

Spiritual Warfare

& Identity warfare

Identity in Christ

Our identity as new creations doesn't mean we need a special tattoo or bumper sticker! It means even better things like **undeserved grace**, freedom from condemnation and a home with Christ in heaven as part of God's family.

Father of lies

John 8:39-42 (NIV)

³⁹“Abraham **is our father**,” they answered.

“If you were Abraham's children,” said Jesus, “then **you would do what Abraham** did. ⁴⁰As it is, you are looking for a way to **kill me**, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. ⁴¹You are doing the works of your own father.”

“We are not illegitimate children,” they protested. “**The only Father we have is God himself.**”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, **you would love me**, for I have come here from God. **I have not come on my own**; God sent me.

Why is my language not clear?

John 8:43-44 (NIV)

⁴³ Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. ⁴⁴ You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him.

Yet because I tell the truth

John 8:45-47 (NIV)

When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ **Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me!** ⁴⁶ Can any of you **prove me guilty of sin?** If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? ⁴⁷ Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

Set you free from the law of sin and death

Romans 8:1-17

8 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has **set you free from the law of sin and death.** ³ For what the **law was powerless** to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And **so he condemned sin in the flesh,**

⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the **law might be fully met in us**, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Have their minds set on what the flesh desires

Romans 8:5-10

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh **have their minds set on what the flesh desires**; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

Give life to your mortal bodies

Romans 8:11-17

¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "*Abba*, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV)

The Armor of God

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your

Ephesians 6:14-18 (NIV)

Be able to stand your Ground

Ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

God is Love

1 John 4 7-10

7 This is how we recognize the Spirit ^[1] of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

7

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

8

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

9

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son ^[2] into the world that we might live through him.

10

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for ^[3] our sins.