



+ **YOU**

Sermon Series: Authentic Christian Living
To be used with Session 6: Prepare for Battle
Sermon Title Possibilities:
Authentic Contending: Daniel 10:1-3, 10-13, 16-19

Connection with Unit Theme: To complement the small group study "Prepare for Battle," this sermon reminds of *The Intensity of Spiritual Warfare*, *The Humility in Spiritual Warfare*, and *The Authority in Spiritual Warfare*.

Introduction

Daniel was overwhelmed by what he had seen and heard from the Angel Gabriel. In chapter ten, he was overwhelmed by another vision of conflict. These prophetic messages and visions compelled Daniel to pray. It teaches us that when the Lord allows us to see, sense, or experience somethings that's overwhelming, the proper response is prayer. When we see the work of the Enemy on operation, the proper response is prayer. Prayer helps us *Engage in Contending in Spiritual Warfare*, *Engender our Connection with Lord for Spiritual Warfare*, and *Experience the Consolation of the Lord during Spiritual Warfare*.

1. Engage in Contending in Spiritual Warfare (v. 1-3).

Daniel prayed, fasted, and mourned for three weeks straight. Daniel engaged in spiritual warfare by moving beyond regular seasons or sessions of prayer, He exemplified and experiences *The Intensity of Spiritual Warfare*. The saying "desperate times calls for desperate measures" communicates that extreme and undesirable circumstances call for equally extreme actions. There is a sense that we can do nothing but pray about certain things. But, when we pray we have done something about those things that we seemingly can do nothing about. Prayer invokes the power, protection, & provisions of God. That's why we ought to always be seeking Him, His face, and His strength continually (I. Chron. 16:11).

2. Engender Our Connection with the Lord for Spiritual Warfare (v. 10-13).

Ephesian 6:10-12 tells us to be strong in the Lord, to put on His whole armor, and to remember that our fight is with principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness in high places. The angel tells Daniel that his prayer had already been heard, but that the angel & his answer was delayed 21 days due to battling with evil spiritual forces. The same is true for us. We must maintain the connection and put on the covering in order to prepare for the spiritual battle. When we seek to stay connected to and covered by the Lord, we exercise *The Humility in Spiritual Warfare*.

3. Experience the Consolation from the Lord during Spiritual Battle (v. 16-19).

It happened for Daniel. The angelic being strengthened him, told him that he was treasured by God, spoke peace over his life, and told him to be strong. The being from God reveals that God is the one Who hears and answers prayer, and the one who wins our spiritual battles.

We must engage in spiritual warfare so that we can experience the Lord reviving and reassuring us that we fight from victory and not for victory (Rom. 8:26-37). If you give Him your concerns and conflicts, He will give you His peace (Phil. 4:6-7).

Conclusion

You engage in “Authentic Christian Living” when you “Prepare for the Battle” by Engaging in by Contending in Spiritual Warfare, Engender Your Connection through Spiritual Warfare, and Experience Consolation during Spiritual Warfare.

Author Bio

Reginald D. Taylor is a graduate of Crichton College, Union University, Capital Seminary, and is currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the senior Pastor of The Rock Church in Southaven, MS, and Assistant Professor/Director of Urban Theological Studies at MCUTS @ Union University in Memphis. He and his wife Dr. Tarra R. Taylor has one son—Reginald D. Taylor II—and three grandchildren Micah, Yara, and Aviyah.