, Satan exists. Therefore, as long as you and I are still alive, the spiritual warfare will never cease.

Someone may ask: Why doesn't God abolish Satan now? If so, the world would not have so much chaos, pain, craftiness, and treacherous injustice. I believe everyone is eager for the enemy to be eliminated soon, right? I also asked this question when I was young. At that time, a spiritual elder said: God does not abolish Satan today because Satan still has the value of being used by God. Through the presence of the enemy, through its temptations, God edifies us, refines us, saves us, and promotes us. Without the enemy, in a comfortable environment, we will not grow and change. Today God allows the enemy to exist, in order to cleanse us, train, refine us, and build us up.

The rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." (Matt 7:27) What is the common feature among the three items Lord Jesus illustrated here? "Rain, water, and wind.", all characterized in its continuity. All of them are a continuous force that constantly "strikes" against the house with the purpose of destruction.

If all oxygen on earth is completely replaced by poisonous gas, then no one can escape; this is **comprehensiveness**. When oxygen is absent, it is a fatal situation for all people, not just uncomfortable to breathe, but life-threatening - this is the **seriousness** of it. If you have an oxygen tank, or if you wear a gas mask, these will allow you to live a few more hours, or a few days - this is the **continuity** of it. I want to use this example to help you understand the comprehensiveness, seriousness, and continuity of this spiritual warfare. Brothers and sisters, if spiritual warfare is so real, how can we take it lightly as if we were not in it? We must remember that the nature of spiritual warfare is: "comprehensiveness", "seriousness", and "continuity."

3. Spiritual warfare is inevitable in our lives although there's price to pay and not fighting is even more costly

There is indeed a price to fight, but if we don't fight, the cost is even greater. If we don't extinguish wildfires, it will spread. Why do firefighters risk their lives to put out the fire? Many people lost their lives on the fire ground, all aiming to stop the fire from spreading further. Brothers and sisters, the cost of not fighting is even greater. The same goes with spiritual situations. If we allow the enemy to enter our lives, our families, and our churches today, then this spiritual family for sure will be destroyed by the enemy, and become lost, losing control of our homes and churches.

B. What attitude should we have in facing spiritual warfare?

Before we explore how we can win this battle, let's take a look at the attitude we should have to face the spiritual battle. When we have the right attitude, it is much easier to win the battle. Today, it is because of our lack of vigilance and seriousness in our mentality and cognition that we take spiritual warfare lightly. Let me briefly talk about the right attitude from five aspects:

1. Don't be negligent, be alert, and pray

Be alert, watch, and pray. The Lord Jesus himself told us: *“Always watch and pray, lest you fall into temptation.”* (Matthew 26:41) We face temptations daily. The Lord said to watch and pray so that you don't fall into temptation. The Lord Jesus was to be arrested and tried that night, and be crucified the next day. At this most dangerous and critical level of warfare, the Lord reminded the disciples three times: *“Watch with me.”* As a result, the disciples could not stay awake but slept. Brothers and sisters, this is spiritual warfare, and that is why Jesus reminded us before going to the cross, *“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”*

In I Peter it says: *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”* (1 Peter 5:8) If you look at the picture on the screen closely, aren't you afraid of those three lions charging towards you? Satan who is invisible is much more terrifying than this! Satan *“walks about, seeking for someone to devour.”* If we don't watch out, we will be eaten. I once said: *“In the past, the enemy had to look everywhere, but now he has “all-you-can-eat” buffet. This buffet is abundant, Satan can't even finish it, Satan doesn't have to search at all. We are not joking about this, this is the actual situation, it exists everywhere. Satan can devour God's children through sin, temptations, even though epidemics, political issues, and election campaigns.*

I Corinthians 10:12: *“...let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.”* This verse reminds us that many people fall when they think they are strongest. Peter thought that others would fall, but he would never fall. He even said to Jesus, *“Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!”* (Matthew 26:34) He really loves Jesus; this is his strength. Unexpectedly, he fell when he thought he was strong enough to stand. David feared God ever since he was a child. His psalm says that he will not walk with the wicked or sit in the seat of a scoffer. He has maintained his integrity since he was a child. But just when he was not careful, thinking that there's no problem, he fell suddenly. When some preachers fall, most of them said that they thought their marital life was what they can boast about most, and was most grateful of, but they did not expect to fall on the very thing they boasted about. When we think we stand firm, we must be careful! None of us can boast casually.

