

Spiritual

Warfare — What Chinese Christians
Should Know And Do

□ Enoch Wan 溫以諾

"Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war. . . ." are the words of an old hymn and an apt description of the reality of the Christian life. No one has been able to escape this reality since the fall of Satan. "Spiritual warfare" is the reality of the ongoing fight between God (and the godly) and His enemy (and the ungodly).

Different Kinds Of Spiritual Warfare

If the universe is divided into the spiritual, human, and natural systems, then there are eight types of spiritual warfare.

1) God ↔ Satan

Satan, the fallen angels, and the evil spirits wage war against God and the godly in this age. God in Christ at Calvary defeated Satan, sin, and death, saving repentant and believing sinners and bringing them out of the kingdom of darkness into light (Gen. 3:15; 1 Jn. 2:1; 3:8-10; Heb. 2:15).

2) God ↔ Non-Christians

Rebelling against God, fallen humanity and unrepentant sinners will be judged and punished (Rom. 5:1-11; Col. 1:21; Rev. 20).

3) God ↔ The World

The corrupted order is under the control of the principality of darkness. It forms opposing forces against God and His children (1 Jn. 2:15-17).

4) Satan ↔ Christians

Satan rules over the powerful kingdom of darkness against Christians — externally, through worldly forces; internally, through carnal flesh, temptation, accusation, and persecution. Therefore, Christians should understand Satan's devices, be vigilant, resist him, die to the self and the world, be cleansed by the blood of

「基督精兵前進，齊向戰場走……」是一百五十四聖詩的歌詞，然而歌詞所描繪的屬靈爭戰實況，卻是歷久常新的真理。自從撒但叛逆神墮落後，遂形成一種與神、神的兒女和順命天使對抗的勢力，這就是「屬靈爭戰」。

不同種類的屬靈爭戰

若將宇宙概分為靈界、人界和自然界，則屬靈爭戰可分為八類：

一、神 ↔ 撒但

撒但與墮落天使及邪靈聯合，形成敵擋神、順命天使及蒙救贖信徒的黑暗勢力；然而撒但被在各各他受死、復活的主所勝，主敗壞了掌死權的魔鬼，使人離罪、脫死、蒙救，作光明子女（創 3:15；約壹 2:1；3:8-10；來 2:15）。

二、神 ↔ 非基督徒

墮落人類及頑梗抗拒神的不信者，將來必受審判及懲罰（羅 5:1-11；西 1:21；啓 20）。

三、神 ↔ 世界

世界被罪破壞及轄制，形成敵擋神的世界潮流，迫害信徒（約壹 2:15-17）。

四、撒但 ↔ 基督徒

撒但掌管黑暗世界，藉外界潮流及肉體情慾，內外夾攻，試探、控告及迫害信徒。故此，信徒應認清撒但詭計，儆醒謹守，抵擋仇敵，向世界及情慾釘死自我，靠主血得潔淨，靠聖靈而行事，穿全副軍裝，忠勇迎敵，打贏好勝仗（羅 6；林後 2:11；12:7；加 5-6；弗 6:11-16；帖前 2:18；提前 3:6-7）。

Christ, walk in the Holy Spirit, put on the armor, and fight the good fight (Rom. 6; 2 Cor. 2:11; 12:7; Gal. 5-6; Eph. 6:11-16; 1 Thess. 2:18; 1 Tim. 3:6-7).

5) Christians ←→ The World

Satan uses the corrupted worldly system to oppress and persecute Christians, who should not love the world, but be crucified with Christ and be sanctified by the Holy Spirit (James 4:4; 1 Jn. 2:15; Eph. 2:2).

6) Obedient Angels ←→ Fallen Angels

The ongoing warfare between dark angels and good angels (Jude 9; Dan. 10:13).

7) Christians ←→ Non-Christians

Christians suffer at the hands of non-Christians for Christ's sake. Nevertheless, Christians are to follow Christ's example in loving them, yet not be conformed to their ways (1 Pet. 4:12-14; 1 Jn. 2:15-16).

8) New-Self ←→ Old-Self

Christians' new inner-self at war with the flesh, the corrupted and sinful nature (Rom. 6:8; 7:14-25; 2 Cor. 4:16; Eph. 3:15-18; Gal. 5).

Among the various kinds of spiritual warfare, that which is between Satan and Christians demands our utmost understanding, because such an understanding is critical in securing spiritual victory. The powerful influence of Satan on living-beings is called "demonization." It may take different forms and be in different stages, progressing intensively from the external to the internal. (See diagram 1)

五、基督徒 ←→ 世界

撒但藉合世潮流風俗，引誘迫害信徒，故信徒應向世界與主同死，敬虔度日，分別為聖（雅4:4；約壹2:15；弗2:2）。

六、順命天使 ←→ 墮落天使

順命天使與墮落和背逆神的天使為敵（繪9；但10:13）。

七、基督徒 ←→ 非基督徒

基督徒因基督的緣故受非基督徒迫害，雖然如此，基督徒在世而不應效法世界，不應與不信者同流合污，作惡犯罪，他們應效法基督的榜樣，愛仇敵卻不隨眾犯罪（彼前4:12-14；約壹2:15-16）。

