

BATTLE READY

Preparing For Spiritual Warfare

Deception ▪ Evil ▪ Anxiety ▪ Fear ▪ Confusion ▪ Temptation

BATTLING DECEPTION

(Belt of Truth)

Ephesians 6:14a

John 8:44

Satan has always hated the truth...There is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character for he is a liar and the father of lies.

2 Corinthians 4:4

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News.

Ephesians 6:14

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist.

SLIDE: THE ARMOR OF GOD (Belt of Truth)

Pilate Asked Jesus At His Trial: "What is the truth?" (John 18:38)

3 VIEWS: JESUS (Objective) ♦ MOB (Subjective) ♦ PILATE (Creative)

◀ HOW TO DEFEAT THE DEVIL'S DECEPTION ▶

1. We need to _____ the truth.

Psalm 119:162 *I rejoice in the truth like one who discovers great treasure.*

God's Word ♦ Holy Spirit's Leading ♦ Godly Counselors ♦ Prayer

Isaiah 45:19 *I have not spoken in secret, from somewhere in a land of darkness. I have not said to my people (Israel), 'Seek me in vain.' I, the LORD, speak the truth. I declare what is right.*

2. We need to _____ the truth.

Psalm 119:29-30 *Keep me from deceitful ways...I have chosen the way of truth. I have set my heart on your laws. I hold fast to your statutes.*

♦ SATAN'S STRATEGY (Genesis 3): Doubt → Debate → Discard

Hebrews 2:1 *We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.*

3. We need to _____ the truth.

Colossians 1:23 *But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News. The Good News has been preached all over the world, and I, Paul, have been appointed as God's servant to proclaim it.*

♦ The greatest ENEMY of the gospel became it's greatest DEFENDER!

Philippians 1:27-28 *Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then...I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you.*

4. We need to _____ the truth.

Proverbs 8:7 *I speak the truth and detest every kind of deception.*

Speak PLAINLY ♦ Speak BOLDLY ♦ Speak LOVINGLY

2 Corinthians 4:2 *We do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.*

5. We need to _____ the truth.

1 Peter 2:9 *You are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.*

What can I do to make a stronger stand for the truth?