Jesus said to Peter, *“Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.”* (Luke 22:31) Brothers and sisters, have you ever seen sifting wheat on the field? It is to sift out the chaff and keep the wheat. Don't think that Satan sifts us today just to sift us out, rather Satan wants to retain us. The better you are, the more Satan wants to have you. If you are the chaff, even Satan doesn't want it. Once a servant of God said: *“Lazy people not only can't use God, even Satan doesn't want to use him.”* Today, standing before the Lord, we really have to be careful and watchful. We should also pray for each other so that the enemy cannot sift us out. Even though we saw Peter sifted temporarily, and Satan seemed to win, Jesus said, *“But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”* (Luke 22:32). I truly thank the Lord, not that we will not fall, but that we have a great Savior who loves us forever. He knows how to restore us, rebuild us, and help us to stand up again.

2. Recognize the deception of the enemy

II Corinthians 2:11 tells us : *“lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.”*

Satan is very good at creating opportunities and making the most of them. He is dreadful, and is much more diligent than us! When we are asleep, Satan is working; when we are wasting the opportunity God gave us, he is creating opportunities to tempt and trap us. Paul said, *“We are not ignorant of his devices”* (II Corinthians 2:11), but are we really not ignorant of it? If so, today will not be so chaotic; If we really know, there would not be so many internal struggles in the church today; if we really know, we wouldn't criticize and judge on minor issues, and create so much harm and hurt.

The enemy wants to destroy families, and to steal them away, specifically those families that are happy, successful, with good financial wellbeing, and are good in all areas. For example, one said to a brother: “Your preaching of the gospel is different from others. What you say really has more content. When I listen to you, I feel convinced by you because what you say is so profound.” The brothers were ecstatic. Two days later, she called on the road again: “I have a broken tire. You are the most caring person. Can you come and help me?” The brother asked for leave from the boss, left work and ran out to help. His wife was very angry when she found out. He still said, “Be loving, preach the gospel, and be a witness.” Little did he know he was sinking one step at a time, and at the end, the whole family was taken away by that woman.

Brothers and sisters, do we really know the enemy's devices? Satan is pervasive, and knows our weaknesses. He is a master of fishing, and knows all kinds of bait every fish likes. Satan knows the weaknesses of each of us, and he also knows how to use our weaknesses to entice us. Do we really like what Paul said: “We are not ignorant of his devices?”

Ephesians 2:1-3, Paul listed all kinds of devices and attacks the enemy would use: *“you who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.”* Another thing that attacks us is “death” - God *“The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.”* (1 Corinthians 15:26) Sin, the world, the customs and trends of this world, the flesh, death, and the power of darkness are the most common methods used by the enemy to corrupt people.

First, “sin.” As long as we fall into sin, our fellowship with God, our spiritual health, and our relationship with people will all be destroyed at that moment.

Second, the “world.” In the past 30 years, since the internet became widespread, human history, life, interpersonal relationships, physical and mental health, and moral standards have all altered tremendously, more than the past thousand years, and they are still changing rapidly. Elder John said, *“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.”* (I John 2:15-16) James said: *“...Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”* (James 4: 4) The whole world is against God.

Third, “the flesh.” If we claim to believe in the Lord, yet our lives have not changed, our attitudes have not changed, our priorities have not changed, our views and values have not changed, and our bondage hasn't changed, everything is still the same as in the past. Brothers and

sisters, this is about our “flesh,” which is intact, because my “flesh” is too big to accept changes. On the first day of class, the teacher said, “The seat you sit in today is the seat you will sit later. Get up and pick your seat now.” Everyone picked a seat they liked and sat down. One or two months later, the teacher said, “We are changing seats today.” Everyone started to complain. They were used to sitting and didn't want to change. How comfortable it is to sit in that corner, and how comfortable it is to be a little farther away from the teacher. People don't like change because all changes have a price.

