

Fight the Good Fight of Faith

1 Timothy 6:9-15

The Christian life may be compared to what takes place in the human body. Within our physical being, a constant battle is being fought. White blood cells are our germ-fighting army. When germs appear, white blood cells have a variety of special tactics they can deploy to knock out the invaders. In some cases, they produce protective antibodies to overpower the germs. Other times, white blood cells surround and devour the bacteria. The war is continual; the battle always rages. When the white blood cells are winning, we enjoy health. When the virus or bacteria is winning, we become weak and sick.

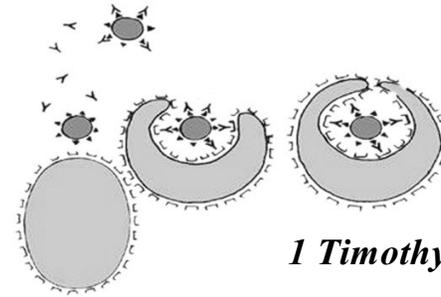
So also in the spiritual realm: the battle is constant and there is no end to the spiritual warfare. Our enemies—the world, the flesh and the devil—are relentless and indefatigable. There is never any cease fire or peace treaty with such foes. These enemies must be defeated in God's way, in God's power, knowing that we are weak, but *the battle is the Lord's*.

➡ **The World:** “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Rom. 12:2). “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory” (2 Cor. 3:18).

➡ **The Flesh:** “And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts” (Gal. 5:24). “We are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live” (Rom. 8:12-13).

➡ **The Devil:** “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7). “Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4).

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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