

## “WAGING THE GOOD WARFARE” PT. III

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**INTRO:** We’re in a spiritual war, and we’re called to wage the good warfare (1Tim. 1:18; Eph. 6:12; Gen. 3:15). This is not a war against people, but the spiritual forces working through people. Stay in your lane – don’t break rank! This morning we’ll focus on Jesus’ encounters with evil.

### **I. JESUS’ TEMPTATION (Matt. 4:1-11).**

- A. To succeed where the first Adam failed.
- B. To prepare for the success of His earthly ministry.
- C. Jesus was tempted to prove His identity.
- D. Jesus was tempted to take a compromising shortcut.
- E. Jesus used the Word of God to resist temptation.
  - Three Categories of Temptations (1Jn. 2:15-16):
    - 1) The lust of the flesh – appeals to carnal nature.
    - 2) The lust of the eyes - appeals to eyes.
    - 3) The pride of life - appeals to pride.

### **II. JESUS’ CASTING OUT OF DEMONS (Lk. 8:26-37).**

- A. The demons knew who Jesus was and their destiny.
- B. The people feared the delivered man more than the possessed man (see also Matt. 12:28; Acts 10:38)!

### **III. JESUS’ TEACHINGS ABOUT EVIL.**

- A. The world hated Jesus for exposing evil (Jn. 7:7).
- B. Jesus said the world will also hate us (Jn. 15:18-20).
- C. Jesus confronted the evil religious leaders (Jn. 8:44-45).

### **IV. THE ATTEMPTS ON JESUS’ LIFE BEFORE HIS TIME (Jn. 7:30; 8:20, 59; 10:31, 39; Luke 4:28-30; etc.).**

- A. They tried to kill Jesus multiple times, but couldn’t until it was God’s time.

**CONCLUSION:** We’re in a spiritual battle that is really heating up. We’re called to wage the good warfare in this battle. Remember this battle isn’t against flesh & blood, but the spiritual powers that influence people. Let’s war effectively against these spiritual forces, but let’s stay in our lane. Let’s learn from Jesus’ encounters with evil.