

Spiritual Warfare

Notes by Franklin

- I. INTRODUCTION: HISTORY OF THE WARFARE page 2
- II. THE MAGNIFICENT VICTORY page 2
- III. THE SITUATION TODAY page 3
- IV. THE ENEMY'S STRATEGY or METHOD page 5
 - A. To ATTACK The LIFE and MINISTRY of Believers
 - B. Establish STRONGHOLDS - TERRITORY or Area under his control.
 - 1. PERSONAL STRONGHOLDS
 - 2. FAMILY STRONGHOLDS
 - 3. CITY, TRIBE, PEOPLE OR NATIONAL STRONGHOLDS
 - 4. DEMONIC RELIGIOUS STRONGHOLDS
 - 5. CHURCH STRONGHOLDS
- V. OUR WARFARE page 12
 - A. FIRST - BIND THE STRONG MAN
 - B. EVIL is BOUND in our LIFE AS WE OBEY JESUS CHRIST
 - C. PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD Ephesians 6: 11-17
 - 1. GIRD YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH
 - 2. BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
 - 3. FEET READY WITH THE GOSPEL OF PEACE
 - 4. THE SHIELD OF FAITH
 - 5. THE HELMET OF SALVATION
 - D. OUR DIVINE WEAPONS of WARFARE
 - PRAYER
 - THE NAME OF JESUS
 - THE POWER OF PREACHING
 - THE POWER OF FASTING
 - THE POWER OF THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
 - THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT
 - THE POWER OF PRAISE
 - THE POWER OF TESTIMONY
- VI. Practical - Spiritual Warfare page 27
- VII. Bibliography page 29

Spiritual Warfare

Notes by Franklin

I. INTRODUCTION: HISTORY OF THE WARFARE

A. In The Beginning - By Creation all Belonged to God.

Genesis 1:1 Psalm 24:1

B. Man Given dominion Over The Earth

Genesis 1:28 Psalm 8:6 Psalm 115:16

C. The Enemy Appears & Reveals his Scheme

1. To EXALT his **THRONE**: to be Worshiped

- Isaiah 14:12-17 Brings his rebellion to the earth.
- Genesis 3 Deceives Man bringing Adam and his kingdom under the authority and power of satan & sin.
- God Declares War Genesis 3:15

2. To CONTROL **TERRITORY** & Enlarge his Kingdom.

Luke 4:5-6

3. To STEAL and DESTROY the Lord's Valuable **TREASURE**.

Joel 3:5, 9-10 Matthew 13:44 John 10:10a

II. THE MAGNIFICENT VICTORY

A. THE COMING OF JESUS:

- Philippians 2:6-7 emptied Himself - stepped down from His throne.
- Colossians 2:13-15 **The Victory**

B. CASTS OUT THE RULER OF THIS WORLD.

John 12:31

Matthew 12:28-29 *But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong man and then he will plunder his house.*

- First: JESUS BOUND the Strong man - HOW??
- REMOVED SIN John 1:29; 1 John 3:5
 - THUS DEFEATING DEATH. Hebrews 2:14
 - DEFEATED satan 1 John 3:8

Second JESUS ENTERED the Strong Man's House and CARRIED OFF HIS BLOOD REDEEMED PROPERTY - PLUNDERED satan's house.

- Ephesians 4:8-9
- 1 Peter 4:6 Descended into the earth. (Luke 16:19-31) then Ascended with a host of captives.

Matthew 16:18 *"I will build my church; and THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL against it*

BROKE OPEN THE GATES OF HELL!! (i.e. Samson Judges 16:3)

OPENED THE GATES OF HEAVEN for the first time since the fall.

Psalm 24:7-10 *Lift up your HEADS, O ye GATES; and be ye lift up, ye EVERLASTING DOORS; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.*

The VICTORY of the CROSS established THE POWER of the Kingdom of God over the POWER of the Kingdom of Darkness

III. THE SITUATION TODAY

- Philippians 2:9-11 Exalted and given ALL POWER
- Hebrews 1:3 . . . When He had made purification of sins, He **sat down** at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
- Hebrews 2:8 . . . we do not yet see all things subjected to Him
- Hebrews 10:12-13 . . . SAT DOWN . . . WAITING . . . UNTIL . . .

The Kingdoms are still AT WAR - The Battle Rages

A Battle For: POWER - AUTHORITY - PEOPLE

- 1 John 5:19 *The whole world lies in the power of the evil one*
- John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11 *ruler of this world*
- Romans 16:20 As we "GO" with the Gospel.

Psalm 2:1-4 *"WHY do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? (The Answer) The KINGS OF THE EARTH (principalities & powers) set themselves, and the RULERS (men) take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, Let us break Their chains in pieces and cast away Their bonds from us."*

THIS IS THE WARFARE ! *"Kings of the earth"* against the LORD'S ANOINTED KING And HIS people.

Ephesians 6:12 Psalm 2:5-12

His VICTORY over the powers of evil and it's APPLICATION in the world, IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE CHURCH.

1 Corinthians 15:57 **GIVEN US THE VICTORY !**

Ephesians 3:10 *to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known **BY THE CHURCH** to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places"* (NKJ)

His AGGRESSION and HATRED AGAINST satan MUST now be EXPRESSED **THROUGH US!!!**

Consider this:

The Lord first chose **Israel** to reveal Himself to and they were to be **His missionaries** to bring the knowledge of the One True God and HIS SALVATION, HIS VICTORY to the world.