Fourth, “death.” The Son of God “... *through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil*” (Hebrews 2:14), in order to “*release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*” (Hebrews 2:15). How many people fear death? If you say that you are not afraid of death, it is because you have not really faced death directly. I have seen my grandmother die when I was a child, and have seen someone die in my neighborhood. One day I heard that I might die in one or two years, the fear of death immediately overtook me, and it felt like a thousand needles pierced my body. I didn't expect death to be such a horrible thing. It came suddenly when I was not prepared.

Brothers and sisters, we all need to know the enemy's devices and stand strong by the Lord. Don't think that I'm fine for I have no obvious sins. The enemy will use various ways to incapacitate you, just like boiling a frog in warm water. When you find that you are in temptation, you can no longer jump, because all your ability to resist and escape has been unknowingly corrupted and disabled. Why do so many people fall when temptation comes? Often, failure did not start at that moment, but way before that, he had already fallen.

In the following third, fourth, and fifth points, I will talk about “not that...but this,” these are the correct attitudes we need to have.

3. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the spiritual forces of evil — We have only one enemy

We have only one enemy. People, things, and matters that you see are often just tools or ways used by Satan. But we are often deceived by our enemy, thinking that these are our enemies. Even the people in our own family have become our enemies. It is important to know: Our only enemy is the invisible Satan, the devil. He uses a variety of roles to confuse and destroy people. Peter said in I Peter 2:11: “...*abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul.*” Spiritual warfare is warfare in the invisible realm. The missionaries were killed; and martyred in Muslim countries... of course, these were all battles, but the more terrifying ones were the invisible battles.

Therefore, we “*do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but ... against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*” (Ephesians 6:12). Moreover, “*though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal...*” (II Corinthians 10:3-4). The Bible talks about three no/not in these two places: not...not...not. Let's take a look at the picture I drew today.

First, we are not fighting against the flesh. Our enemy is in the spiritual world.

Second, we are not at war according to the flesh. In other words, we must rely on the Holy Spirit. No one can depart from Christ to prevail, similarly no one can depart from the Holy Spirit and have the power to overcome Satan.

Third, weapons of our warfare are not carnal. We do not rely on our flesh, nor do we need to use carnal weapons to fight. Instead, we put on full spiritual armor and fight against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

4. It is not striving to win, but standing on the ground of the victory of Christ – take the victory of Christ and live out the victorious life

The victory of the battle for Christians today depends on the Lord, not on numbers of people. We are able to prevail in spiritual warfare because Christ has already conquered it for us. When Christ said “it is finished,” when Christ was “resurrected from the dead,” all the power of Hades and Satan were crushed, and it had no way to entrap Christ with its poisonous hook. Because Jesus Christ was completely sinless and resurrected from the dead, He “...*shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.*” (Hebrews 2:14) Today we are standing on Christ’s victorious position and assume the victory of Christ, to experience, to live, to witness this victory, as written in Psalm 23, “*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies...*” (Psalm 23:5) There was a very good testimony of the battle in the plains of Jericho. When God's people left Egypt and entered Canaan, they had not yet begun to fight. They first ate a feast in the fields of Jericho, the feast that God had prepared for them in front of the enemy. Therefore, when we break the bread, we can claim, “We can point at the banquet on this table to proclaim triumph over Satan. Jesus shed his blood for me, this bread was broken for me, all my sins were solved, when I ate, I united with the life of Christ.” No banquet on earth can compare to this banquet.

In addition, our victory is through Jesus Christ who has obtained the name that is above all names, “*Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ... of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.*” (Philippians 2:9-11)

I remember that around 30 or 40 years ago, the tumor on my face was swollen and hardened. One time, I fellowshiped with a spiritual elder and asked her to pray for me. She asked me, “What is the name of your disease?” I said, “My disease has no name, because the doctor said it grew for unknown reasons...” She said, “You have to give me a name, because Philippians 2 tells us that as long as there is a name, it must bow to this “name above all names.” We need to know what is our illness, where is the problem, it must have a name, and then we pray in the name of Jesus to make it fall under the “name above all names” of Jesus Christ.

