

**Birmingham Theological Seminary
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Spiritual Conflict & Life

Course: PT5756

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Work: 205-776-5279

Class: 2 Hours

COURSE PURPOSE

This course is designed to address the chief obstacles to the Church's missionary mandate in society. The course will give special attention to spiritual forces of darkness which are arrayed against the saints of God to pose opposition to them as they seek to live for God and carry out His purpose on earth. The student will be exposed to an understanding of those forces and their various manifestations in the world.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. The student will gain an understanding of some of the factors opposing God's mission in the world.
2. The student will be able to express a Biblical understanding of the Church's role in carrying out God's mission.
3. The student will grapple with the implications of spiritual warfare in a personal, individual and corporate level and how to apply the weapons designed for victorious Christian living.
4. The student will learn that spiritual problems are solved only with the Word of God
5. The student will learn the fundamentals of spiritual warfare from Scripture.

COURSE TEXTS

Required Texts:

Fundamentals of Spiritual Warfare by Terry Wise

Fundamentals of Spiritual Warfare: A Study Guide by Terry Wise (available from Seminary Office)

The Bondage Breaker by Neil T. Anderson

The Adversary by Mark Bubeck

Spiritual Warfare by Timothy Warner

Essentials of Spiritual Warfare by A. Scott Moreau

All of these books are available from Amazon.com and other bookstores as used books at tremendous savings

Collateral Texts:

Pray With Your Eyes Open by Richard Pratt

Praying Backwards by Bryan Chapell

Guide to Spiritual Warfare by E. M. Bounds

Prayer & Spiritual Warfare E. M. Bounds

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Memorized Ephesians 6:10-20 for personal development.
2. Compare, contrast and critique Warner's *Spiritual Warfare* and Moreau's *Essentials*. What spiritual formations did you get from the books, what would your application be to your personal life and others? 3 – 5 pages (think through carefully)
3. Read *The Bondage Breaker* – Write a 2-3 page critique of the book. Using the Non-Christian Spiritual Inventory in the back of the book, find 6 people (3 believers- 3 non-believers) to anonymously respond to the inventory. The same with the Personal Inventory (omit names) Assess the responses, what did you think the responses would be and what were they actually?
4. Write a paper of a minimum of 3500 words based on “**The Fronts of Spiritual Warfare.**” How do they apply to this 21st Century Postmodern world? (Turabian Formatting)

The Fronts of Spiritual Warfare

1. ***The Personal Front.*** This is our participation in the eternal spiritual battles of daily life, and is the foundation for all of the other fronts. This front involves our minds: what we think about God, Satan, ourselves, and others and how we discipline our thoughts.
2. ***The Interpersonal or “each other” Front.*** This refers to our efforts to help others under attack and involves the ways we can challenge and encourage them. Warfare on this front can include anything from one-on-one counseling to small group ministry.
3. ***The Local Church Front.*** This battlefield is spiritual warfare that may happen within local churches. It might be centered in an individual or a small group of people, but its impact affects the whole church.
4. ***The Systematic Front.*** This is the struggle against the systems that make up our societies - the cultural, political, economic, and even religious systems. In effect they are the manifestations of what I John 2:15-17 calls the “world” – all things that oppose God and His kingdom order. Warfare at this level involves our fight against the ungodly ways our culture controls and shapes our lives.
5. ***The Cosmic Front.*** This is the unseen front of warfare in which angels and demons engage each other in conflict under God's sovereign control. This area is one that remains out of human sight. We see only a few brief glimpses in Scripture (Daniel 10:4-11), and nowhere are we told that this is a front of direct human involvement.

Preparing for Spiritual Warfare

Engage the truth: more than knowing the truth, but using our knowledge faithfully.

Ephesians 6:14 John 8:32 John 17:17 I Cor.13:6 II Thess.2:10 James 5:12

- a. Understand who God is.
- b. Who we are as God's people.
- c. Who Satan is and how he operates.

Love God and people: confess sin and repent

Forgive one another: prayer, Bible Study, Scripture memorization, Worship

No quick fixes: Ephesians 6 truth, righteousness, gospel of peace, hope in salvation, faith and Word of God