

Take a Proactive Stand

Quick!
Run for cover!



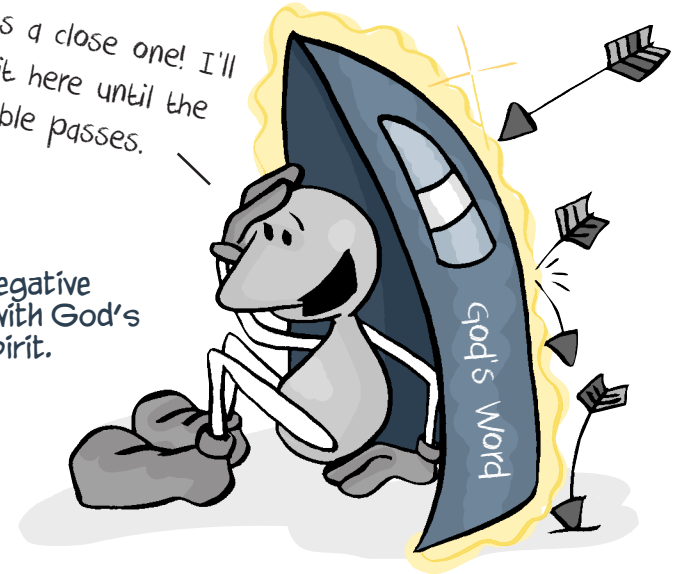
There are times when you are faced with negative influences or wrong attitudes, and you will want to do your best to protect your spirit from those influences.

Ahem! That's enough time spent sheltering, soldier.

But just sheltering yourself in God's Word is not enough.



That was a close one! I'll just wait here until the trouble passes.

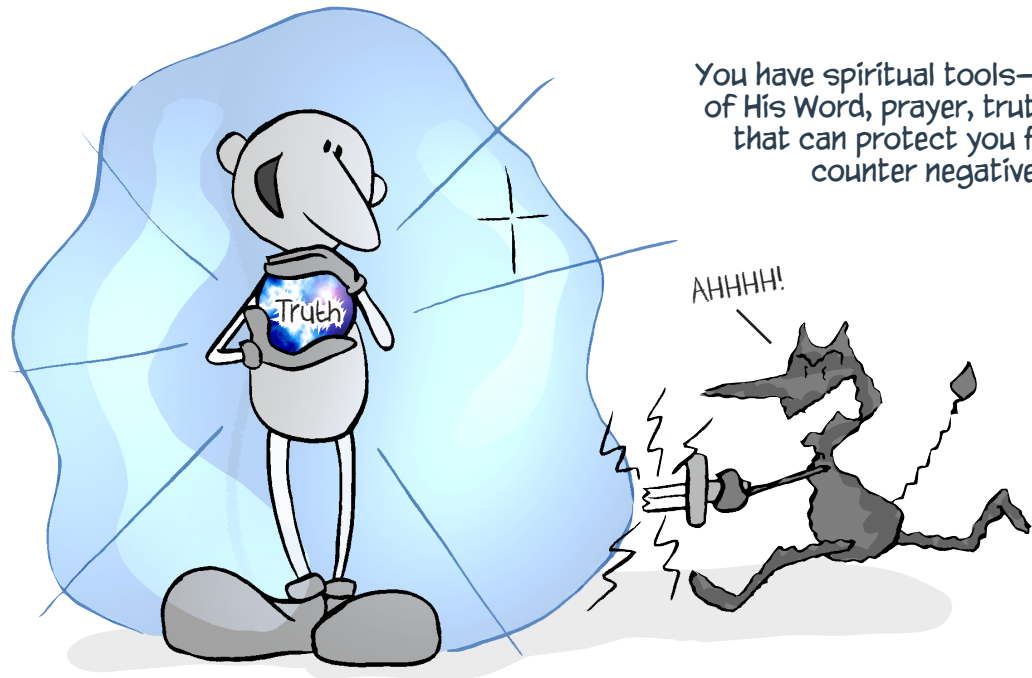


Learning to shelter your spirit from negative influences by filling your heart and mind with God's Word is one way to protect your spirit.

You need to also learn to use what you have been taught in God's Word to go on the offensive and counter the negative influences you're facing.

Aha! I'm coming for you!