When we bought our current church building, we never felt our enemy was the city government, Intel Corporation, or Applied Materials. Although they strongly opposed allowing us to enter this area. We know that our enemy is definitely not them, instead we all pray for them. When we came back from the meeting and knew the names of their supervisors, their names were written on the whiteboard of the prayer room, and they were named for God's blessing, because they were not our enemies at all. We are victorious in the name of Jesus Christ, and in the name of the Lord, all the work of the enemy is dismantled.

Matthew 16:18-19: “...on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” What a glorious promise this is.

This picture was taken when Mrs. Yu and I finished serving in Greece many years ago. We went to the neighborhood to rest for a day, before returning to continue teaching. This place is called Meteora, the monastery is built on top of a big rock. The church is built on the great rock of Christ, beyond the reach of the enemy. Therefore, the position of the church is heavenly, surpassing, and victorious. Moreover, the Lord said: “*the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.*” (Matthew 16:18). When Dean Huang Zijia of the “Spiritual Advancement Association ” in New York preached his message this year, he specifically mentioned this “gate” is for people to come in, and also to block people from entering. He said, “God has given His authority to His church, even the gate of the Hades cannot overcome. When we hold the key to the kingdom of heaven, despite the fact that hell wants to shut it down, it cannot shut us down.” We can go in grandiosity, and release the prisoners and slaves who are bound by the enemy. He said, “The key to the kingdom of heaven is the gospel of the kingdom of God.” We have already held this key to the gospel today. It cannot be blocked by the gates of the hades. You can release the captives when you open it. The authority of the church is not only in prayers, but we also have this “key” in our hands, which cannot be blocked by the authority or the gates of the hades. Whatever we bind God binds, and whatever we release God releases. Speaking of this, the church really falls short of the Lord, right? We fall short in the gospel, in prayer. There are still so many problems, because we have not properly used this authority to win.

5. It is not just a personal battle, but is closely related to the body of Christ

[Example]: In Joshua 7, Achan committed a crime alone (Joshua 7:16-26), only for gold, silver and a beautiful dress, and the Israeli army was defeated. For this matter, God asked them to confess their sins and repent. Joshua asked God why they were defeated? We would think that it was because of their pride, because they said they only needed three thousand people (to capture Aicheng) , which is enough, because it is a small city. The truth is, it is not just because of pride. God revealed to them, it was because they did not remove “things that should be destroyed”. “*The Israelites cannot stand before the enemy...If you don't remove the things that should be destroyed from you, I will no longer be with you.*” (Joshua 7:12) Without God’s presence, they are doomed to failure. God told them to draw lots, and drew out Achan. Joshua asked him, “*Why have you troubled us?*” (Joshua 7:25) Do not think that if I closed the door and committed a crime no one knows, it would be fine. It absolutely affects the entire kingdom of God and the entire body of Christ.

Brother John Nelson Darby once visited a brother for he grew cold towards the Lord and went to places that should not be visited daily. This brother was upset that Darby came bothering him, so he said, “Just mind your own business, why are you bothering me?” Darby said, “Brother, I am here to mind my business. You ran to the place where you shouldn’t go, and you took me to it, do you know? You took the whole church, and even took Christ there. You still tell me it’s not my business?” That day the brother knew what the church was and what the body was for the first time. My failure alone affects the whole body of Christ, and my victory alone affects the whole body as well. If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. This is a spiritual principle. Thus, I must ask brothers

and sisters to love God's house, love the church! We should all care. My success or failure does not only matter to me, but also involves the whole family of God.

[Example]: When Moses went up to the top of the hill and prayed (Ex. 17:11, 32:32), Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. This is what I am constantly saying: “In true prayer, something will happen; and something will happen also if we don't pray!” When we truly pray, God's people and God's house will be victorious and blessed; when we don't pray, the Amalek triumphed. Don't just rush to solve the problem, rather, remember to kneel before God, see the problem from God's perspective, and pray for the problem. Many problems are caused by us failing to raise our hands in prayer. The victory or defeat on the top of the hill determined the victory or defeat in the valley; the “invisible” prayer and the “invisible” battle determined the “visible” battle in life. When Moses prayed, he affected the entire family of God. When God's anger burns, he will destroy these people. Moses said: “...if you will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.” (Exodus 32:33) Moses prayed by himself, and it turned out that millions of people were spared. Moses himself was victorious, but what he cared about was God's people and God's family.

