



EXAMINING SPIRITUAL WARFARE TEACHING

CHRISTIAN
WITCHCRAFT
GETTING THINGS WRONG
IN JESUS' NAME

BY
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Examining Spiritual Warfare Teaching
CHRISTIAN WITCHCRAFT
Getting Things Wrong In Jesus' Name

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“Where is the proof of all this alleged damage we’ve supposedly done to Satan? How dare we pass off arrogant posturing, pep rallies and war games as true spiritual authority! In a real satanic assault, many of today’s spiritual warriors would be sent running for their lives like the sons of Sceva who made exorcism a game (see Acts 19:14).”

Mario Murillo, "Why We Need Fresh Fire", 1994

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Forward



I first wrote about spiritual warfare in the early 1990s. After originally being a practitioner, I became suspicious that I had been sold a dud by the dozens of paperback books appearing in Christian Bookstores and

the various visiting preachers who were espousing this mystical doctrine. My suspicions were firstly based on the fact that it wasn't working and then the concern about its Scriptural basis.

The result was that I researched the topic and wrote a short booklet, *Examining Spiritual Warfare*, which I printed as a photocopy. Nearly a thousand of these hardcopies were distributed and several more thousand off my website (www.andrewcorbett.net). The initial response to this research was a request from my senior pastor not to

make it available to anyone since it directly contradicted what he had been teaching. But my motive was a sincere quest for truth. In each edition of this booklet was the invitation for feedback and comment. Interestingly nearly all of the feedback I have received has been thankful appreciation.

Readers have commented that the booklet has helped to dispel Christianised myths and expose "pseudo-Christian" magical arts. Over time I have felt regularly that this booklet was now unnecessary because at last all Christians have realised what I had been saying. But then I hear of some church still continuing this extremely dangerous practice and I think maybe just one more edition of this booklet is still needed. So here it is...

1. The Nature Of Our Warfare

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this present age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

Ephesians 6:12

There is little doubt that we live in a world in conflict. This is true in the natural and the spiritual realm. The Bible exposes the spiritual realm as a battle between demonic spirits and the Kingdom of God. Paul the Apostle helps the Christian to realise that once you are in the Kingdom of God you are going to have to engage in a spiritual battle. There has been a lot of fanciful teaching about what Paul wrote in Ephesians 6 regarding this spiritual battle. I wish to outline some of the things which have been taught...

Current Teaching Examined

Most teaching on spiritual warfare includes teaching on spiritual weapons available to the believer. Care must be taken not to interpret the paper as teaching that the believer has no spiritually offensive role to conduct. Before examining a more Biblical approach to achieving advances for the present kingdom of God, we will overview a stream of teaching that prescribes dualistic encounters.

1. Use of the Name, the Blood, the Word:

a) The Name-

Scriptures such as Philippians 2:9-11 are used to support this. Examining this passage will reveal a statement of eschatological and theological fact, rather than a means of warfare. Indeed, every knee shall bow, every tongue shall confess at the Name of Jesus that He is LORD! Of the six times the expression in the Name of Jesus is used in the entire New Testament, all occurrences happen during the narration of the Book of Acts. Of these occasions, only once did it involve a confrontation with a demonic spirit (Acts 16:18) and it was a direct one at that (that is, the demonic spirit was immediately present; demons are not omnipresent)!

All of the other incidents related to the conduct of the apostles- their ministry of healing and teaching. When Paul cast the demon out of the Macedonian girl, he exercised the Spirit's authority upon him

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