- Acts 13:44-48 (Isaiah 49:6)
- Galatians 3:8 The Gospel was first given to Abraham and his people. But after some time **they concluded** that they were the ONLY chosen people and the LORD ONLY loved them.

The LORD gave them 2,000 years to finish their work. Then JESUS came. He was angry with them and **took the Gospel Away from Israel & Gave it to His Church!**

See: Matthew 21:33-43 & 23:38 24:14

We, HIS church, have now had the Gospel over 2,000 years and we have not finished our work either!!!! WHY NOT???

Proverb 8:13 *The fear of the LORD is to **HATE EVIL**; pride and arrogance and the evil way, and the perverted mouth, I hate.* (NAS)

Diagnostic Questions:

1. Does my life express the hatred the LORD has for satan?
2. Does my life express an absolute hatred of sin, and a love and commitment to righteousness and God's ways?
3. Do I easily compromise for the sake of being accepted?
4. Is my greatest ambition and desire to be pleasing to Jesus at all costs?
5. Am I constantly available and obedient as a good soldier?
6. When I see the multitudes do I feel compassion for them because satan is destroying them?

Romans 12:9 *Let love be without hypocrisy. **ABHOR WHAT IS EVIL; cling to what is good.***

Romans 12:21 ***DO NOT BE OVERCOME BY EVIL, but OVERCOME EVIL with good.***

IV. THE ENEMY'S STRATEGY or METHOD

Ecclesiastes 9:14-18 (NAS) *There was a small city with few men in it and a great king came to it, surrounded it, and constructed large siegeworks against it. But there was found in it a poor wise man and he **delivered the city by his wisdom**. Yet no one remembered that poor man. So I said, "**Wisdom is better than strength.**" But the wisdom of the poor man is despised and his words are not heeded. The words of the wise heard in quietness are {better} than the shouting of a ruler among fools. **Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.**"*

One of the most important issues in warfare is to **KNOW** and **UNDERSTAND** your enemy. Proverb 24:5-6

The Enemy's Strategy:

A. To ATTACK The LIFE and MINISTRY of Believers

1. Stop you from going: 1 Thessalonians 2:18
2. Temptations: Luke 4:1-13; James 1:13-16
John 14:30 *...has nothing in Me.*
3. Lies and Deceit causing Doubt:
 - a. John 8:44 "father of lies"
 - b. 2 Corinthians 11:3 Deceived Eve
 - c. 2 Corinthians 11:13-14 Angel of light
 - d. 1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 2:24-26 Deceive many
 - e. Revelation 20:3, 8 Deceive the nations
4. Accuses and Condemns: Revelation 12:10 Romans 8:1
5. Sickness: Luke 13:10-17 (vs. 11, 16)
6. Persecutions: 2 Cor.11:23-27 Matt. 5:11, 44 John.15:20
7. Hinders Prayer Daniel 10:2-6, 12, 20-21
8. Cause you to become Cold, Uncaring, Lazy, Complacent
Matthew 24:12 Ezekiel 9:4 Revelation 3:15-19
9. To Kill, Steal and Destroy John 10:10; 1Peter5:8 "roaring lion"
 - Matthew 13:19 Steals The Word
 - Luke 11:14 demon prevented speech
 - Matthew 12:22 demon prevented sight & speech

Mark 9:22 *And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to **destroy** him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.*" (NKJ)

John 5:5, 14 *A man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "Behold, you have become well; **do not sin** anymore, so that **nothing worse happens to you.**" NASU*

Psalm 97:10 *You who love the LORD, HATE EVIL! He preserves the souls of His saints; he delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.*

The Enemy's Strategy:

B. Establish STRONGHOLDS - TERRITORY under his control.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, (4) for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the **destruction of fortresses**. (5) We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking **every thought** captive to the obedience of Christ.

What he does not control he works hard to conquer.

1. PERSONAL STRONGHOLDS - The Way We Think - Believe

Satan begins by trying to influence us, establish a pattern of thoughts and actions and then slowly control this area and from here, expand his kingdom. 2 Corinthians 10:5-6

a. Worldly Values

Matthew 16:21-23

Luke 16:14-15

Mark 4:18-19

James 4:4

1 John 2:14-17

b. Pride James 4:5-10; 1Peter 5:5-9; Isaiah 2:10-17

Peter had a personal stronghold of pride: Luke 22:31-32

Pride gave satan the legal right to attack Peter. Vs. 24

Knowing the character of Peter, he won the argument. Satan attacked and 'strong' Peter denied the Lord 3X. The Lord caused it to work for good (Romans 8:28). It broke Peter's pride. (Luke 22:61-62) He learned his strength was not sufficient. Jesus restored him (John 21:15-17; Revelation 12:11)

c. Unforgiveness 2 Corinthians 2:10-11 Hebrews 12:15
Matthew 7:1 Matthew 18:21-35

d. Anger, Lying, Stealing, Bad Words, Slander, Bitterness, Jealousy, Selfish Ambition:

Ephesians 4:25-32 James 3:1-16; 4:11-12

e. Lusts of the Flesh Galatians 5:19-21 1 Peter 2:11-12

1 Timothy 3:7 *And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he may not fall into reproach and the **SNARE OF THE DEVIL**.*

2 Timothy 2:26 *and they may come to their senses and escape from the **SNARE** of the devil, having been **held captive** by him to do his will*

Ephesians 5:1-13 Colossians 3:1-10

EXPAND HIS KINGDOM TO:

2. FAMILY STRONGHOLDS - The Result of Personal Strongholds

The sins of the fathers that produce iniquities or weaknesses toward certain types of sin in the succeeding generations.