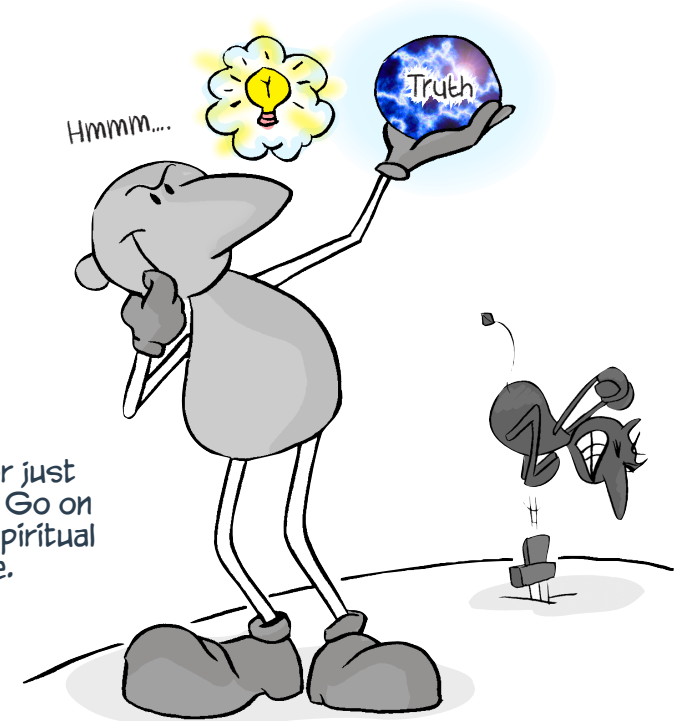




You have spiritual tools—God's superpowers of His Word, prayer, truth, faith, and more—that can protect you from and help you counter negative influences.

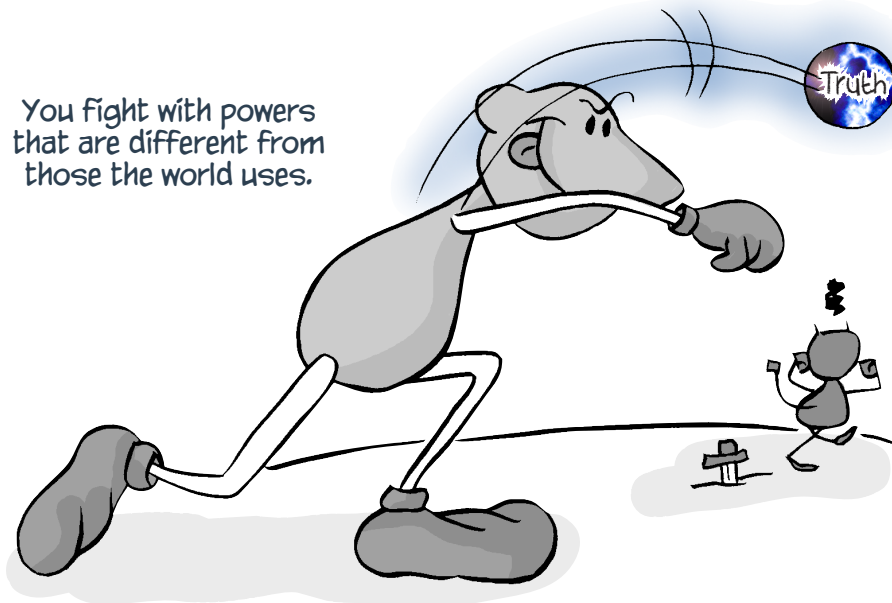
AHHHH!

But don't settle for just protecting yourself. Go on the attack with the spiritual power you have.

