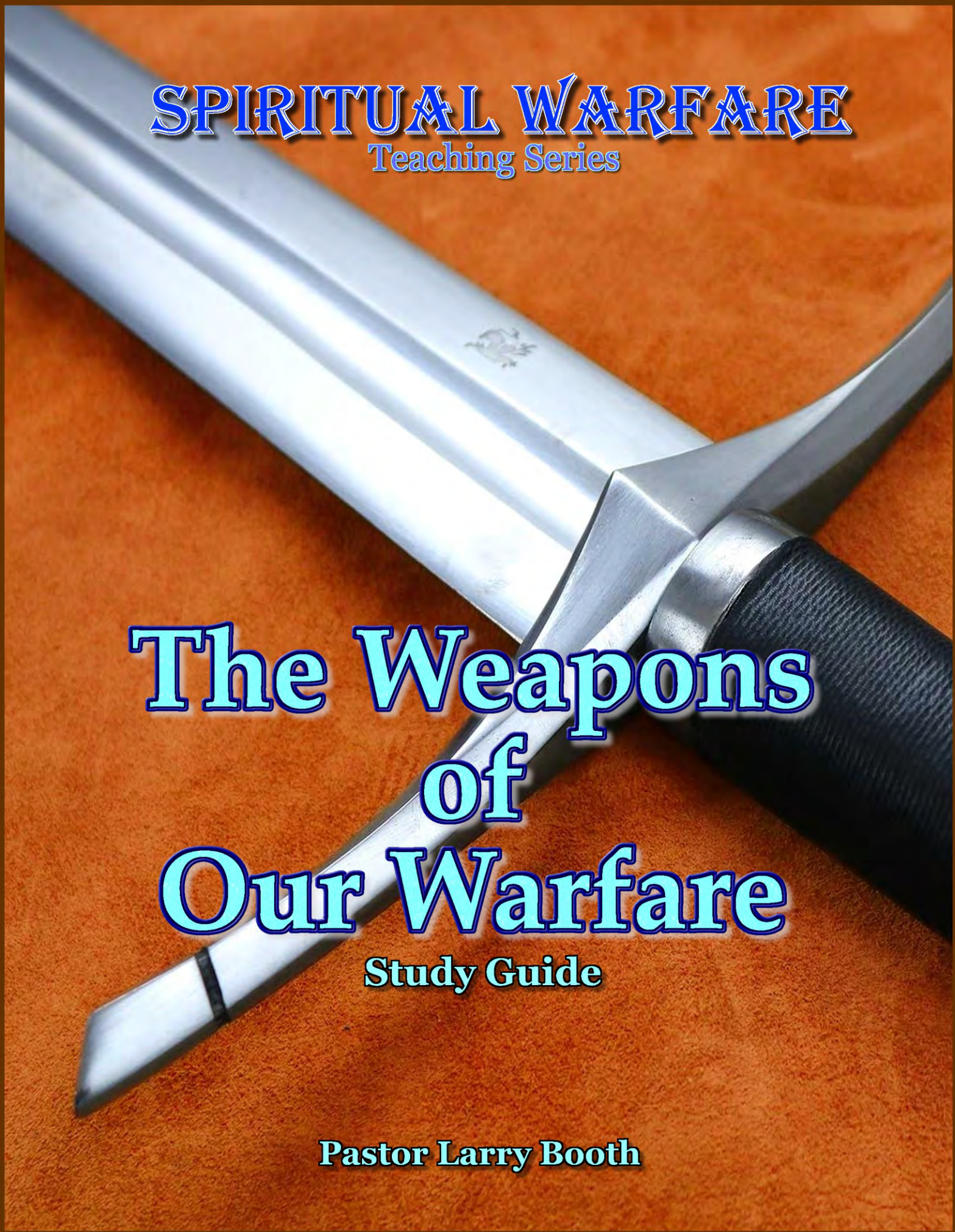

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Teaching Series

The Weapons of Our Warfare

Study Guide

Pastor Larry Booth

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THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE-LARRY BOOTH

A SPIRITUAL WARFARE STUDY GUIDE

THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE: A SPIRITUAL WARFARE STUDY GUIDE
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The Weapons of Our Warfare:

A Spiritual Warfare

Study Guide

by

Larry Booth

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STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

STUDY: The Weapons of Our Warfare

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Preface

2 Corinthians 10:4 (KJV)
4 (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

The Bible says we are at war. That there is a definite enemy we face is an essential truth of the Scriptures. We must face this reality. To be an effective soldier we must understand how our enemy fights us and his tactics, but this must not be our main focus. Our focus should always be upon the author and finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ who has won all battles for us.