- a. As Cain killed, so did his grandsons. Genesis 4:23-24
- b. Abraham Lied about his wife Genesis 12:13; 20:2
Isaac Lied about his wife Genesis 26:7
Jacob was a notorious deceiver.
- c. Evil Religions and Idol Worship: Leviticus 20:5-7
- d. Greed - Love of Money - Corruption
Eli and his evil sons: 1 Samuel 2:29; 3:13
- e. Immorality
Lot and his daughters: Genesis 19:30, 32

EXPAND HIS KINGDOM TO:

3. CITY, TRIBE, PEOPLE or NATIONAL STRONGHOLDS,

When a people as a group give themselves to a demonic doctrine or particular sins, this gives satan the "**legal right**" to occupy **their territory**.

Sins That DEFILE the NATION and the LAND:

- SEXUAL SINS Leviticus 18:1-30; vs. 24-30
Verse 24: The PERSON is defiled, the NATION, the LAND.
Verse 25: The Land vomits or spews out it's inhabitants.
Leviticus 19:29 Prostitution defiles the Land.
- IDOLATRY Psalm 106:34-38
(1) served idols.
(2) sacrificed sons & daughters.
(3) Shed innocent blood - POLLUTED THE LAND
- WITCHCRAFT Deuteronomy 18:9-14
- MURDER - KILLING PEOPLE
Genesis 4:9-12; Numbers 35:33-34
Deuteronomy 21:1-9 Hebrews 12:24

The TERRITORY God gave them, they gave to satan as they obey him in sin.

i.e. Acts 17:26 Deuteronomy 32:8

- Adam lost his domain to satan.
- San Francisco is known for its homosexuality.
- Chicago is known for its mob violence.
- Las Vegas for its greed and gambling.
- Calcutta's god is "kali" the goddess of death.
- Ephesus' god is "diana" sorcery and divination.
- India's gods are the millions of Hinduism.

The city, tribe or nation, like a person, can also be controlled and have an identifying evil spirituality.

- Matthew 11:20-24 Each city is addressed as having responsibility for its actions.
- Hebrews 11:10 The spiritual foundation on which a city or nation is built is very important.
- Habakkuk 2:12
- Nahum 3:1

These are potentially able to affect whole cultures. The devil looks for leaders of people who will serve him and he in-turn gives them power.

- a. "Prince of Tyre" (on earth) and the "King of Tyre" (in the heavens)
Ezekiel 28:2, 12
- b. "Prince of Persia" and the "king of Persia" Daniel 10:20
Still today empowering Saddam Huessin.
- c. Adolf Hitler had an occultic power behind the Third Reich that bewitched an entire nation. It is known that Hitler overtly invited these powers of darkness to come into him.
This spirit is still influencing some people in Germany today.

Isaiah 24:21 *So it will happen in that day, that the LORD will punish the host of heaven, on high, and the kings of the earth, on earth.*

4. RELIGIOUS STRONGHOLDS

Established by a people rejecting the revelation of God and worshipping or serving evil spirits to ease their situation and to satisfy their spiritual needs.

2 Corinthians 11:14 *And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*

These **demon rulers** maintain their power over the centuries by:

- a. **Religious festivals**, ceremonials and pilgrimages. The spiritual power released during these activities has been testified to by many; increased oppression, persecutions, demonic signs and wonders.
i.e. Islamic Hajj; Kumbha Mela in India, etc.
- b. They **reaffirm** the choices and covenants made by their forefathers and ancestors and **extend the devil's legal right** to rule over specific peoples and places today.
- c. These festivals, ceremonies and pilgrimages are called "TRADITIONS." Traditions sustain territorial dynasties.

- d. Witchcraft, satanism and New Age religions which invite spirit guides to operate, empower territorial spirits by spells, curses, rituals and fetishes.

- Deuteronomy 18:9-14
- 1 Corinthians 10:20-21
- 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

Satan particularly seems to be empowered when the sin involves:

The **shedding of blood** and **sexual perversion**

Both are involved in making a covenant.

- a. **Blood:** Psalm 106:35-38 [sacrificed sons and daughters to demons](#)

Numbers 35:33 Genesis 4:10-12

Hebrews 12:24 [and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.](#)

The blood of Abel cried out for judgment.

The blood of Jesus cries out for forgiveness.

- b. **Sexual:**
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Genesis 6:1-7 | Severe Judgment |
| Genesis 18:20; 19:4-9 | Severe Judgment |
| Romans 1:23-32 vs.27 | Severe Judgment |

Example: Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1990 became president of Haiti. August 14, 1991 he officially requested that Haiti's top voodoo witch doctors lead a national observance of the voodoo ceremony of Boukman to rededicate the nation of Haiti to the spirits of the dead. The ceremony typically involves animal, and some say human sacrifice. One month later, 29 September 1991 he was ousted by a military coup. Haiti took a socio-economic nose-dive. An international embargo was imposed. Normal economy became virtually nonexistent. Tens of thousands of jobs were lost, many irrevocably. Months after the coup, it was reported, "Port-au-Prince, a bustling city in normal times, now often seems a dusty ghost town." Public services were suspended because of lack of gasoline and garbage was piled high on the streets. Many foreign investors gave up totally on Haiti. The nation reached the lowest point on the human misery scale.

