Ephesians 6:10-13 "10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your **stand** against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, **to stand**." (NIV)

Ephesians 6:13 "Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able **to stand** your ground, and after you have done everything, **to stand**." (NIV)

HOW TO WIN SPIRITUAL BATTLES—PART 1

Ephesians 6:14-15

I. RELY on God's truth.

Ephesians 6:14a "Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist…" (NIV)

John 8:44 "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and **the father of lies**." (NIV)

John 8:31-32 "31 … If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." (NIV)

John 14:6 "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the TRUTH and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (NIV)

2. REMAIN in God's righteousness.

Ephesians 6:14b "… with the breastplate of righteousness in place …"

Philippians 3:8-9 "8 … I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, not

having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith." (NIV)

1 Corinthians 1:30 "It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption." (NIV)

Ephesians 4:20-24 "20 That, however, is not the way of life you learned 21 when you heard about Christ and were taught in Him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, **created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness**." (NIV)

3. Be ROOTED in God's Good News about Jesus.

Ephesians 6:15 "… and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace." (NIV)

Galatians 1:6-8 "6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be under God's curse!" (NIV)

Philippians 4:4-7 "4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And **the peace of God**, which transcends all understanding, **will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus**." (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE

Prophecies about the Messiah:

Isaiah 11:5 "Righteousness will be His belt and faithfulness the sash around His waist." (NIV)

Isaiah 59:17 "He put on righteousness as His breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on His head." (NIV)

Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" (NIV)

Romans 13:13-14 "13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, **clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ**, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh." (NIV)

Galatians 3:27 "… for all of you who were baptized into Christ have **clothed yourselves with Christ**." (NIV)

Ephesians 6:10 "… be strong **in the Lord** and **in His** mighty power."

The resources JESUS used to win the ultimate spiritual battle are available to us. We just need to USE THEM.

Ephesians 6:14 "Stand firm then …"