

*Beloved, I beseech you as sojourners  
and pilgrims, to abstain from fleshly  
lusts, which war against the soul; 1 Pet  
2:11*

# “War”

*“strateuomai ... to make a military expedition, to lead soldiers to war or to battle, (spoken of a commander; to do military duty, be on active service, be a soldier...” (Thayer p. 590; 4754)*

# The “War” for the Soul

- *I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. 22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. Rom 7:21-24*

# The War for the Soul

- *I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Gal 5:16-18*

# The Initial Skirmish

- *But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. James 1:14-15*

# Stay in the Light

From the moment we feel the urge ... **STAY IN THE LIGHT**

*This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1*  
*John 1:5-7*

# Jesus Remained in the Light

- *Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, 2 being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. Luke 4:1-2*

# Jesus Remained in the Light

- **Tempted to enter the darkness**
- ***Stones to Bread ... It is written***
- ***Cast from temple ... It is written***
- ***Fall down and Worship... It is written***  
**Satan sought to use Jesus' flesh to war against His soul, blinding Him and bringing Him into bondage.**
- **Jesus used the Scriptures to see the light**



# Jesus Taught How

- *The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! Matt 6:22-23*

# Jesus Revealed Light / Dark

- *And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."* Jn 3:19-21

# Spiritual Contrast: Light / Dark

- *8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ... Eph 5:8-14*
- *11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. 13 But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.*

# Sons of Light & Day

- *You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. 8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 1 Th 5:5-10*

# Darkness & Hatred

- *He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. 10 He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. 11 But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes. 1 John 2:9-11*

# Jesus Remained in the Light

- **Works like that with every lust**
- **The initial temptation.**
- **The spirit protest with truth**
- **The flesh response with darkness**
- **The battle commences.**
- **If we continue to quote Scripture and stay in the light ... Victory**

# Jesus Remained in the Light

- *Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. 36 While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."* John 12:35-36

# Jesus Remained in the Light

- *But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. 19 The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble. Prov 4:18-19*



# Fleshly Lusts

*Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. Gal 5:19-21*

**Some we battle others are dormant!**

# **The War for the Soul**

- **The change from purity to defiled made one decision at a time.**
- **James 1:14-15**

*But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lusts and enticed. 15 Then, when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. James 1:14-15*