Was there a correlation between the spiritual and the natural?

The Steps the Enemy Uses to Capture Territory:

1. Finds and Enters a Legal Opening.
2. Builds Walls
3. Sits In "The Gate"

5. CHURCH STRONGHOLDS

Sectarian Beliefs:

(Sect - a group of people within a larger group having views different from those of the rest of the group.)

- a. Division among churches
- b. Pride in doctrine and beliefs
- c. Idolatry of denominations or particular belief systems that produce isolation from the rest of the Body.
- d. A "us and them" mentality toward the city.

V. OUR WARFARE

A. FIRST - BIND THE STRONG MAN

Matthew 12:28-29 [But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can anyone enter the STRONG MAN'S house and carry off his property, unless he **FIRST BINDS** the strong man **and then** he will plunder his house.](#)

The ADVANCEMENT of the Kingdom of God is associated with
"CASTING OUT DEMONS."

"Strong Man" - The evil spirit or spirits, the "king," that occupy and control the house.

"Strong man's House" or *"Stronghold"* or *"Territory"* is the person, family, group, people, nation or geographical territory in which the evil spirit or spirits are entrenched and occupy.

Matthew 12:29 ["FIRST Bind the Strong One"](#)

Matthew 18:18 Truly I say to you, whatever YOU SHALL BIND on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever YOU LOOSE on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Strong's Concordance #1210: deo (δησις) **TO BIND**

- 1) to bind tie, to fasten
 - a) to bind, to fasten with chains, to throw into chains
 - b) metaphorically:
 - 1) to bind, to put under obligation, used of the law
 - 2) to forbid, to prohibit, to declare to be illicit

Strong's Concordance #3089: luo (λυσις) **TO LOOSE**

- 1) to loose any person (or thing) tied or fastened
- 2) to loose one bound, to unbind, release from bonds, to set free
 - a) to discharge from prison, to let go
 - b) to do away with, to remove from authority
 - c) to declare unlawful

How ?

B. EVIL is BOUND in our LIFE AS WE - OBEY Jesus Christ.

Jesus Bound satan as He:

1. Obeyed THE WORD: **"It is Written"** Luke 4:4, 8, 12
2. Obeyed HIS FATHER John 5:19, 30; 14:30 **nothing in Me**

The Strong Man is **Bound in our life**, rendered Powerless as **WE OBEY** Jesus Christ and His Word.

- Joshua 5:13-15 Surrender to the "Captain of the Hosts of the Lord"
- Joshua 6:2; 7:11-13 CAN NOT FIGHT your enemy with SIN in the camp.
- EGYPT Kingdom of Darkness / slaves to sin and satan.
- WILDERNESS The Battle with Sin Within / The Flesh
- PROMISED LAND The Battle with principalities and powers.

The FIRST Battle I must win is:

VICTORY in the WILDERNESS - VICTORY over My FLESH

1 Corinthians 10:6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should **NOT LUST AFTER EVIL THINGS**, as they also lusted."

Deuteronomy 8

Verse 1: Obedience is essential:

- for life
- to possess the land

Verse 2: The Purpose of the Wilderness:

- To HUMBLE us. Our PRIDE MUST BE BROKEN.
- To TEST us. To know what is in our heart

The Lord is first and foremost concerned about CHARACTER, VIRTUE. Romans 5:3-4

THE WILDERNESS WAS:

A) A **PLACE OF DEATH** for an entire generation that continued to mumber, complain, grow bitter and did not learn to trust and obey the LORD. They always wanted to return to the familiarity of their old ways. Numbers 14:20-24

B) The Same Wilderness was a **PLACE OF LIFE** for an entire generation that was born and nurtured in all of its **hardness**. Knowing nothing but barrenness and difficulty they learned to **trust and obey** the LORD and were **ready for change**. They were ready to **move on**. They were ready to **fight** for the Promises of God.

It is **YOUR DECISION - YOUR RESPONSE** to difficulties that determines if it is a place of **LIFE** or **DEATH** for you.

Galatians 5:17

Luke 9:23

Romans 6

WIN this BATTLE - Learn to OBEY. Then I am Ready to CROSS THE JORDAN and Begin SPIRITUAL WARFARE with Principalities and Powers and TAKE BACK the Land for the Kingdom of God.

KINGDOM of GOD ≈ LORDSHIP ≈ BEING RULED OVER or GOVERNED.

OBEDIENCE Places you UNDER AUTHORITY

IF We DO NOT **OBEY** Him HE CAN NOT SAVE US From the Enemy's SNARES. Matthew 7:24 - 27

Our Obedience Binds Satan and he can not touch us. **1 John 5:18**

This is what is meant by: "work out your own salvation."

Philippians 2:12

Luke 6:46-49 Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not DO what I say?

Jesus' Message: **"Repent for the K. is at hand"** (Mark 1:14-15)
DEMANDS OBEDIENCE

REPENTANCE is to: (a) HUMBLE YOURSELF (b) TURN AROUND -
Change the Direction of your life. 1 Thessalonians 1:9

Repentance is a DECISION TO OBEY. A RESPONSE OF MAN'S WILL.

"Thy Kingdom Come!" How? **"THY WILL BE DONE!"**

God's Kingdom makes ONE DEMAND: REPENT! TURN! SURRENDER!

Micah 6:8; James 4:6-10; 1 Peter 5:5-9
(2 Chronicles 32:24-26; 33:10-13)

We are to: **Seek First the Kingdom of God** How? OBEY THE KING.

