

## TACTICAL WARFARE

Today's lesson uses a simile to describe the enemy of the spiritually advancing believer in the angelic conflict.

A simile is comparing two unlikely things that are usually introduced by the words as or like. Write the two unlikely things of our lesson simile on these blank lines \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

We will begin by studying our lesson text by the following SIX homiletical points.

- Sober- minded (1 Pet.5:8a) your adversary, the devil
- Sentry on duty (1 Pet.5:8b) be alert
- Stalking the prey (1 Pet.5:8c) the devil prowls about like roaring lion, seeking someone to devour
- Stand against the devil (1 Pet. (5:9a) be firm in your faith
- Suffering for Christ (1 Pet.5:9b) know that other believers are also fighting in the AC
- Success in AC (1 Pet.5:10) God of all grace, Himself will perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

**This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the Tactical Warfare of the angelic conflict (AC).**

**1. Three tactical commands are given to spiritually advancing believers which are important for success in the AC.**

- **Be sober** (nepho / a.a.impv.2pl) be clear-minded with the word of God (2 Cor.10:3-5; James 1:5-8).
- **Be alert** (gregoreo / a.a.impv.2pl) be spiritual (1 Thess.5:6-8; Matt.26:40-41; Gal.5:16)
- **Be resistance** (anthistemi / a.a.impv.2pl) be fully armored (James 4:7; Eph.6:11)

**2. The reason that these three tactical commands are important to success in the AC is because "your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." (1 Pet.5:8)**

The enemy of the spiritual advancing mature believer is called "your adversary, the devil."

- The Greek word for adversary is (ho antidikos) and refers to an opponent and enemy.
- The Greek word for devil is (diabolos) and refers to someone who accuses slanders and speaks out against you. (Job 1:7; 2:2; Matt.16:21-23; Luke 22:31-32).
- Find a word that is found in word devil. He is the one who promotes **evil** (poneros) in the world (Eph.6:16; 2 Thess.3:3; 1 John 5:19)].

**3. These three commands assume that we are spiritually mature enough to understand the warfare of the AC (Eph.6:10-17).**

For example, the AC is not fought in the realm of flesh and blood. It is not fought in the human visible realm but in the spiritual invisible realm: "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood." (Eph.6:12)

You must be spiritually mature enough to understand that the AC is against "spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."(Eph.6:12)

**David** understood this when he fought Goliath: “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” (1 Sam.17:37)

**Daniel** also understood it in the lion’s den: “My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, they have not harmed me.” (Dan.6:22)

**4. These three tactical commands assume that you are efficient with all six pieces of spiritual armor necessary to fight the devil to win (Eph.6:10-17).**

- Truth of Christ (John 14:6; Eph.1:13-14; John 8:40-47)
- Righteousness of Christ (Rom.3:21-22; 2 Cor.5:21)
- Gospel of peace of Christ (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16)
- Faith of Christ (Acts 14:21-22, 27; 20:21; 24:24)
- Salvation of Christ (Acts 4:12; 13:46-49; 1 Tim.1:15)
- Spiritual word of God (John 1:14; Phil.2:16; Col.3:16)

The first five pieces of armor are defensive weapons only the spiritual sword of the word of God is an offensive weapon (Matt.4:1-11).

“In order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his schemes.” (2 Cor.2:11)

The spiritual advancing believer must understand that his strength to fight the good fight is in the Lord: “Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.” (Eph. 6:10; 1 Tim.6:12)

“And they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.” (POW) (2 Tim.2:26; Luke 15:13-20; Judges 16:28-30)

**5. These three commands are necessary for all church age believers suffering amidst the warfare of the AC.**

“Knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.” (1 Pet.5:9)

The Greek word for suffering is (pathema). It refers to identification with the suffering of Christ as the Savior of the world. “For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps.” (1 Pet.2:21; 2:21-25; 3:17-18)

“Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.” (1 Pet.4:1, 13)

“Therefore, let those who also suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.” (1 Pet.4:19)

**Remember that all the teeth of this roaring lion were pulled by Jesus Christ on the Cross!**

**(Col.2:14-15)**

**“Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from YOU.” (James 4:7)**