



New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Theological and Historical Studies Division

CHPL6282/6382 Spiritual Warfare in the Local Church

May 25-29, 2020 Workshop

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The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College is to prepare students to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Purpose of the Course

The course focuses attention on understanding the work of the enemy of God and Christians, and ways that church leaders may understand, identify and defeat Satan's schemes through the power of Jesus Christ and practicing spiritual disciplines. A growing awareness of cosmic-level spiritual warfare has emerged in recent years as an important component of biblical Christian understanding and ministry. This course investigates biblical, theological, and practical dimensions of spiritual engagement and its relationship to fulfilling the mission of God.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is ***spiritual vitality***. We want everything we do to be characterized by offering the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize the reality of spiritual warfare and the strategies of Satan to oppose the work of the church and the advancement of God's kingdom.

2. Identify major biblical texts and practical perspectives on spiritual warfare.
3. Apply biblical truth to develop and apply a personal strategy to keep the enemy from gaining a foothold in the student's life and ministry.
4. Understand how Satan uses non-Christian worldviews as a barrier to effective witness and how to encounter them with the truth of the gospel.
5. Learn to practice often-neglected spiritual disciplines that equip one to be empowered by God to overcome spiritual conflicts in witness and ministry.
6. Comprehend and present a synthesis of current thoughts on how spiritual warfare erodes the spiritual vitality of the church and inhibits fulfillment of the mission of God in the world.

Teaching Methodology

Students will be expected to read the following assigned texts prior to the beginning of class. Based upon this assigned reading, class lectures and discussion will probe deeper into the issues of spiritual warfare and its impact on the church, the mission of God and one's personal ministry.

Required Texts

The following texts have been chosen to give a biblical, theological, and practical and diverse perspectives to the issues of spiritual warfare. As you read them, please note that you may agree or disagree with the perspectives, or you may have questions. We will talk through those issues and questions in class.

1. Lawless, Chuck. *Spiritual Warfare in the Storyline of Scripture: A Biblical, Theological, and Practical Approach*. Nashville: B and H Publishing, 2019.
2. Kraft, Charles. *I Give You Authority*. Grand Rapids: Baker Publishing, 2012.
3. Evans, Tony. *Victory in Spiritual Warfare*. Nashville: Lifeway Press, 2016.

Recommended Texts and Extra Credit:

Students are encouraged to also read the following books. Extra credit is given to the participation and attendance grade for students who complete book reviews on the following books. Each book review should be at least 2500 words, in proper Turabian format.

1. Lewis, C.S. *Screwtape Letters*. Widely available online for free.
2. Rankin, Jerry and Stetzer, Ed. *Spiritual Warfare and Missions: The Battle for God's Glory Among the Nations*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2010.

Course Requirements and Grading

1. Participation and Attendance. (10% of grade) Because this course will include lectures, small group discussions, team activities and presentations, students are expected to participate actively in each class. Punctual attendance and full participation is expected. Unexcused absences will affect the student's grade. The seminary's attendance policy is followed for this class.
2. Four brief daily quizzes. (20% of grade) To reinforce learning and comprehension an objective review of the previous day's lessons will be given.
3. Book Review. (30% of grade) Students will select two books from the REQUIRED book list and write a paper of at least 2000 words reviewing BOTH books (one paper, 2000 words, examining both books, not two different papers). A major portion of the paper should compare positions advocated with those presented in class including a personal assessment and evaluation. Due: Book review is due BEFORE the first day of class.
4. Final Examination. (10% of grade) Students will complete a subjective, essay formatted final exam that will cover the main themes and concepts of the class. Due: 10 days after class.
5. Research Paper. (30% of grade) Students will write a 12-15 page research paper on a topic of spiritual warfare. Students may choose any of the themes we address in class. Papers need to have at least 10 sources (academic or practical). Topics must be chosen in consultation with the professor. Due: 30 days after class.
6. Students should follow the seminary's manual of style and form for all written assignments.
7. Letter grades will be in accordance to the NOBTS course catalog. Should a student's final numerical grade come within a fraction of the next higher letter grade, the professor may—at his discretion—consider promoting the student to the next higher grade based on his or her attitude, positive contributions to the field, and preparedness for classroom discussions. The professor reserves the right to employ a bell-curve on grade distribution.

