

# Sermon Notes

## Series: Spiritual Warfare

### SESSION 5

## THE REFINEMENT OF WARFARE

When we face battles in our lives, we can often forget what the battle is all about. It can be confusing to consider that God allows the enemy to attack us especially in light of the many passages that speak of the victory that He purchased on our behalf through His finished work. The evidence of our victory is not the absence of conflict but rather it's the availability of overcoming power when we face trials and temptations of many kinds. God allows the enemy to attack because it becomes useful in our spiritual development and His overall goal of conforming us into the image of Jesus Christ. Therefore, all spiritual warfare will facilitate the purpose of God as we continue to yield to Jesus in it all and through it all (Romans 8:28-30).

**Luke 22:31-34** – “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” But he said to Him, “Lord, with You I am ready to go both to prison and to death!” And He said, “I say to you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me.”

### SATAN IS PURSUING YOU (Luke 22:31)

**Job 1:6-12** – Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. The Lord said to Satan, “From where do you come?” Then Satan answered the Lord and said, “From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it.” The Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil.” Then Satan answered the Lord, “Does Job fear God for nothing? Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face.” Then the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him.” So Satan departed from the presence of the Lord.

### JESUS IS PRAYING FOR YOU (Luke 22:32-34)

**James 1:2-4** – Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

**Romans 8:31-37** – What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, “For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

### WHAT IS JESUS PRAYING OVER YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?

**Isaiah 61:1-3** – The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me. To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners; to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, to grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. As you consider the message today, what do you think Jesus is praying for you right now?
2. What area of your heart/life is Jesus targeting for transformation? This is probably the same area that the enemy has targeted for destruction. How can you yield to Jesus in His transformation process?