八、新我 ←→ 舊我

信徒重生得救後有新生命，與情慾的舊我爭戰（羅6:3；7:14-25；林後4:16；弗3:15-18；加5）。

上述八種靈靈爭戰中，信徒與撒但間的爭戰值得一提，並須多加解說，以求在這方面得勝，撒但及邪靈的侵擾攻擊 (demonization) 是從外而內，由淺入深，（參圖一）

Diagram 1 圖一

Stages and Symptoms of Demonization 邪靈侵擾的進程及徵兆

DIMENSION 層面	PERSON 對象	STAGE 類別及階段	SYMPTOM 徵兆
External 外	Christian or Non-Christian 基督徒或 非基督徒	Oppression 干擾	Feeling weighed down, depressed, unable to focus, etc. 身心鬱沉重、感受壓力、情緒低落、失落失意、心神恍惚、不易專注等表現
		Obsession 迷惑	Long-term or cyclical symptoms: Being distracted/disturbed in thought (cognition); being filled with hatred, anger, rage, and self-pity (emotion); weakness in will (determination); backsliding (spiritual), etc. 長期或週期性徵兆：受人與物困擾（思想）； 恨、怒、自卑自憐（情感）； 意志薄弱低落；靈性倒退……等表現
Internal 內	Non-Christian 非基督徒	Inhabitation/ Visitation 佔據或造訪	Cycles of unusual and involuntary ungodly manifestations in mind, heart, will, etc. 知、情、意、靈反覆地作出不由自主、異乎尋常等表現
		Possession 擁有	Extraordinary, supernatural, uncontrollable manifestations, etc. 異常的表現、超然的能力、失控的經歷等表現

White Christians cannot be possessed by Satan and evil spirits, they can be visited and inhabited by them. As believers fail to submit to the lordship of Christ, indulge in sin, are enslaved to sinful habits or a wicked past, or suppress the work of the Holy Spirit, they will become susceptible to prolonged visitation or temporary inhabitation by evil spirits.

Diagram 2 shows both the positive and negative manifestations of demonization in the physical, psychological, and spiritual dimensions of the demonized Christian.

雖然基督徒並不能被魔鬼邪靈「擁有」(possession)·但卻可受牠們「干擾」(oppression)·「迷惑」(obsession)·或甚至因罪·消滅聖靈感動·抗拒神旨·驕傲縱怒·靈性破產……等情況而被邪靈長期「造訪」(visitation)及「佔據」(inhabitation)·

圖二顯示邪靈侵擾後產生的正面及負面徵狀·包括身·心·靈三個向度·

Diagram 2 圖二 Manifestations of Demonization 邪靈入侵的徵狀

DIMENSION 向度	POSITIVE 正面徵狀	NEGATIVE 負面徵狀
Body 體 (physical 生理)	Supernatural strength & ability 過人的力氣及本領	Physiological imbalance & physical inability, such as blindness, deafness, dumbness, epilepsy, faintness, foaming at the mouth, change of voice & character, etc. 生理失調或體能欠缺·如盲·聾·啞·痲痺·暈氣·口吐唾沫·聲調或性格變易等
Psyche 魂 (psychological 心理)	Supernatural power & knowledge: e.g. fortune telling, clairvoyance, psychic healing, telekinesis, etc. 超凡的能力及知識·如論述過去·預知未來·占卜祈禱·心靈治療能力·精神感力移形換物等	Depression, phobia of various types, rebelliousness, low will power, self-isolation, anti-social attitude, suicidal tendency, destructiveness, etc. 不安恐懼·情緒低落·反叛抗拒·意志薄弱·孤獨離群·毀傷自殺·鬧事破壞等
Spirit 靈 (spiritual 靈性)	Hypocrisy, counterfeit spiritual gifts, false prophecy, etc. 虛假虔誠·仿效靈恩·恩賜偽品·假冒先知等	Personal: Blasphemy in thought & word, lack of concentration in devotion or worship, fear of or hatred against Christ, unusual response to Jesus' name, insensitivity to sin, loss of joy & peace, repeated spiritual defeat, inability or unwillingness to pray or repent, etc. Social: Disruption of worship service & mission outreach, divisiveness among Christians & congregations, causing others to stumble, shaming Jesus' name, etc. 個人方面: 褻瀆聖靈的思想言行·靈修或聽道時不能集中·懼怕或憎恨基督·對基督的名有不尋常的反應·對罪惡淨化麻木不覺·失去平安喜樂·靈性倒退無法成長·不能又不肯禱告·不能又不願認罪悔改等 集體方面: 妨礙崇拜及福音工作的進行及擾亂秩序·使信徒間關係破裂·紛爭結黨分裂教會·絆倒他人·羞辱主名等

Christians may become demonized due to the following factors:

- Helpless influence — being ignorant or innocent, such as a childhood experience of being offered to spirits for healing, parental connection as in the case of an unplanned pregnancy, satanic attack, being addicted to alcohol or drugs, etc.