We Learn Two Things: 1. "Submit to God" and 2. "Resist the devil"
James 4:6-8 1Peter 5:5-9

SAUL'S DISOBEDIENCE: 1 Samuel 15:1-3, 9-23

- Confession but no Repentance: vs. 24, 30
- Removed From his Position of Leadership: vs. 26-29
- Spirit of the Lord departs: 16:14; 18:10-11
- Disobeyed allowing an Evil Spirit to torment him:
Romans 6:16 Acts 5:32 Ephesians 4:27

God's WARFARE against satan IS CARRIED ON by His submissive people ACTIVELY RESISTING SATAN by INSISTING AT ALL COSTS:

"THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN."

Psalm 34:12-17

OBEDIENCE Requires That We:

C. PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD Ephesians 6:11-17

Protect This Territory (our body) From Invasion - Creating a Stronghold For the Lord.

1. GIRD YOUR LOINS WITH **TRUTH** John 8:31-32; 14:6; Psalm 119:160

- Who He is: sovereign - authority - wisdom - love - grace
- What He has done and will do.
- Always speak the truth. A lie opens the door for defeat

Psalm 15:1-2; Ephesians 4:15, 24-27; Colossians 3:9
John 8:44 "father ..."; Acts 5:1-5 Aninas & Saphira

2. BREASTPLATE OF **RIGHTEOUSNESS** Protects the heart.
Proverb 4:23 Matthew 15:18-19 1 Samuel 16:7

FIRST: Complete faith in His Righteousness.

Philippians 3:9 2 Corinthians 5:21 1 Thessalonians 5:8

THEN: "**Be ye holy**" Holy Living 1 Peter 1:13-16

Ephesians 4:24; 1 Timothy 6:11; 1 John 2:29; 3:3,7,10

Joshua 5:13-15 "**Remove your sandals . . .**"

VICTORIOUS LIVING BEGINS WITH A HOLY LIFE.

Romans 12:21 **Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good**

- Evil is overcome by good or acts of Goodness.
- Acts of Goodness come out of a Heart of Love.

1 Corinthians 13:13 But now **faith, hope, love**, abide these three; but **the greatest of these is love**.

And, **Love never fails** 1 Corinthians 13:8

- As great as Faith is (moves mountains) . . . Love is Greater!

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 May the Lord cause you to **increase and abound in love** for one another, and for all people, (13) **so that HE may establish your hearts without blame in holiness**

Love is a Weapon and a Protection for you because:

- Love wins the hearts of others
- Love or Goodness overcomes evil
- Love gives you a blameless heart of holiness and the evil one cannot touch you.

“He has delivered us from the AUTHORITY OF DARKNESS.”

Colossians 1:13 For He rescued us from the domain (literally: authority or power) of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son

To tolerate any darkness (step back into the kingdom of this world) gives satan a LEGAL RIGHT (Eph.4:27) to attack us and steal from us.

Luke 11:35-36 Watch out that the light which is in you is not darkness

The devil can walk in any area of darkness. Wherever there is disobedience to the Word of God, there is spiritual darkness and the potential for demonic activity.

Only someone who is PURE IN HEART and HATES EVIL can move freely and unmolested into enemy territory.

Psalm 97:10 Proverb 8:13

Example: Peter - denied Jesus three times.

It was not fear, he had just cut an ear off.

Luke 22:24, 31-32 Pride gave satan an open door.
James 4:6-7

The Result: Humility Acts 3:12b Peter said it was not him

Because Jesus intercedes for us, that our "faith does not fail" (vs. 32) my thoughts & actions may temporarily fail . . . **But my FAITH WILL NEVER FAIL!** My heart is guarded by His intercession.

John 17:12; 18:9 Hebrews 7:25

Before we do warfare, we must realize - The AREAS we HIDE in DARKNESS are the areas of our Future DEFEAT.

1 Peter 5:5-9

VICTORY requires HIS PRESENCE. Exodus 33:14; Psalm 15; 24:3-6
Deuteronomy 23:14

VICTORY begins with the CHARACTER OF JESUS in our hearts.
(Fruit of the Spirit)

Paul to Timothy, a Soldier: 1 Timothy 1:5, 19; 3:9; 4:1-2
2 Timothy 1:3 1 Peter 3:16, 18, 21

Satan can not accuse and bring guilt to a clear conscience.

3. FEET READY WITH THE **GOSPEL** OF PEACE

Ready and Willing to GO anywhere, anytime to preach.

Mobility

Mark 16:15 [GO into all the world and preach the gospel](#)

4. THE SHIELD OF **FAITH**

Defense: Proverb 30:5; 2:7; Psalm 3:3; 28:7; Romans 10:17

Trusting in God at the moment of attack to claim God's promise in the face of satan's lies and distortion.

Offense: Use it to ADVANCE - to Go forward.

Hebrews 11:1, 33-34; Psalm 37:3,5 1 John 5:4-5

5. THE HELMET OF **SALVATION**

Protecting our mind (the Battleground).

2 Corinthians 4:4 the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 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.

PROTECTED EVERYWHERE EXCEPT . . . THE BACK.

1. NEVER turn your back, NEVER quit, NEVER give up.
2. Roman foot soldiers fought in close ranks, side by side, shields locked. Find your place in the body, in His army. Stand Together.

