

Declaring War

Pt. 1 - The War Within

- **We all have a war within.**

Romans 7:21-25, 21 So this is the principle I have discovered: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law. 23 But I see another law at work in my body, warring against the law of my mind and holding me captive to the law of sin that dwells within me. 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

- **The war within is with our old nature.**

Romans 3:23, For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

Psalms 51:5, For I was born a sinner - yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

Isaiah 7:15, By the time this child is old enough to choose what is right and reject what is wrong, he will be eating yogurt and honey.

2 Samuel 12:23, But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

Ephesians 5:22-24, 22 So get rid of your old self, which made you live as you used to - the old self that was being destroyed by its deceitful desires. 23 Your hearts and minds must be made completely new, 24 and you must put on the new self, which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.

Colossians 3:5-10, 3 So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. 6 Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. 7 You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world. 8 But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. 9 Don't lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds. 10 Put on your new nature and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.

- **We must declare war on the old nature.**

Galatians 2:20, My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So, I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 5:24, Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.

Luke 9:23, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me."

Acts 1:8, But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

- **An alliance between the mind and spirit is a key strategy in declaring war on the old nature.**

Romans 8:5-6, 5 Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. 6 So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.

1 Peter 1:13, Therefore prepare your minds for action. Be sober minded. Set your hope fully on the grace to be given you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- **We have no hope of defeating the enemy without until we have first dealt with the enemy within!**

2 Corinthians 13:5, Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Can't you see for yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you—unless you actually fail the test?