You must come to the prayer meeting! The measure of a person's prayers speaks of his spiritual state, as well as the measure of his spiritual responsibility. Why is the United States so miserable lately? Today's American churches really need to repent! We are so comfortable; we need such a wakeup call to wake ourselves up! Through such things, we can see our problems, our shortfall, and the destruction in the hands of the enemy.

C. What is the way to victory in spiritual warfare?

Before I talk about “the way to victory in spiritual warfare,” I have two points to remind everyone:

First, although Satan is aggressive, and he does have some supernatural power, he is definitely not like God who is “omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresent”. Satan is still limited. So don't be overly afraid of him or exalt it. Don't assume all bad things are from Satan, or all mistakes were caused by Satan. I have heard some people say that they should pray for the pulpit of the church and cast out demons because the pastor preached with no anointing and power. We should pray for the pastor, let him pray more, rely more on the Lord, pray with the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit, and even make him more diligent and better prepared; or if the pianist is not good, don't run to pray for the piano, or rebuke the demon in the piano. Brothers and sisters, this is because we take the enemy too high and neglect our own responsibilities. Although the enemy has supernatural powers, and he is evil, it is still under God's supreme authority. Today, the children of God are under the protection of God's sovereignty and power. Without God's permission, Satan cannot hurt us. He can tempt us, he can destroy us through temptation to subdue us, but this does not mean that Satan can kill God's people casually, because we all belong to God.

Second, In Job chapter 1, Satan came to challenge God and said, “...Does Job fear God for nothing? Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side?” (Job 1:9-10) God said: “...all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a

hand on his person.” (Job 1:12) Look when the fence removed, the camel is gone. The cattle and sheep are gone, and all the children died in one day. Therefore, we must be grateful! Today, if there is no protection from God, you and I definitely would face more hardship and difficulties than we are facing today. Our troubles would be even greater. Therefore, when we talk about victory in battle, we must emphasize the sovereignty of God, and His greatness, only God is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent, and such a great and almighty God loves us personally and protects us.

Below, we’ll look at the way to victory in spiritual warfare from six angles:

1. Stand firmly on the victorious foundation of the Lamb, to be more than a conqueror through the Lord

“...that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.”
(Heb 2:14)

“The devil is the devil who destroys the power of death by death” (Hebrews 2:14)

The manifestation of the Son of God is to destroy the works of the devil. In the English translation, it uses the word “destroyed,” which means to destroy totally. John Darby's translation is also very interesting, speaking of the Lord being able to “restore” or “undo”. No matter how much destruction the enemy did, the Son of God can undo it; whatever we lose in the enemy's deceptions and destruction, the Son of God can undo it for me. My favorite key on the computer is the undo key. In many cases, a large part of the content may be deleted accidentally. In the old days if we lost it, we lost it, and we had to retype it. Now there is an undo button, just press it once and everything you lost will be back. Thank God! This is the preciousness of relying on the Son of God.

The Philippians chapter 2 also says that God highly exalted Him and gave Him “*the name which is above all name*” (Philippians 2:9). Today, we proclaim the victory by “this name”. There are many scriptures that I have not listed here. For example, Colossians 2:15 says: *“Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.”* Let us see that Satan is a captive of Christ, and the Lord will also show it to everyone, and then *“triumphing over them in the cross”* (Col. 2:15). There are many verses in the Bible that talk about the victory of Christ, I can only list a few briefly. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus said: *“I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”* (Luke 10:19) We can rely on God's word by faith. The Gospel of Matthew says: *“Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”* (Matthew 18:18) The authority that the Lord gave to church is great, and it must be lived out under the protection of the house of God.