D. OUR DIVINE WEAPONS 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
 For the weapons of our warfare are . . . mighty in God for pulling down strongholds

1. PRAYER IS THE KEY that OPENS and CLOSES the DOOR/GATES.

THROUGH **PRAYER** WE CONTROL THE GATES - OPEN or CLOSE

IN GIVING US THE KEYS / AUTHORITY - He Has LIMITED Certain of His Activities to Responding to the PRAYERS of His people.

UNLESS THEY PRAY, HE WILL NOT ACT. WHY???

1 Corinthians 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers

God originally gave DOMINION of the Earth to MAN. This has never been revoked.

Genesis 1:28 Psalm 115:16 8:4-8 Hebrews 2:5-8

Heaven WILLS then WAITS: Hebrews 10:13

WAITS for Man to become:

ANGRY ENOUGH
SICK ENOUGH
TIRED ENOUGH
FED UP ENOUGH TO PRAY !!!

TO AGREE WITH GOD ⇒ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

TO STAND IN THE GAP FOR OTHERS

THE LORD FINDS VERY FEW WHO CARE ENOUGH TO PRAY

Isaiah 59:16; 63:5 Ezekiel 22:30

CRY OUT TO GOD IN PRAYER:

a) THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE.

Invite Him into the Situation. Revelation 3:20

This is a plea for: HIS GOVERNMENT to replace the chaos of the government of darkness.

This Means: PRAY:

- For HIS WILL Concerning PEOPLE
 - Ephesians 6:18
 - James 5:14-18

- For HIS WILL Concerning Our CITIES and NATIONS
 - 1 Timothy 2:1-8
 - Genesis 18:26; Matt.5:13 i.e. Lot "thrown out"
 - Genesis 19:8, 14, 16 No prayer, No witness, No converts.

- Jeremiah 29:7
- 2 Chronicles 7:14 Psalm 2:8 111:6

FIND OUT WHAT HIS WILL IS IN EACH SITUATION

PRAY IT INTO BEING.

Isaiah 9:7 "*... no end to the increase of His Kingdom*"

b) CRY OUT TO GOD IN PRAYER - SPARE THY PEOPLE LORD,

Joel 2:17 Exodus 2:23-25; 3:7-9

Psalm 107:6,13,19,28; 50:15; 72:12 & Proverb 21:13

c) TO CRY OUT TO THE LORD TO BARE HIS HOLY ARM.

- Exodus 15:3, 6, 12

- Isaiah 50:2; 51:9 52:10

d) CRY OUT TO GOD IN INTERCESSION Hebrews 4:14-16

THE EXAMPLE OF DANIEL:

Daniel 9:3 *Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.*

1. "set my face" determined, had done a lot of thinking, had studied the Scriptures. Set his mind. Prepared to seek and keep on seeking.
2. "fasting, sackcloth and ashes" humbled his soul and repentance.
Daniel 9:4-16 "*. . . . we have sinned . . .*" vs. 5
3. We need to confess the sins of all these categories.
Daniel was speaking for his people; "we have sinned."
A believer from "the people" needs to confess the sins of the nation
4. He agreed with the judgments and actions of God. This is the first step to mercy.

5. Whatever happens to us is a result of our sins. We reap what we have sown (Galatians 6:7; 2 Corinthians 9:6).
6. When we disagree with God and His judgments we rebel, and sin opens the door to deception by satan.

Daniel 9:17-19 *Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate."*

Daniel 9:20-27 Gabriel Brings an Answer

Daniel 10:12-14 Gabriel brings an answer but the "prince of the kingdom of Persia" prevented him for 21 days.

Often when we are praying there is warfare in the heavens.

e) PUSH BACK THE DARKNESS - EXPAND THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Establish Boundaries. Numbers 33:50-55 Joshua 1:3; 6:2

Intercession (pagha) Means: To take back what belongs to the Lord that satan has stolen and is falsely claiming to be his.

Joshua 19:11, 22, 26, 27, 34

Psalm 44:5 *Through You we will **push back** our adversaries; through Your name we will trample down those who rise up against us*

The Hebrew word for "push back" means to butt with the horns; a figure of speech meaning; to war against

f) PRAYER LOOSES ANGELS and BINDS DEMONS

Angels Responsibility is to:

1. Worship and serve the LORD Hebrews 1:4, 6-7
 2. "Render service to those who will inherit salvation" Hebrews 1:14
- Abraham prayed for Lot - Angels delivered him. Genesis 19

- Elisha surrounded by enemy forces. 2 Kings 6:17
- Daniel in the lions den. Daniel 6:22
- Daniel fasting and praying three weeks Daniel 10:2,13
- Hezekiah prayed, the angel struck 185,000 Assyrians.
Isaiah 37:21,36
- Delivered the apostles from prison. Acts 5:19; 12:5-10

OUR DIVINE WEAPONS (continued)

2. "THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT which is the Word of God"
Ephesians 6:17

a) IT IS **POWERFUL**:

Hebrews 4:12

living and powerful and sharper than a two-edged sword

Isaiah 55:11

shall not return to Me empty without accomplishing what I desire

Jeremiah 23:29

is not My Word like a fire declares the Lord and like a hammer

Revelation 1:16

out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword

1 Thessalonians 2:13

The Word of God which performs it's work in you who believe.

Psalms 107:20

He sent His Word and healed them.

Matthew 8:8

Lord, just say the Word, and my servant will be healed.

Jesus spoke to the STORM, to the FIG TREE, to LAZARUS.