So much that is taught today about waring in the spirit, is really sensationalizing our enemy's stance. We must get away from over emphasizing the Devil. We are no match in ourselves against an ancient demon who knows all the ways of man. Paul Told the Corinthians in 2 Cor. 2 that he was writing them to test them to see if they would listen to him concerning a problem in the church. Paul insisted that if after they had disciplined the person that they should fully forgive him and accept him back since he was repentant. Paul stated that he did not want the church to be outsmarted by Satan in this demonic scheme and said they should be familiar with his tactics. Satan's tactic here was to not forgive this man and restore him.

2 Corinthians 2:7-11 (NIV)
7 Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. 8 I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. 9 Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. 10 Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, 11 in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.[1]

The church today seems to be ignorant of the Devil's tactics. They almost wholly ignore that he exist. Are we aware of his schemes? Do we see his actions in this world? This study begins with basic training about our enemy and how he was defeated on the cross by Jesus. We also cover the type of warfare we are to be engaged in today.

Lastly we cover many of the powerful weapons God has given us to fight the good fight today. These weapons come directly to us from the Lord to finish this fight. The real battle is for souls to be delivered into the kingdom of Christ, and for His church to be delivered from the enemy's tactics.

My years of being taught by my pastor Lester Sumrall, taught me so much about this subject. What a wealth of teaching he covers in this area. Please find and read anything he has written.

Larry Booth- 08/2019

Maranatha!

[1] *The New International Version*. (2011). (2 Co 2:7–11). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 1 & 2

Introduction: Basic Training

I. Introduction

A. The nature of our struggle

Ephesians 6:10-11 (HCSB)
10 Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength.
11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil.

1. We are at war
2. Put on armor
3. Our enemy is the devil
4. We are commanded to stand

B. Basic training

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (KJV)
3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
4 (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
5 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;
6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

When I was in Army Basic training- I learned my rifle was not a gun but a weapon made for war.

II. Our weapons:

A. They are spiritual/ not tools or toys

B. Our battle- what we are engaged in- daily

C. **Our weapons are not fleshly**

D. **Mighty through God**

E. **Able to pull down strongholds-Fortresses, encampments**

III. Strongholds:

Terry Law: The Power of Praise and Worship

> "There are essentially three areas in which spiritual strongholds are operative: individuals' thoughts; thought systems (ideologies, philosophies, etc.); and, in geographical and political areas."[2]

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 Amplified
4 For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds,
5 [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One),

A. Three areas of spiritual strongholds:

1. Individuals' thoughts- 2 Examples of when my mother died- Satan uses our though processes to entrap us and hold us back- Addictions

2. Thought systems (ideologies, philosophies, etc.) Evolution, Communism, Socialism, philosophical changes that shape the way people think- Hitler

   My youngest son Zachary said he wanted to go to the Holocaust museum I ask why and he said his teacher told him not to go there because she was depressed for two years after she went. So he wanted to go there to see what it was about. We saw that Nazi's murdered those who had disabilities. They had taken on a demonic mindset that de-valued others as lesser humans than them. It was how people thought and believed.

3. Geographical and political areas-

   Sometime there are strongholds in cities and regions- A church where witchcraft was strong in the area- Example: In Savannah Ga. At one point there were more churches per capita- but also more murders per capita the same year.