基於下列的原因·信徒在屬靈爭戰中可能會敗退而被邪靈侵擾:

- 無知·無辜或無助·如幼時因病求治·過繼邪靈·父母傳下遺產·魔鬼攻擊試探等·

- **Hopeful desire** — for supernatural power, whether by Satan's deception or self-initiated invitation, such as palm reading, fortune telling, pact for success with evil spirits, etc.
- **Hurtful situation/experience** — traumatic childhood experience; rape; addiction to alcohol, drugs, pornography, or gambling; abortion; abusive relationship, etc.
- **Willful determination** — rebellion against God, the Word, the Church; blasphemy of the Holy Spirit, etc.

Spiritual Victory by God's Authority and Christian Responsibility

While it is true that winning the spiritual battle is "[n]ot by might, nor by power; but by [God's] Spirit" (Zech. 4:6), God sees fit to entrust Christians with a certain degree of human responsibility. The Triune God has already won the victory over sin, Satan, death, and darkness. His power is first and foremost in "securing" spiritual victory for Christians. Christians, however, are not to be passive, but to engage in spiritual disciplines that lead to spiritual growth and maturity.

Christians are not only born of the Holy Spirit, they are to walk in the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5). The spiritual disciplines are not to be practiced by worldly wisdom (1 Cor. 2: 4, 5, 10) nor by human precepts and doctrines but by the power of God (Col. 2:20-23). They are to be empowered by the Holy Spirit and by Christians' active exercise of faith, abidance in truth, and commitment to prayer, etc. Diligence in the spiritual disciplines is not a matter of *either* by the Spirit *or* by human effort. It is *both* by the power of the Holy Spirit, first and foremost, *and* by Christian action as well.

Christians involved in the pursuit of holiness and the cause of Christ in evangelism and mission are engaged in spiritual warfare. Winning souls from the kingdom of darkness and bringing them into the light is setting free the slaves of sin, Satan, self, and spiritual bondage. To gain spiritual victory, the following actions are essential: knowing the enemy, practicing spiritual disciplines, putting on the armor, teaming up with other Christians, engaging in prayer and fasting, exercising spiritual gifts, calling on the name of Jesus Christ, claiming the cleansing power of Christ's blood, and depending on the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion

The enemy uses different strategies to war against different kinds of Christians in different situations, e.g. negligence and indulgence, presumption and deception, curiosity and fear, rebelliousness and ungodliness. If Christians do not take seriously the call to spiritual disciplines and the reality of spiritual warfare, it is to their own peril and defeat. If we are vigilant and diligent, we will grow into spiritual maturity and will win the spiritual battle to the honor and glory of God. ☞

- 渴望超自然能力，如占卜、看相、看掌、指魂求勝等。
- 慘痛經歷，如被虐待、遭強姦、酗酒、吸毒、迷情、好色、墮胎……等。
- 決意犯錯，如反叛神、聖經反教會、褻瀆聖靈等。

屬靈勝仗：靠聖工及盡人責

屬靈靈爭戰的得勝「不是倚靠勢力，不是倚靠才能，乃是倚靠（神）的靈」（亞4:6），神卻應侍信徒，賜下盡責的機會。他們在屬靈爭戰中，定要靠三一真神已成就的工作——聖父使聖子復活所彰顯的大能；聖子戰勝黑暗權勢、死亡，然而他們卻不該懶惰任性，坐享其成，而應竭力於屬靈操練，從而造就成長及成熟。

信徒不但靠聖靈得生，亦應靠聖靈而行（加5），靈靈操練並非憑人間智慧（林前2:4, 5, 10）或「人所吩咐所教導的」（西2:20-23），而是靠神的大能，雖說信徒靈靈操練要靠聖靈作動力，卻不應否定他們仍須努力，聖靈動力在先，信徒努力在後，信徒須憑信心接受聖靈，靠聖靈守道及禱告，隨聖靈感動成聖，受聖靈賜能加力，藉聖靈所給的恩賜等事……，這並不是「非此即彼」（either-or）式，卻是「既此亦彼」（both-and）型。

但凡這求靈靈長進及成熟，熱心學理靈教正規的基督徒，都是參與屬靈戰爭者，從黑暗權勢中搶救靈魂，是死愛憫者從撒旦、邪靈、罪惡、自我及屬靈捆綁中釋放出來，故信徒須認清仇敵惡計，參與靈靈操練，穿上神賜軍裝，與信徒互助，禁食禱告，運用所蒙恩賜，盡主名爭戰，得著基督寶血潔淨及倚靠聖靈以求得勝。

結語

竟有反其道而行之多端，巧計詭計，基督徒如真誠、縱慾、恐懼、好奇……等屬靈反困擾，必定敢前敗退，傷亡慘重，世人尋神，但言敢建謹行，務敢忘真，必能靠主得勝，榮耀三名。☞