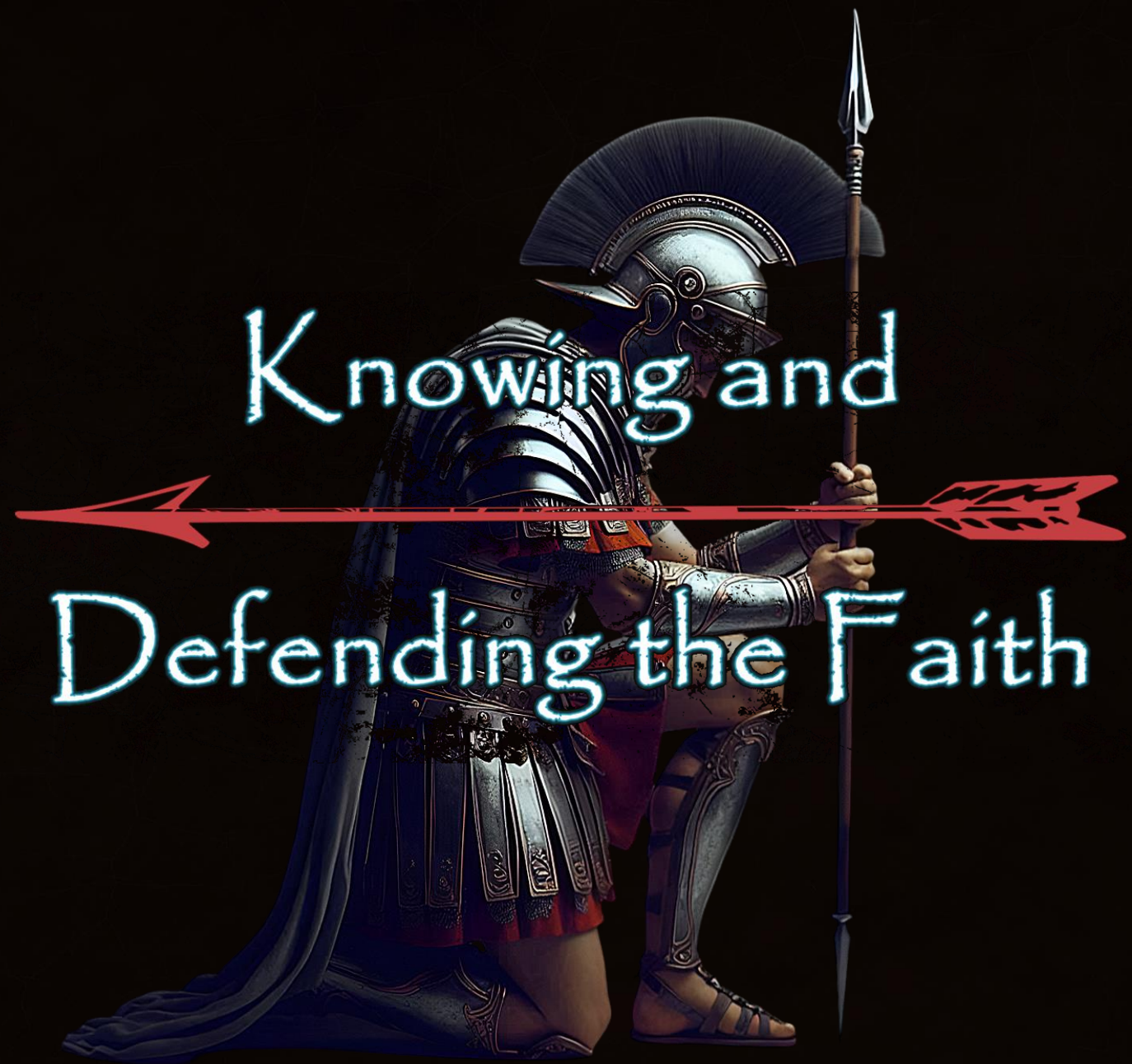


What areas in life are we NOT
recognizing as spiritual warfare?
April 13th, 6 -7:30 pm

TACKLING TOUGH QUESTIONS

And... what are the schemes and powers
of satanic forces according to scripture?



**Knowing and
Defending Our Call to
be Faithful Servants
to King Jesus**

Cultures have the power to shape moral views

(The majority of survey data is from Pew Research)

In 1st Century Rome, it was standard cultural practice to abuse boys.

In 19th century India, widows regularly were burned alive on the funeral pyre of their dead husband.

USA: In 1969, 12% supported legalizing marijuana. By 2023, those who supported legalizing had increased to 70%.

USA: In 2024, 63% believe abortion should be legal in all or most cases.

USA: Most are now in favor of assisted suicide for those suffering.

USA: In 2004, 31% supported same-sex marriage. By 2023, to 63%.
In 2020, 74% supported sex between unmarried individuals.

USA: In 2/2025, 44% believe in clear standards for right and wrong.

*If you have chosen to believe and follow Christ, you are part of His holy house. **His house, His rules.** And, we are to guide others into His house from the kingdom of darkness with truth and love.*

As Christians, we do stumble in following Jesus and guiding others toward Christ. However, occasionally stumbling in our walk to follow Christ is not the same as practicing sin.

Do we recognize any strongholds the enemy has in our lives?

But... what if your genes, environment, and/ or circumstances make you more prone toward certain sins?

Anger, rage, abuse, hatred

Lying, being deceptive

Being promiscuous/ tempting

Gossip, slander, reviling

Pornography, lust

Sexual immorality

Drunkenness, drug abuse

Envy, greed, idolatry, evil thoughts

Divisive, prone toward arguing

Selfish ambition

Witchcraft, divination, astrology

Rebellious, irreverent, profane

Prideful, arrogant, haughty

Merciless, bitter, unforgiving

Regardless of our sinful tendencies, Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit to turn from these things and follow Him as King

***Consider Saul pursuing David
to kill him and recognize...***

***You are POWERLESS against
the enemy's strongholds until
you submit to God.***

If we are practicing sin, not only have we jeopardized or disinherited our place in God's Kingdom, but our witness is also rendered ineffective.

Quote by A.W. Tozer (1897 – 1963)

To escape the error of salvation by works,
we have fallen to the opposite error of
salvation without obedience.

An allegory concerning God's word

*(Allegories, though imperfect, can help
communicate spiritual realities)*

Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NASB₁₉₉₅) ¹¹ 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. ¹² 'Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ 'You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart'.

If you follow Jesus, your actions, your words, even your thoughts are to be subject to Him as King

Romans 6:17-18 (ESV) ¹⁷ But thanks be to God, that you who were once **slaves** of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and, having been set free from sin, have become **slaves** of righteousness.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (NIV) ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. **On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.** ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and **we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.**

Romans 12:2 (HCSB) Do not be conformed to this age, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.**

To be faithful, we must know scripture and guard ourselves from a world that wishes to transform us into its image

What do we permit ourselves to watch via social media, TV, movies, etc.?

Whose advice do we hold dear? Who and what influences our morality?

What conversations do we engage in and are they edifying?

In our work, do we demonstrate that we are doing it for our Lord?

Are we constantly seeking the Lord in prayer?

Do we continually abide in God's word (burning away the ice in our soul and mind with the transforming warmth of scripture and the Holy Spirit)?

Are we confessing and turning away from our sin so that God's word and the work of the Holy Spirit sets us apart to be effective in the Kingdom?