

Battle for our Minds

- 2Co 10:3 We live in this world, but we don't act like its people
- 2Co 10:4 or fight our battles with the weapons of this world. Instead, we use God's power that can destroy fortresses. We destroy arguments
- 2Co 10:5 and every bit of pride that keeps anyone from knowing God. We capture people's thoughts and make them obey Christ.

- 2 Co 2:14 I am grateful that God always makes it possible for Christ to lead us to victory. God also helps us spread the knowledge about Christ everywhere, and this knowledge is like the smell of perfume.

The Warfare of our Foe

- Eph 6:12 We are not fighting against humans. We are fighting against forces and authorities and against rulers of darkness and powers in the spiritual world.

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- Gen 6:5 The LORD saw how bad the people on earth were and that everything they thought and planned was evil.

- **Eph 4:17** As a follower of the Lord, I order you to stop living like stupid, godless people.
- Eph 4:18 Their minds are in the dark, and they are stubborn and ignorant and have missed out on the life that comes from God. They no longer have any feelings about what is right,
- Eph 4:19 and they are so greedy that they do all kinds of indecent things.

- Eph 4:23 Let the Spirit change your way of thinking
- Eph 4:24 and make you into a new person. You were created to be like God, and so you must please him and be truly holy.

- Rom 12:2 Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him.

ATTITUDE

■ *To Whom It May Concern,*

‘My name is Matthew Jeffers. I am a senior at Towson University majoring in acting, and I have been a die-hard Ravens fan since Baltimore welcomed you with open arms in 1996. As you, the Ravens, continue to battle through tough losses and heated criticism, allow me to share some thoughts with you. You are in uncharted territory. You (and us) have had the gift and pleasure of consistently winning for years, and frankly, you have spoiled us. You have maintained a level of professionalism and inspiring play for so long that we have lost touch with what it feels like to have our feet in the mud. And I’m sure it is an even worse feeling for you, the ones on the field, than it is for the ones in the stands

- *“And let me let you in on a little secret. Life doesn’t care about streaks. It does not care about three-game losing streaks, or four-game win streaks. It does not care if you WANT to win, if you NEED to win. At the end of the day, life is simply unfair. I am short-statured. I am 21 years old, but stand only at 4’2”. Over my lifetime I have endured 20 surgeries, some small, others life-threatening. I have had a tracheotomy, I have had blood transfusions, I have spent summers in a hip spica cast, and I’ve had to learn how to walk again. My last surgery was in 2003, and I acquired the naive mindset that I was free from the bondage of heartache. I had the mindset that I had ‘done my time.’ And then, in February of 2011, my mother was diagnosed with a stage IV brain tumor. As I write this, the doctors at JHU are determining whether or not the next step should be Hospice care. So you tell me, is life fair? When you give every ounce you have, and all you have to show for it is a loss in overtime, is that fair? When families in Newtown, CT go into their child’s room, but have no child to kiss goodnight, is that fair?”*

- *“We live in a painful world, no doubt about it. But let me tell you this: The ONLY disability in life is a bad attitude. The ONLY disability in life.....is a bad attitude. A positive attitude is the most powerful combatant to life’s misfortune*

- Rom 8:6 If our minds are ruled by our desires, we will die. But if our minds are ruled by the Spirit, we will have life and peace.

The Weakness of our Flesh

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- Eph 6:10 Finally, let the mighty strength of the Lord make you strong.
- Eph 6:11 Put on all the armor that God gives, so you can defend yourself against the devil's tricks.
- Eph 6:12 We are not fighting against humans. We are fighting against forces and authorities and against rulers of darkness and powers in the spiritual world.
- Eph 6:13 So put on all the armor that God gives. Then when that evil day comes, you will be able to defend yourself. And when the battle is over, you will still be standing firm.

The Weapons of our Fight

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- Jas 4:7 Surrender to God! Resist the devil, and he will run from you.

- Php 4:8 Finally, my friends, keep your minds on whatever is true, pure, right, holy, friendly, and proper. Don't ever stop thinking about what is truly worthwhile and worthy of praise.

- **2Co 4:4** The god who rules this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers. They cannot see the light, which is the good news about our glorious Christ, who shows what God is like.