Revelation 12 also says: *“brothers”) And they (brethren) overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.”* (Revelation 12:11) Victory is always because of the blood of the Lamb, we stand on this foundation to experience His victory.

2. Rely on the power of the Holy Spirit, be alert and pray in the Spirit

II Corinthians 10:3-4: *“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”*

Ephesians 6:17-19: *“and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints”*

“Praying always with all prayer” means that our prayers should be wide and broad. A brother said, “It must be like a net, densely distributed, and include everything that should be prayed for.” Here it is said that *“the sword of the Holy Spirit is the word of God”*, adding the Spirit of the Lord and the words of the Lord together. “The Spirit of the Lord” and “The Word of the Lord” are the most powerful weapons for the children of God. Some people say: Prayer in the Holy Spirit is the best blessing we can bring to the house of God; prayer in the Holy Spirit is the greatest thing we can do for others and for the house of God. This is not saying that we don’t need to do anything else, but to remind everyone: Nothing is more blessed and impactful than true prayers, and we must be attentive about it.

3. Put on the whole armor of God and resist the devil by faith

I am quoting 3 passages below; the common word is “resist”.

“Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7)

If only this verse had been properly used by faith, I believe that our personal, family, or our church would be at a very different status today. James 4:8: *“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”* This verse brought great blessings to my spiritual life in the past 30 years. Please pay special attention to the assurance tense of the promise of “will/must” in the Bible. You don’t need to feel the presence of God, or try to figure out the presence of God. You can enter into the presence of God simply by faith, because He said: *“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”* (James 4: 8). Similarly, in the previous verse in James 4:7 we just read: *“Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”* (James 4:7). Here again, the promise is in the Bible, which is a promise that all children of God can withdraw by faith. The problem is that we are often deceived by the enemy. We do not believe these words wholeheartedly, we lack faith to reconcile with the words we have heard, and we lack the life application in the Holy Spirit. As a result, we often live our lives allowing the enemy to steal, kill, and destroy. In the state of destruction, joy was taken away, strength was deprived, and relationships with people were destroyed. Many people are still living under the oppression and destruction of the enemy due to lack of faith to resist it.

“...your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith” (I Peter 5:8-9)

“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” (Ephesians 6:11)

These three passages mentioned “stand against or resist”. The first “resist” tells us that resist is important and we must resist; the second “resist” says that the enemy is like the devil and we must resist it with strong faith. The third “resist” reminds us to wear the whole armor to

resist the devil. It is even more costly to refuse to resist or fight. We must stand and rely on the Lord to overcome Satan.

“Whole armor” (Note: see the ppt picture on the screen) is not the topic I want to talk about in detail today. You can refer to this picture and review it. Here it is said, “*girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.*” (Ephesians 6:14-16). Although this passage only talks about the first six elements, the next verse should actually be included in this full armor, which is to watch and pray in the Holy Spirit “*...praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance*” (Ephesians 6:18). The most easily deprived from the children of God is the prayer life. If the life of prayer is ruined, the spiritual growth is also ruined; if the life of prayer is not victorious, there is no power to prevail. Prayer talks about our attitude towards God, the source of all our strength, and spiritual wisdom and insight... so the prayer life must not be destroyed by the enemy. A brother said: “When a weak Christian kneels down to pray, even Satan will tremble.” Because prayer connects us to heaven, and all the enemy's devices and work will fail. We must have faith to reconcile with God's words, so that the “whole armor” is true for us. These truths can set us free and live victoriously.

I attended a Bible study camp 47 years ago; it was only for college students. But even though I just graduated from high school, because I was seriously ill, they made an exception and allowed me to participate. The speaker of the camp challenged young people, he said, “Is the Word of God in your hand like the sword of the Holy Spirit or a useless reed?” He said it several times which made a big impression on me. Yes, is the Word of God in our hands the sword of the Holy Spirit or a useless reed? How can reeds be used for war, right? When God's people wanted to rely on Egypt, God says that you are like relying on a reed. Not only will it break, hurt your shoulders, and flash your waist, but this useless reed can't help you at all. God called Egypt a staff of reeds to the house of Israel. “*When they took hold of you with the hand, you broke and tore all their shoulders; When they leaned on you, you broke and made all their backs quiver.* (Ezek. 29:7). Today, when we read the Lord's words, we must ask the Lord to help us, not just on the level of knowledge, although knowledge is also very important, but we need to not only read it well, but also be able to apply it in our life. Let the Holy Spirit imprint the words truly on us, so the whole armor becomes a reality to us.