His rhema Word comes through communion / prayer: Ephesians 6:18

- Jeremiah 1:7-10, 12, 17 Ezekiel 37:1-10
- James 5:17 cp. 1 Kings 17:1; 18:1

b) HOW DO WE USE THE SWORD:

- Job 22:28
- Mark 11:12-14, 20-25
- Exodus 3:18 +
- 1 Samuel 17:33-37, 43-47
- Isaiah 42:22; 49:9

Matthew 16: 18-19 KEYS = **AUTHORITY** (Rule, Govern)
 I will give YOU the authority of the government of God; and whatever YOU FORBID on earth (refuse or lock-up) shall have been forbidden or shutdown in heaven.

That is, the government and authority of God will back our action."

It Will Take Place AS WE DECLARE IT!!

HOWEVER: TO SPEAK THE WORD – THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT WITH AUTHORITY – **YOU MUST BE UNDER AUTHORITY !**

Matthew 8:8-10 But the centurion said, " Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just **speak the word**, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man **under authority**, with soldiers under me; **and I say** to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it." To be UNDER AUTHORITY we must be OBEYING the Lord, SAYING and DOING what He commands. "**Thy will be done.**"

The authority to "PERMIT" means that through declaration as led by the Holy Spirit, God wants us to OPEN UP situations where there are closed doors.

- c) CASTING OUT DEMONS: Matthew 10:1, 7-8; 17:14-21
 Luke 10:17-20
- d) Forbidding Sickness
- e) Forbidding evil spirits to exercise authority over the life of a person.

Successful Evangelism, for the growth of the church and advancement of the Kingdom of God, IS DEPENDENT UPON SPIRITUAL WARFARE.

Matthew 16: 18 I will build my church; and **the gates of hell** shall not prevail against it."

Genesis 22:17 and your **seed** shall possess **the gate** of their enemies

- Galatians 3:29 **And if you belong to Christ, then YOU are Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise."**
- Possess - to own, to have the mastery of.
- Gate - The place of ruling authority.
 - Ruth 4:1, 10-11
 - 1 Kings 22:10 These kings have been given, or have taken, the place of authority, control, rulership.

Amos 5:15 **HATE EVIL, love good; ESTABLISH JUSTICE IN THE GATE. It may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.** (NKJ)

Matthew 16:19 **"I will give YOU the keys"**

- Authority / Responsibility
- Open the Gate / Close gate

Matthew 16:19 **And whatever YOU SHALL BIND on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever YOU SHALL LOOSE on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**

3. THE NAME OF JESUS. A DIVINE WEAPON.

Philippians 2:9-11

1 Samuel 17:45

Romans 10:13

Psalms 44:5

Acts 3:6; 15-16; 4:10; 9:34; 16:16-18

Mark 16:17

2 Chronicles 14:11

Example: Luke 10:17-20

4. THE POWER OF PRAISE

Exodus 15:10-11 **"Awesome in praises"**

Psalms 22:3 **"God inhabits the praises"**

Psalms 149

Psalms 8:2 & Matthew 25:16

Acts 16:22

Isaiah 42:10-13

Psalms 76:1-3 Judah = Praise

2 Chronicles 20:22

5. THE POWER OF PREACHING

Romans 1:15-16

1 Corinthians 1:17-24

To establish the Church - BUILD ALTERS where the Lord is worshiped.

That is: PLANT CHURCHES:

Abraham: Genesis 12:7 12:8 13:18

Isaac: Genesis 26:23-25

Jacob: Genesis 28:12-13, 17-19 33:18-20; 35:13-15

We are the "seed" of Abraham. Galatians 3:29

6. THE POWER OF TESTIMONY - "being a witness"

Revelation 12:11

When people hear what the LORD has done for you, and they see obvious and dramatic changes in your life, it verifies and authenticates what you are saying.

They hear and they see.

7. THE POWER OF FASTING Matthew 6:16-18; 9:14-15

a) To Receive Power for Ministry Luke 4:1-2, 14

b) Personal Revelation: Luke 2:36-38
Anna saw, others only heard what she spoke.

c) Calling and Sending into Ministry Acts 13:1-4

d) Victory over the flesh
Psalm 35:13 David humbled his soul
Galatians 5:17 strikes a powerful blow against the lusts of the flesh

e) Spiritual Warfare
Isaiah 58:6
1 Samuel 7:3-10 removed gods, fasted, prayed
defeated the enemy
2 Chronicles 20

Matthew 17:14-21 [This kind does not go out but prayer and fasting](#)

8. The Fruits of the Spirit are a Powerful Weapon against the enemy.

Galatians 5:16 But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you **will not** carry out the desire of the flesh.

Which give the enemy an open door to attack us.

Galatians 5:21-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control**; against such things there is no law.

- Our enemy is the exact opposite of these character traits.
- He cannot go near and he cannot attack this person.
- These fruits are the characteristic traits of the Kingdom of God which our enemy cannot enter.

Galatians 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, **let us also walk by the Spirit**

AND WE WILL WALK IN VICTORY:

over our enemies – over our flesh – and over the devil.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57

VI. Practical - Spiritual Warfare

Ask the Lord for spiritual discernment.

1. What is wrong with this place?
2. How did it get this way?
3. What can be done? i.e. Joshua - each city taken differently.
4. Determine "legal entrances" that have allowed satan to establish strongholds.

What sin? These allow satan to control the "Gates of the City"

5. How To Discover Sins

- Why was the city established?
- How did the city get its name?
- Who were the first people living in the area?
- What happened to them?
- Any corruption in government?
- Any slogans or mottoes?
- What principles was the city established upon?
- Any evidence of religious deception?
- Physical disasters.
- Study the music, culture, architecture, art.

