

SPIRITUAL WARFARE Pt.2: OVERCOMER, WEAPONS, ARMOR, POWER and AUTHORITY, FIRE

Some things that are spiritual warfare that seem to go unrealized or unrecognized as spiritual warfare are: prayer, praise, preaching, carrying and sharing the testimony of Jesus, all this is spiritual warfare. Living a righteous life is spiritual warfare. Everything single thing you do in worship and obedience to God is spiritual warfare. Of course binding and casting out demons is spiritual warfare and as I said in part 1 that is reserved for God's ministers and the mature and obedient Christian only. Spiritual warfare is not just making declarations against demons. If you are not living a righteous life then you are toying with disaster in making declarations against demons.

We need to get a correct picture of what spiritual warfare actually is because it is way more than just speaking words against demons.

Last week I covered salvation and The Baptism of The Holy Spirit. These are the most powerful steps you can take in spiritual warfare. These are the very first steps in a christian's life.

The next thing is key in overcoming and walking in victory as a Christian. You must walk close with God. You must stay close with God daily. In order to build a strong relationship, stay consistent in prayer, feeding on His Word daily, proclaiming and living the spiritual warfare weapons according to Eph.6:10-18 and pleading Jesus' blood always.

1 John 5:4-5 - For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

This goes along with Jesus saying we must be born again, to be born of God we must be born of The Spirit and that is saved and baptized into The Holy Spirit. And we must have faith in Christ. We receive the gift of salvation when we have faith in Christ. Faith in Christ is not just knowing about Jesus, it is not just head knowledge of Jesus but it is faith that moves you to obedience. No obedience = no salvation. These things are the foundation of a believer's life.

I have always told you all to pray and read God's Word daily. This is so important in drawing nearer to Him so that He will draw nearer to you. **(James 4:8)** When you belong to God and draw near to Him, He fights for you. The battle belongs to God.

2 Chro.20:15 - And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou King Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle *is* not yours, but God's.

Spiritual **WAR** - fare indicates we are in a war. Every soldier in a war needs weapons and armor.

Eph. 6:11-18 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and **supplication for all saints**;

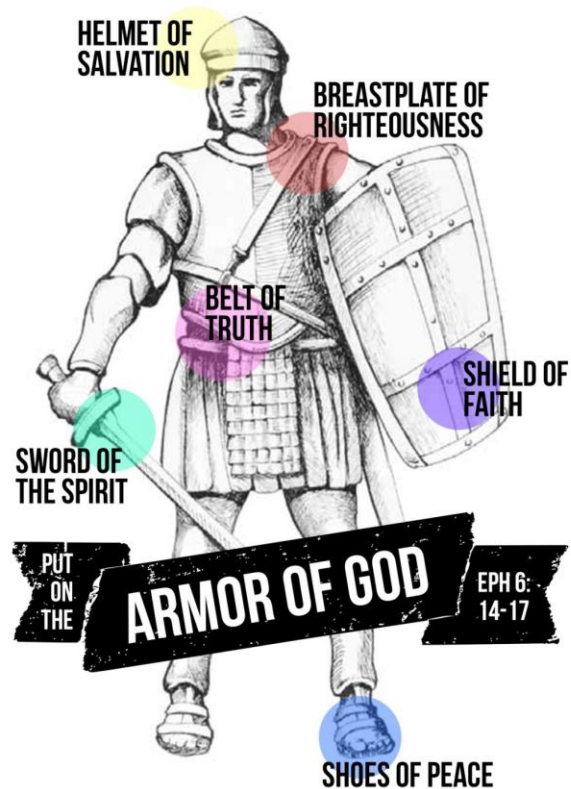
Verse 12

New Living Translation

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Witches work with these powers, a witch cannot do any witchcraft without a demon.



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This is a picture of us in the army of Christ, when we live our lives in such a way that we have on all the armor and our weapons. I believe when you live a righteous life you have this armor on all the time and you carry the sword at the ready.

You can also proclaim the spiritual warfare weapons according to Ephesians 6:11-18. An example of that is: I put on the helmet of salvation through faith in Christ Who died for me and shed His blood so I could be forgiven of my sins and redeemed back to God, I put on and wear the breastplate of righteousness living according to God's Word, I hold up and use the shield of faith against every wrong thing the enemy says and does against my life – I take wrong thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ, **(2 Cor.10:3-5)** I put on and wear the belt of truth, feeding on God's Word daily and standing in its truth, it is my measuring rod against all

that is said and done in this world, I take up and use the Sword of The Spirit against the lies of the enemy whispered in my ear, and spoken boldly by those who belong to the world, I put on and wear the shoes of peace sharing the good news of what Christ has done for this world and myself and desire and strive for peace with all men.

All the armor is defensive except for the sword of the Spirit – it is offensive! Offensive – that is, actively aggressive or attacking!!! We are to recognize satan’s activity in this world and against our lives and stand up against him and his kingdom! We don’t compromise God’s Word to fit in with the world.

2 Cor.10:3-5 - For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Even though we are human, in these flesh bodies, we do not wage our warfare as humans do. We use the weapons God has provided to fight in this spiritual war. That’s the only way to fight the demons. We must come against the things that keep people from knowing God and that includes vain philosophy, false teachings, theories and such. We are to point them to Christ, to God’s Word and help them to understand His Word. **WHEN YOU DO THAT, YOU ARE ENGAGING IN REAL WARFARE!**

POWER and AUTHORITY in JESUS’ NAME

Luke 10:19 – (Jesus speaking) Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Jesus gives each one of His disciples power over the kingdom of darkness. satan and his kingdom are under our feet!

Mark 16:17-18 – **(Jesus speaking)** And these signs shall follow them that believe; **In My name** shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

As christians, you can cast demons out of your own lives. That is great spiritual warfare. The greatest point of deliverance in a christian's life happens at the point of salvation. I would not cast demons out of anyone else unless you are a minister or a mature obedient Christian otherwise, you will bring demonic attacks against your own life.

Everything we do as christians, we do in the name of Christ. There is power in the name of Jesus!

John 14:13 - And whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

This is where we learn that when we pray, we conclude our prayers always in Jesus' name. You are authorized by Jesus for the use of His name if you belong to Him. You come in battle against the enemy in the name of Jesus Christ!

If you do anything as a Christian and it is not in Jesus' name you are showing that you have not read God's Word, you do not have knowledge of God and His Word and you are opening yourself up for spiritual attacks.

When I was a kid we watched a lot of tv in our home like most homes do today. TV is one of satan's most powerful platforms. Most of the shows we watched, even when they prayed, they did not do it in Jesus' name. satan is counting on people copying Hollywood and praying the same way – without the name of Jesus. That is a powerless prayer.

CLOSING

FIRE and GOD'S WALL of FIRE

Matt.3:11 - I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, Whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:

Jesus baptizes us into The Holy Spirit with fire. Fire burns away sin out of the godly. As God's children we are in the Refiner's fire, He is purifying us through the spiritual fire of The Holy Spirit. **(Malachi 3:3, Job 23:10, 1 Peter 1:7)**

Zechariah 2:5 - For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

God was speaking about Jerusalem here, and if He had a wall of fire around that city, He can also have a wall of fire around us because our God is an all consuming fire. **(Heb.12:29)** God's holy fire is around His true children through the power and presence of The Holy Spirit. During deliverance sessions, Pastor Erustus has had demons speak of the fire that is around real and true christians. They have said they do not want to get to close to the pulpit because of the fire around it.

If you focus on the things I'm teaching you, you will be doing real spiritual warfare and not just looking like you are.

PRAYER