4. Keep from sinning and leave no room for the devil

I John 5:18 : ” *know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.*”

As I said before: the enemy's first attack is to make us sin. Therefore, Elder John advised us who were born of God to protect ourselves, and the evil one cannot harm us.

“*..nor give place to the devil.*” (Eph 4:27)

“do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.” (Eph 4:30)

Give no place to the devil, because every time you give in a little, you may have to spend 10 times, or hundred times, to recover the footage you lost. I constantly advise young people not to watch pornographic websites, not even once. You took one step, you won't know how much effort you must take to escape from its snare, not to mention that some people would never escape. The same is true for extramarital affairs. If you give in a little, many people later found out there's no turning back, and the families were ruined. Therefore, don't give room to the devil. Leave a little room, even if it is a small step, the price is often too costly, and not affordable. In Florida, there are hurricanes. Every time the tropical hurricane brings rains and floods, then alligators in the swamp gain access everywhere and can come to anyone's homes. When the water recedes, alligators may hide in your backyard. Your dogs, cats, chickens, even adults and children, may be attacked. Later, many people build iron nets and fences to prevent them from getting in. This is called not giving them a place. After gators come in, you have to risk so much and pay such a price to deal with it, not to mention many times you can't overcome them. Therefore, we must not be too confident in thinking that we have to stand firm, but be humble before the Lord, and be alert. Many young people asked me how to overcome the Internet? How can you overcome video game additions? How to overcome the bondage of pornography? Brothers and sisters, these are no simple steps 1-2-3 to win, it is better not to leave room for the devil in the beginning. But for the sake of young people, I will still give them steps 1-2-3 below. I will briefly mention it as a reference for everyone. These are all from the Bible:

First, “..nor give place to the devil.” (Eph 4:27)

If you give room to the devil, you won't know how much work you had to spend in rescuing yourself. So, be more absolute the better, do not leave any place to the devil.

Second, flee

If temptation does come, just like you are suddenly facing an alligator, don't fight directly. Instead, you must first protect yourself and flee from it. “Fleeing” is not unspiritual, let alone shameful. Paul advised Timothy to “*Flee also youthful lusts*” (2 Timothy 2:22) and also to avoid and “*reject profane and old wives' fables*” (1 Timothy 4:7). Many things are to flee from, and it is very spiritual to flee. Many people said, “I can't escape. Every time I want to flee, I get caught back.” Here is a section of the Bible for your reference, Deuteronomy 19:3: “*...prepare roads for yourself...that any manslayer may flee there*”. In the Old Testament, God established six cities of refuge among the people [Note: Christ is our city of refuge]. What is a city of refuge? That is, if one committed a crime not deliberately or killed someone accidentally, then there is a city of refuge that allows you to flee to without being hunted down. Many times, we didn't intentionally sin, but my sinful nature and fleshly desires “chased” us down, allowed us to be tempted, and aroused our eyes and flesh lustfully. What should we do? According to Deuteronomy, prepare your way to the city of refuge first. Then find the best way for you to stay away from it, away from its bondage and enticement; whether seeking your friends; going shopping; going for a good meal; playing ball... Even if the mean is not so spiritual, at least you must have a way to escape. When temptation comes, don't fight directly with alligators or lions, but you must immediately flee to the city of refuge. When these Internet pornography, physical lust, drug addiction... stimulate you, the more you want to suppress it, it often becomes stronger desires. Flee to escape is a way out instead. Therefore, don't think that “fleeing” is not spiritual.

Third, on the positive side, seek spiritual companions to pursue and protect each other

"Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart." (II Tim 2:22)

In general, we should find some spiritual companions who love the Lord, pursuing the Lord together, growing together, supporting each other, watching and urging each other, so you may be strengthened with power through the Holy Spirit in your inner being, thus, we can overcome all trials and temptations.

