

WAGING WAR

On Track – Part 2

January 9, 2011

II Kings 23

“This is no afternoon athletic contest that we’ll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels.” Ephesians 6:12 (Mess)

“You have done more evil than all those who lived before you. You have made for yourself other gods, idols made of metal: you have provoked Me to anger and thrust Me behind your back.” I Kings 14:9 (NIV)

*“He behaved in the vilest manner by going after idols.”
I Kings 21:26 (NIV)*

FIGHTING TO WIN

1. ACKNOWLEDGE THE ROOT OF MY PROBLEM.

“I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do... As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.” Romans 8:15, 17-18 (NIV)

“If we say we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and refusing to accept the truth.” I John 1:8 (NLT)

Fact of life: To stop defeating myself, I must stop deceiving myself.

“... ‘I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin...So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.’” John 8:34, 36 (NIV)

2. PUT OFF THE OLD SINFUL NATURE.

“The king ordered Hilkiah the high priest...to remove from the temple of the Lord all the articles made for Baal and Asherah and all the starry hosts. He burned them outside of Jerusalem...” II Kings 23:4 (NIV)

“So put all evil things out of your life: sexual sinning, doing evil, letting evil thoughts control you, wanting things that are evil, and greed. This is really serving a false god.” Colossians 3:5 (NCV)

3. PUT ON THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST.

“The King gave this order to all the people: ‘Celebrate the Passover to the Lord your God...” II Kings 23:21 (NIV)

*“Whoever is a believer in Christ is a new creation. The old way of living has disappeared. A new way of living has come into existence.”
II Corinthians 5:17 (GW)*

“So I advise you to live according to your new life in the Holy Spirit. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.” Galatians 5:16 (NLT)

Essential Habits For Spiritual Health

■ A Daily Time with God.

“...Take time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit.” I Timothy 4:7 (Ph)

■ A Weekly Team for God.

*“Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.”
Acts 5:42 (NIV)*

■ A Regular Tithe to God.

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” Malachi 3:10 (NIV)