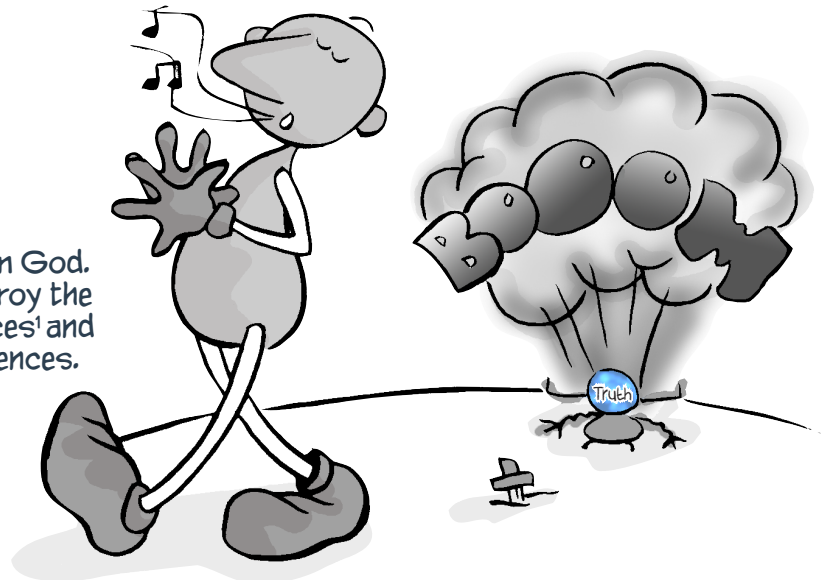


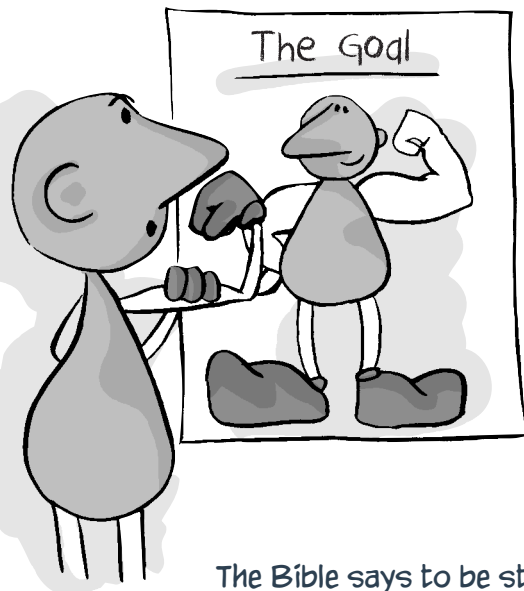
Hmmm....

You fight with powers that are different from those the world uses.



You have power from God. This power can destroy the enemy's strong places and repel negative influences.

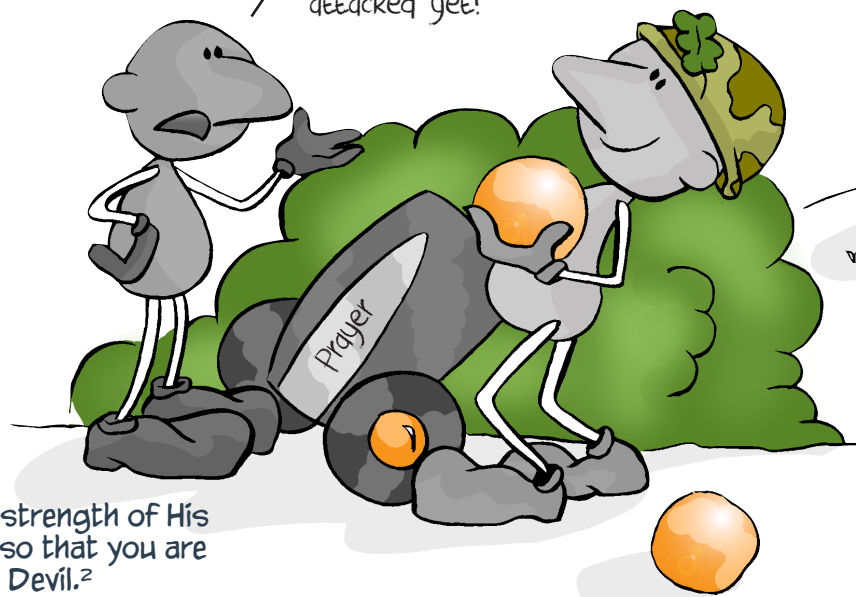




The Bible says to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. You are to put on the whole armor of God so that you are able to stand against the schemes of the Devil.²

The more you use the spiritual tools that God has given you to go on the attack against negative influences, the stronger your spirit grows. This takes time and effort.

But they haven't even / attacked yet!



Footnotes:

- ¹ See 2 Corinthians 10:4.
- ² See Ephesians 6:10–11.
- ³ Ephesians 6:13 CEV

That's why it's called an ambush.

Be proactive. Go out of your way to go on the offensive so that you're not always stuck on the defensive trying to ward off negative attacks. Take the stand first!



"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."³

