## Spiritual Warfare » Spiritual Battle

## The Battle of the Ages



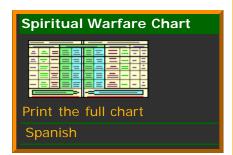
• <u>Billy Graham</u> wrote the following about **spiritual battle** in his book *Angels*:

We live in a perpetual battlefield ... The wars among the nations on earth are mere popular affairs compared to the fierceness of battle in the spiritual unseen world. This invisible spiritual conflict is waged around us incessantly and unremittingly. Where the Lord works, Satan's forces hinder; where angel beings carry out divine directives, the devils rage. All this comes about because the powers of darkness press their counterattack to recapture the ground held for the glory of God...

Since the fall of Lucifer, that angel of light and son of the morning, there has been no respite in the bitter Battle of the Ages. Night and day Lucifer, the master craftsman of the devices of darkness, labors to thwart God's plan of the ages. We can find inscribed on every page of human history the consequences of the evil brought to fruition by the powers of darkness with the devil in charge. Satan never yields an inch, nor does he ever pause in his opposition to the plan of God to redeem the "cosmos" from his control.

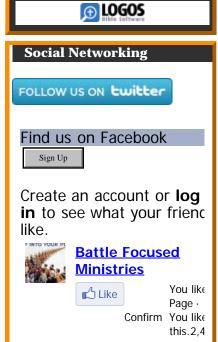
• It is this "Battle of the Ages" that I refer to when I write of *spiritual warfare*. Each *battle* fought is one part of a larger *campaign* which is part of a *war*, and it is the war that I am focused upon fighting and winning, not merely my own internal struggle with my flesh or even individual battles with spiritual forces. Certainly, just as a soldier must endure physical fatigue and survive hand-to-hand combat with the enemy in order to play a continuing role in the larger war, Christian disciples need victory in close quarters battle as well. In the closing paragraphs of *Angels*, Dr. Graham gave this testimony and reveals the key to personal deliverance:

As I look back over my life I remember the moment I came to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The









angels rejoiced! Since then I have been in thousands of battles with Satan and his demons. **As I yielded my will** and **committed myself totally to Christ** - as I prayed and believed - I am convinced that God "put a hedge about me", a hedge of angels to protect me... Thank God for the ministry of His blessed angels! (emphasis added)

- I humbly join him in praising our Father for the ministry of angels and I am sure that we couldn't survive without their interventions. But, just as when Dr. Graham has shared the Gospel with live audiences totaling over 210 million around the globe, the primary source of victory in the Christian's warfare which he advocated in the above passage is <a href="Jesus Christ">Jesus Christ</a>. It is the work of the Son of God throughout the ages before the foundation of the earth, when He walked among men, when He hung on the cross bearing the sin of all mankind, as He rose from the grave defeating death, and today as He sits on the right side of the Father interceding for the saints! All creation waits for the day when Jesus will return as King of Kings and Lord of Lords! Amen!
- We must <u>submit</u> our will and commit ourselves totally to Jesus as our Savior and Lord. That fundamental step in <u>Christian Discipleship</u> is the key to winning the <u>spiritual warfare</u> our Lord has committed to His Church. Our lives should imitate and manifest the *life* of Christ. Our churches should imitate and manifest the *ministry* of Christ.

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