I briefly mentioned these steps 1-2-3 of overcoming temptations, but the journey of spiritual life is not as simple as 1-2-3. You need to let your life grow in the presence of the Lord, and deepen and be real of your relationship with the Lord. Nevertheless, I am grateful to the Lord, as many young people later gave me positive testimony. These 1-2-3 gave them lots of help. At least they know how to respond to these temptations. For example: upon returning home, the Internet was blocked, and all the things that had attracted and controlled them were deleted, at least leaving no more place for the devil; then they supported each other through the group meeting; be each other's accountable person. "I am weak again, please brothers come and pray with me", or "Brother, I am struggling now, can you pray with me on the phone?".... One chopstick breaks easily, but a couple chopsticks are hard to break. One charcoal fire extinguished easily, but a bundle of charcoal fires is hard to extinguish. No matter how cold and weak you are, as long as you are put into charcoal fires, you will be burning sooner or later.

5. Keep yourselves in the love of God

"keep yourselves in the love of God" (Jude 21)

The Book of Jude advises us on four important things, two in specific: "...*Pray in the Holy Spirit and keep yourself in the love of God*" (Jude 20b-21). The Psalm also tells us: "*He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*" (Psalm 91:1). Just as fish need water, not only to protect them, but also allow them to live healthy. It is called "like a fish in the water." So, don't take the command of "keep yourself in God's love" or "live in the Holy Spirit" as a requirement of the law. In fact, it is the necessity of life, the enjoyment of life, and the secret of our victory. Let us live well, live healthy.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?" (Romans 8:35)

Here Paul talked about seven difficulties in one breath, any of which may make people discouraged, frustrated, and even doubt God's love. But below, Paul then replied with a very firm tone, "No!, nothing can separate us from the love of Christ, and "*Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*" (Romans 8:37)

6. Avoid solitary life, live in the protection of the body of Christ

Lastly, in spiritual warfare, we must not live in solitary, but live under the protection of the body of Christ. "*..Church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*" (Ephesians 1:23). When I have a good relationship with Christ, I live under the protection of the body of Christ, and even more so, under the protection of the head – Christ. Therefore, having a healthy relationship with Christ will actually save us from many unnecessary temptations and failures.

A person must live in a normal church life, and live under the protection of the body of Christ. The Bible says, “*if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness*” (Galatians 6:1). This is what I said earlier, no matter how cold the charcoal was, put it in fires, it will inevitably rekindle the fire of love. We must live in the protection of the body. The enemy likes to work on isolation and destruction, and then the opposition and differentiation. Therefore, we must live under the protection of the body of Christ. Come out of the protection, the enemy can swallow us up. The power of the body far exceeds our personal power; the victory that the body lives out surpasses any of my personal victories.

Leviticus said: “*Five of you shall chase a hundred*” (Leviticus 26:8). How can you chase a hundred people alone? But five people can chase up to a hundred. It continues to say “*and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight.*” (Lev. 26:8). First, it was one to twenty. Now it is one to one hundred. Therefore, the more people are concentric in one accord, the power generated increases exponentially.

Brothers and sisters, press on! How much we need each other, I need you, and you need me, right? We must see that Christ has been victorious already, and our entire church is standing together in Christ's victorious status. To take Christ's victory and live out the victory, one must be in the realm of the body. Brothers and sisters, we must pray for the church, we must rise up and pray for this generation, and the whole church must come together, alright?

Prayer:

Lord, how important is today's message, please continue speaking to your church through the Holy Spirit and through the Bible. Let us see that this battle is a comprehensive battle, extremely serious, and a continuous battle. Lord, on each one of us, the enemy is like the rain, water, and wind. He has been hitting us, attacking us, trying to crush and destroy us. Lord, let us, whether individuals, families, or churches, be closely depending on the Holy Spirit, relying on your triumphant name, and relying on your completed salvation. Let us experience victory together, live out the victorious life you destined for us. Lord, bless your church. Pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!