

**Sermon Title: The Daily Battle of Roots**

**Sermon Text: Various Scriptures**

**Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to a biblical understanding of root causes of physical issues.**

**Sermon Proposition: There are 7 roots of spiritual warfare to be battled.**

**Introduction:**

- I. The **Spiritual** root. **Ephesians 6:10-12**
- II. The **sin** root. **Genesis 3:8-19; Romans 5:12-14**
- III. The **mental** root. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**
- IV. The **testing** root. **James 1:12; Job 1; Matthew 4:1-6**
- V. The **worldly** root. **1 John 2:15-16**
- VI. The **passion** root. **James 4:1-5**
- VII. The **truthfulness** root. **Genesis 3:1-4; John 8:31-32; Ephesians 6:13-14a**

**I. The **Spiritual** root. **Ephesians 6:10-12****

- A. The absolute necessity of the **strength** of the Lord. V.10
- B. The absolute necessity of the **armor** of God. V.11
- C. The absolute necessity of **Spiritual** warfare. V.12

**II. The **sin** root. **Genesis 3:8-19; Romans 5:12-14****

- A. The curse of the **serpent** because of sin. V.14
- B. The curse of **humanity** because of sin. V.15; 20-24

**Romans 5:12-14** Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-- **13** (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. **14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

**Psalms 51:1-9** <To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.> Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. **2** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. **3** For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin *is* always before me. **4** Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done *this* evil in Your sight-- That You may be found just when You speak, *And* blameless when You judge. **5** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. **6** Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden *part* You will make me to know wisdom. **7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. **8** Make me hear joy and gladness, *That* the bones You have broken may rejoice. **9** Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities.

- C. The curse of the **woman** because of sin. V.16
- D. The curse of **creation** because of sin. V.17-19

### III. The mental root. **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**

“A spiritual war, however, cannot be successfully fought with fleshly weapons. Therefore, the weapons in Paul’s arsenal were not those of human ingenuity, human ideology, or human methodology. Human reason, wisdom, plans, strategies, organizations, skill, eloquence, marketing, religious showmanship, philosophical speculation, ritualism, pragmatism, or mysticism are all ineffective weapons against the forces of the kingdom of darkness, the ‘powers ... world forces of this darkness ... [and] spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places’ (Eph. 6:12). They cannot rescue sinners from the ‘domain of darkness’ (Col. 1:13) or transform believers into Christ’s likeness. Such weapons gain only superficial, temporary, and deceptive victories at best.” [**John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary 2 Corinthians, Moody Publishers, Chicago 2003, p.328.**]

- A. The mental war is not fought or won by fleshly weaponry. V.3
- B. The mental war is fought by divinely provided weaponry. V.4a
  - 1. for the destruction of fortresses set up in the mind. V.4b
  - 2. for the destruction of speculations set up in the mind. V.5a
  - 3. for the destruction of lofty things set up in the mind. V.5b
  - 4. for the destruction of all that is raised up against the knowledge of God. V.5c
- C. The mental war is fought to bring every thought into obedience to Christ. V.5d-6

### IV. The testing root. **James 1:12; Job 1; Matthew 4:1-6**

“A testing is designed to strengthen or corrupt.”

- A. The testing is necessary for validation. **James 1:12-14; Romans 2:6-10**  
**1 Peter 1:5-9** who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **6** In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, **7** that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, **8** whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, **9** receiving the end of your faith-- the salvation of *your* souls.  
**Job 23:10-12** But He knows the way that I take; *When* He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold. **11** My foot has held fast to His steps; I have kept His way and not turned aside. **12** I have not departed from the commandment of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth More than my necessary *food*.

“Being a Christian doesn’t change what a Christian deals with. It changes how he or she deals with it.” (Quote from Facebook)

- B. The testing is necessary for verification. **Job 1:1-12; 22**
  - 1. The picture of the physical. **Job 1:1-5; Job 2:1-6**
  - 2. The picture of the spiritual. **Job 1:6-12; Job 2:7**  
**Matthew 7:24-28** "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: **25** "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. **26** "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: **27** "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." **28** And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching,

3. The picture of the testing. Job **1:13-19; Job 2:8-9**
4. The picture of the response. Job **1:20-22; Job 2:10**

C. The testing is necessary for vindication.

**Matthew 4:1-6** Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **2** And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. **3** Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." **4** But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" **5** Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, **6** and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"

**Matthew 7:21-23** "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. **22** "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' **23** "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

1. The 1<sup>st</sup> testing of Jesus was to see if He would serve His flesh or God. **Matthew 4:3-4** Jesus was tested in all ways that we are yet without sin.
2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> testing of Jesus was to see if He would serve His pride or God. **Matthew 4:5-7**
3. The 3<sup>rd</sup> testing of Jesus was to see if He would serve His eye or God. **Matthew 4:8-11**  
**1 John 2:15-16** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that *is* in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world.  
**Hebrews 4:15-16** For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. **16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The solution to the love of the world, is a greater love for God. The Christian who seeks daily to please God in everything and who strives and agonizes for spiritual growth through prayer, study of God's Word, dressed in the armor of God, and witnessing need not fall prey to the temptations of the world.

**1 Corinthians 10:11-13** 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. **13** No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

**Mark 14:38** "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."

## V. The worldly root. **1 John 2:15-16**

The term world found in 1 John 2:15-16 does not always refer to the universe physically as created by God. It is used more often to describe the community of the sinful community that possesses a spirit of rebellion against God. Because of its opposition and rebellion the world of sinful humanity values those things which are contrary to God's will the great goal of temptation is: "lust for the sensual and pride in mastery of our own lives." The attraction to the world and its gal is amplified by Satan and this world system he oversees.

**Romans 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. **2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. --- offers a solution for the redeemed.

VI. The passion root. **James 4:1-5**

**Galatians 5:24-26** And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

VII. The truthfulness root. **Genesis 3:1-4**

**John 8:31-32** Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. **32** "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

**Ephesians 6:13-14a** Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. **14a** Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth,

“Christianity is based on the truth that sinners need a Savior, not merely a coach or a therapist.”

– Al Mohler