

HOW
SPIRITUALLY
COMBAT READY
ARE WE?

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Introduction

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 - b. *Equipment Status*
 - c. *Soldiers individual performance in Basic Skills*

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4. *Basic Skills are essential - Must be “second nature” in order to Fight effectively! Weapon Proficiency, First Aid, Navigation*

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5. *The same is true for a Christian Soldier!*
6. *Christians must know Basic Spiritual Skills; they must be “second nature” in order to wage our spiritual warfare effectively!*
 - *Jesus demonstrated this skill! – Mt 4:1-11, Mt 21-22!*

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 - *Jesus demonstrated this skill! – Mt 4:1-11, Mt 21-22*
7. *We want to discuss our Spiritual Combat Readiness*
 - a. *We are in a Spiritual War for Spiritual Lives - Ours & Others!*
 - b. *We must be Prepared!*
 - c. *We must know the Basics!*
 - d. *Preparing for Combat!*

HOW SPIRITUALLY COMBAT READY ARE WE?

I. We are in a War, and Life is Spiritual Combat!

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I. We are in a War, and Life is Spiritual Combat!

A. The Bible Describes Christians as Soldiers!

- *Epaphroditus, Archippus - Phil 2:25, Phm 1:2*
- *2 Tim 2:3, Eph 6:10-18*

2 Tim 2:3 - “Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” KJV

Eph 6:10-18

Vs. 10 - Call to be strong in the Lord!

Vs. 11 - Put on the Full armor of God & Stand against Satan!

Vs. 12 - Our war is with Spiritual Darkness & Wickedness!

*Vs. 13 - Take up the Full Armor & Resist **Romans 13:12***

Vs. 14-18 - Stand Firm with:

- *Loins girded with truth!*
- *Breastplate of Righteousness!*
- *Feet shod with preparation of the Gospel!*
- *Shield of Faith!*
- *Helmet of Salvation!*
- *Sword of the Spirit!*
- *Prayer!*

Isa 59:16-18 – Armor of our Captain!

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B. The Bible Describes Life as Warfare!

- *1 Tim 1:18-19, 6:12, 2 Cor 10:3-4, 1 Peter 2:11*

1 Tim 1:18-19

18 This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, ¹⁹ having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, .” NKJV

1 Tim 6:12

“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, .” KJV

2 Cor 10:3-4

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)” KJV

1 Peter 2:11

“Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;” KJV

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B. The Bible Describes Life as Warfare!

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C. We clearly realize that the Christian life is a Battle!

- *We see and struggle with this daily!*
- *Lot – 1 Peter 2:7... oppressed...tormented...*

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II. We Must be Prepared!

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2 Tim 2:15

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1 Peter 3:15

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” KJV

II. We Must be Prepared!

A. We are Commanded to be Prepared

- *2 Tim 2:15, 1 Peter 3:15*

B. We are Commanded to be Watchful and Ready

- *1 Peter 5:8, Acts 20:31, Col 4:2*

1 Peter 5:8

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:” KJV

Acts 20:31

“Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.” KJV

Col 4:2

*“Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;”
KJV*

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B. *We are Commanded to be Watchful and Ready*

- *1 Peter 5:8, Acts 20:31, Col 4:2*

C. *Our Spiritual Life depends upon our Preparation & Watchfulness!*

- *1 Peter 5:8 - “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:”*
- *The lives of our FAMILY (Spiritual and Physical) depend on our preparation.*

HOW SPIRITUALLY COMBAT READY ARE WE?

III. Christian Soldiers MUST Know the Basics!

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A. *The Basics must be “Second Nature”, Ready for Immediate use!*

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B. We must be cautious about Overconfidence!

1 Cor 10:12, Rom 12:3

1 Corinthians 10:12

¹¹ Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. NKJV

Romans 12:3

“For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.” NKJV

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C. How Well do we Know the Basics.....

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III. Christian Soldiers MUST Know the Basics!

**EXAMINATION
TIME!**

CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS BASIC SKILLS

1. Know the Mission of a Christian, and 2 verses to support your answer.
2. Know the steps in the Plan of Salvation & two verses for each.
3. Know the 5 acts of worship and a verse for each.
4. Know 3 verses that teach on Bible Authority.

CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS BASIC SKILLS

5. *Know the basics of God's law on Morals & Vices:*
 - a. *Know 5 Passages on Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage.*
 - b. *Know 2 Passages that teach against sexual immorality.*
 - c. *Know 3 passages that teach against homosexuality*
 - d. *Know 2 passages that teach against the transgender movement.*
 - e. *Know 2 passages that teach against drug use.*
 - f. *Know 3 passages that teach against gambling.*

CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS BASIC SKILLS

6. *Know the basics of refuting false doctrine:*
 - a. *Know 5 tenants of Calvinism and a 1 verse that refutes each*
 - b. *Know 5 passages that explain the Holy Spirit*
 - c. *Know 3 passages that refute premillennialism*
 - d. *Know 1 passage that refutes the "good person" idea*
 - e. *Know 5 passages that would refute evolution*

CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS BASIC SKILLS

7. *Know the basics of the Church:*

- a. *Know 3 passages that teach how it is organized*
- b. *Know 3 OT passages that discuss the church*
- c. *Know the passage that records when the church started*
- d. *Know 2 passages that teach the church is the kingdom and the body*
- e. *Know 2 passages that tell one how to get into the church*

III. Christian Soldiers MUST Know the Basics!

C. How did you Do???

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D. What God Calls...the basics!!!

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E. Many do not Know the Basics!!

1. We have become overconfident!

III. Christian Soldiers MUST Know the Basics!

C. How did you Do???

D. What God Calls...the basics!!!

Hebrews 5:12-6:2

E. Many do not Know the Basics!!

- 1. We have become overconfident!*
- 2. We have gotten issue focused!*
- 3. We have lost passion for truth!*
- 4. We have become distracted by the world!*
- 5. We have become careless & lazy!*
- 6. Truth is not being preached much – we are uneducated!*

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IV. Preparing for Spiritual Combat...

A. *Responsibility of:*

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A. Responsibility of:

1. Church Leadership – Elders (Men)

1 Peter 5:1-2 – ...feed the flock!

Acts 20:28 – Take heed...to all the flock!

Ezekiel 33:1-9; 34:4

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Acts 20:28 – Take heed...to all the flock!

Ezekiel 33:1-9; 34:4

2. Preacher & Bible Class Teachers!

2 Tim 4:2 - “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.” KJV

2 Peter 1:13 - “Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;”

IV. Preparing for Spiritual Combat...

A. *Responsibility of:*

3. Husbands, Fathers & Grandfathers

Eph 6:4 - “*And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” KJV*

IV. Preparing for Spiritual Combat...

A. Responsibility of:

3. Husbands, Fathers & Grandfathers

Eph 6:4 - “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” KJV

4. Wives, Mothers & Grandmothers

Titus 2:3-4 - “The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,”

IV. Preparing for Spiritual Combat...

B. Responsibility of: OURSELVES!!

Phil 2:12 - “Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.”

2 Tim 2:15 - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Titus 2:15 - Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

2 Peter 3:14-18

2 Peter 3:14-18

- ¹⁴ *Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;*
- ¹⁵ *and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation — as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you,*
- ¹⁶ *as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.*
- ¹⁷ *You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;*
- ¹⁸ ***but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.** To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.*

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V. Dangers of Not being Spiritually Combat Ready

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A. *Cowardness!*

- *We will often not say anything at an opportunity; or we will hide or avoid situations....*
- *Rev 21:8 “But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”*

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B. *Being Ashamed of the Gospel!*

- *Mark 8:38 “For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”*

HOW SPIRITUALLY COMBAT READY ARE WE?

- *DO WE KNOW THE BASICS??*
- *CAN WE SAVE OUR OWN LIVES?*
- *CAN WE SAVE OTHERS?*

**HOW SPIRITUALLY
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**IF WE DO NOT KNOW THE BASICS,
WE ARE NOT FULLY USEFUL
IN THE WORK OF THE LORD!**