6. The SIN MUST be REPENTED of cooperatively.

An intercessor stands in the gap for his city.

- Daniel 9:3 +
- Nehemiah 1:7
- Ezra 9:5-15

We are ambassadors for our area - territory.

- John 20:23 2 Corinthians 5:20

7. Attack the Stronghold in the Opposite / Godly fruit of the Spirit.

Romans 12:21 ". . . overcome evil with good."

i.e. greed with giving
pride with humility

8. Timing is important John 17:1

- Advance Teams Praying Luke 10:1, 18-20
- " " Fasting
- " " Using the Sword of the Spirit.
Binding / Loosing Luke 11:20-22

- Leadership teach their people on Spiritual warfare
- 2 Corinthians 10:4

9. The Use of the Sword of the Spirit

- Pray for Protection over each person on team and family members. Read Psalm 91 Kneel and humble yourself. Acknowledge no power or authority in us, but all power and authority in His Name
- Confessing and Remitting of sin on the people, governments, businesses, etc.
- Local leader with strong anointing lead in the command of faith against the territorial spirits. Bind them - Forbid them - Break their power. Command they stop, leave, depart. Loose - permit - release the opposite or Godly Spirit to fill the void. Matthew 12:44-45
- Everyone standing together in Unity as ONE in AGREEMENT.

Declaration

Deuteronomy 32:8 The Lord Has Given You This Land!

Just as He gave Israel Canaan. YOU MUST FIGHT FOR IT!

Psalm 2:8 Ask Him For It. This is Your Promised Land.

Numbers 13-14 Speak the Good Report!

Job 22:28 Declare It!

Mark 11:22-24 Whosoever will SAY

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Romans 4:17 Calls into being that which does not exist.

THE WALLS OF _____?_____ SHALL COME DOWN!!!

THE WALLS OF SALVATION SHALL BE RAISED UP!! Isaiah 60:18

THE KING OF GLORY SHALL COME IN!!!

VII. Bibliography

Breaking Strongholds In Your City by: C. Peter Wagner Regal Books
 Spiritual Warfare by: Dean Sherman YWAM Publishing
 Redeeming The Land by: Emeka Nwankpa African Christian Press

VIII. THE LESSONS of GENESIS

1 Corinthians 10:11 [Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.](#) (NAS)

GENESIS 11 **Tower of Babel**

All the people giving themselves to satan worship. Their unity / agreement empowered their evil. In following satan in this evil, they were giving him legal right to RULE (Throne) over THEM (Treasure) and their TERRITORY.

GENESIS 12 **Call of Abram**

The LORD'S Battle Plan to Recapture:

- His earthly THRONE - rightful place of worship
- His TREASURE - people
- His TERRITORY - the land

1. Called a man to GO to a LAND that the Lord chose and would give to him. Abram obeyed.

First Step: Hear - Obey - Go.

2. Vs. 7-8; 13:3-4, 18 BUILT an ALTAR

Second Step: Plant a Church (a place of worship)

GENESIS 13 **Family Strife**

Third Step: Avoid Family Strife The attack of the enemy.

James 3:13-16

A leader must be willing to Sacrifice anything for peace, for right relationships. Give the best. Give the most, be willing to walk away to maintain peace and not allow the enemy a foothold.

GENESIS 14 Earthly Kings Fighting for Territory / Treasure / Thrones

Abram was not involved in their antics until one of the "family" was taken prisoner. Then it was immediate, all-out Warfare.

After Victory he was met by two kings:

1. Melchizedek (king of righteousness) king of Salem (peace) priest of God Most High (El Elyon). Shared a covenant meal. Blessed Abram

of El Elyon, "Possessor of heaven and earth." Abram had just recaptured FOR the "Possessor of heaven and earth" that which belonged to Him.

Fourth Step: Spiritual Warfare we come to know El Elyon.

2. Immediately comes: King of Sodom - "Give the people to me and take the goods for yourself." Satan will offer anything, earthly wealth, to keep the "Greater Treasure." To take anything satan offers weakens us and opens a door for future defeat.

VS.22-23

Fifth Step: We Must Conquer our love for the things of the world in the face of temptations. 1 John 2:15-16 Galatians 5:24

GENESIS 15 Greater Revelation - Greater Promises
The result of greater commitment / faithfulness.
Sixth Step: Always Trust the Lord for all provision.
Matthew 6:33
Luke 16:10-13 ". . . can not serve two masters . . ."

GENESIS 16 The Results of the Flesh - Ishmael
Seventh Step: When God is silent - Wait On the Lord.
Isaiah 40:31
Zephaniah 3:17

GENESIS 17 The Covenant of Circumcision
God appears as "God Almighty" (El Shaddai)
Nothing is to Difficult. Father of many nations.
The sign: Circumcision - in that by which he becomes a father. The holiness of the sexual union. His offspring are the Lord's.
Eighth Step: Beget Spiritual Children

GENESIS 18:17-33 The Importance and Place of Intercession for a city, people or territory.
Ninth Step: INTERCESSION.

GENESIS 22 The Offering of Issac
Tenth Step: Take Up Your Cross Matthew 10:37-38

vs. 17 **YOUR SEED SHALL POSSESS THE GATE OF THEIR ENEMIES.**

VICTORY IS DECLARED ! ! ! !