Course Evaluation

Participation/Attendance	10%
Daily Examinations/Application	40%
Book Review	20%
Final Examination	30%
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Total	100%

PROJECTED COURSE SCHEDULE

Monday

Exploring the realities of spiritual warfare, God's ultimate desire to be glorified in our lives and among the nations, the nature of Satan as the adversary to God's purpose and understanding practical manifestations of spiritual warfare in witness and ministry.

Tuesday

A survey of a biblical worldview in relationship to spiritual warfare. Emphasis will be given to the Old Testament and New Testament passages concerning spiritual warfare.

Wednesday

A survey of systematic theology issues in spiritual warfare to understand how to assimilate spiritual warfare experiences into our biblical worldview.

Thursday

The practical application of spiritual warfare will be overviewed, with special attention to urban ministry, church life and discipleship, counseling, healing, etc.

Friday

Summary, questions, wrap-up.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Anderson, Neil T. *The Bondage Breaker*, 2nd edition. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2000
- _____. *Breaking Through to Spiritual Maturity*, Group Study. Ventura, CA: Gospel Light Publications, 2000
- _____. *Who I Am in Christ Devotional*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2001
- Anderson, Neil T. and Dave Park. *Victory Over the Darkness Series*. Overcoming Negative Self-Image. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2003.
- Anderson, Neil T. and Mike Quarles. *Victory Over the Darkness Series*. Overcoming Addictive Behavior. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2003.
- Andrew, Brother. *Is Life So Dear?: Key Issues In Spiritual Warfare*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1985.
- Arnold, Clinton E. *3 Crucial Questions about Spiritual Warfare*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1997.
- _____. *Powers of Darkness*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992.

- Bubeck, Mark I. *The Adversary: The Christian versus Demon Activity*. Chicago, IL: Moody, 1975.
- Beckett, B. A. *Commitment to Conquer*. Grand Rapids: Chosen/Baker, 1997.
- Billheimer, Paul E. *Destined to Overcome*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 1982.
- Boyd, Gregory A. *God At War: The Bible and Spiritual Conflict*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997.
- _____. *Satan and the Problem of Evil: Constructing a Trinitarian Warfare Theodicy*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001.
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- Johnson, Mark. *Spiritual Warfare for the Wounded*. Ann Arbor, MI: Vine Books, 1992.
- Kinnaman, Gary. *Overcoming the Dominion of Darkness*. Grand Rapids: Chosen Baker, 1990.
- Knowles, Victor. *Angels and Demons: Agents of God & Satan - A Biblical Study*. Joplin, MO: College Press Pub. Co., 1995.
- Kraft, Charles H. *Behind Enemy Lines: An Advanced Guide to Spiritual Warfare*. Ann Arbor, MI: Vine Books, 1994.
- _____. *Confronting Powerless Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Chosen Baker, 2002.
- _____. *Deep Wounds, Deep Healing: Discovering the Vital Link Between Spiritual Warfare and Inner Healing*. Ann Arbor, MI: Vine Books, 2004.
- _____. *Defeating Dark Angels: Breaking Demonic Oppression in the Believer's Life*. Ann Arbor, MI: Vine Books, 1992.
- _____. *The Rules of Engagement: Understanding the Principles that Govern the Spiritual Battles in Our Lives*. Colorado Springs: Wagner Publications, 2000.
- Kraft, Marguerite G. *Understanding Spiritual Power: A Forgotten Dimension of Cross-Cultural Mission and Ministry*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1995.
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- Lawson, Steven J. *Faith Under Fire: Standing Strong When Satan Attacks*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1995.
- Lozano, Neal. *Unbound: A Practical Guide to Deliverance*. Grand Rapids: Chosen Books, 2003.
- Lutzer, Erwin. W. *Seven Snares of the Enemy: Breaking Free from the Devil's Grip*. Chicago: Moody Press, 2001.
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