[2] Law, Terry. (1985) The Power of Praise and Worship. (p.37). (By Terry Law Ministries) published by Victory House Inc. Tulsa Ok.

a. The prince over Persia- Iran and Iraq (A specific geological area)

Daniel 10:12-13
12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.
13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

Finis J. Dake: "Over all the governments of this world Satan has his trusted angels who are responsible to him for carrying out his will in those governments. He seeks to hinder God's plan in the fulfillment of prophecy regarding world kingdoms. God also has trusted angels and they carry out His will concerning what He has predicted to take place in the kingdoms of this world."[3]

b. Jesus teaches strategies for taking a strongman-Bind him first

Matthew 12:25-26,29
25 And knowing their thoughts, He said to them, Any kingdom that is divided against itself is being brought to desolation and laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will last or continue to stand.
26 And if Satan drives out Satan, he has become divided against himself and disunified; how then will his kingdom last or continue to stand?
29 Or how can a person go into a strong man's house and carry off his goods (the entire equipment of his house) without first binding the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house.

B. Satan's Strategies

2 Corinthians 2:10-11 (HCSB)
10 If you forgive anyone, I do too. For what I have forgiven—if I have forgiven anything—it is for you in the presence of Christ.
11 [I have done this] so that we may not be taken advantage of by Satan. For we are not ignorant of his schemes. (KJV- Devices)

"The Christian who fails to take up his weapons against the Devil is already defeated. There can be no victory in the Christian life without a fight. We have to know the Devil's strategy before we are able to counteract it." Terry Law p.49

[3] Finis Jennings Dake, Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text, (Lawrenceville, GA: Dake Bible Sales, Inc., 1997), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "Chapter 10".

1. The Bible is filled with the thoughts of God-we must get His word first- Defeat begins in our thoughts.

Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)
7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so *is* he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart *is* not with thee.

2. We must understand how our enemy works to defeat us. The *Art of War* was one of the greatest military books ever written by Sun Tzu. Focusing on ancient Chinese military strategies and tactics, the philosophies became important strategies, not only for warfare, but in the business world as well.

"It is said that if you know your enemies and know yourself, you will not be put at risk even in a hundred battles. If you only know yourself, but not your opponent, you may win or may lose. If you know neither yourself nor your enemy, you will always endanger yourself."[4]

C. What weapons? Ephesians 6:10-11

Ephesians 6:10-11 (KJV)
10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
Ephesians 6:13-17 (KJV)
13 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.
14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

1. Ephesians 6- defensive weaponry that we "put on"

   a. The girdle of truth

   b. The breastplate of righteousness

   c. Shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace

   d. The shield of faith

[4] **Sun Tzu** The Art of War (c. 6th century BC) was a Chinese general, military strategist, and philosopher who lived in the Eastern Zhou period of ancient China

e. The helmet of salvation

2. Offensive weaponry

a. The Sword of the Lord- the Word of God

b. The Blood of Jesus

c. The Name of Jesus

d. Thanksgiving, Praise and Worship

D. The sword of the Lord-The Word of God

Hebrews 4:12 AMP
12 For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.
John 6:63
63 …the words that I speak to you, they are Spirit, and they are life

1 Thessalonians 2:13
13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

Quote: "The Devil does not flee from the presence of the Word of God in our minds" … it must come out of our mouths."

Matthew 4:4
4 But he answered and said, <u>It is written</u>, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

How did Jesus deal with the Devil? He used God's word

E. The Blood of Jesus- An overcoming powerful weapon

Revelation 12:10-11
10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.
11 And they overcame him <u>by the blood of the Lamb</u>, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

F. The name of Jesus-

Acts 3:6-7,12,16
6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.
12 And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?
16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

G. Thanksgiving, praise and worship- Devils cannot stand God's presence

2 Chronicles 20:20-22
20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.
21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

IV. Resist the Devil and he will flee- James 4:7

James 4:7-8 (KJV)
7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded.

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lessons 3

A Spiritual Warfare- Understanding Our Enemy's Tactics

I. Introduction- The weapons of *our* warfare-

Problems we must overcome:

1. We don't know our enemy or his strategies
2. We don't understand that It is spiritual warfare done with spiritual weapons not natural or fleshly
3. We don't understand our weapons and how to use them

Ephesians 6:10-20 (KJV)
10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12 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*.
13 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.
14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,
20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

II. Understanding our enemy's tactics- Spiritual warfare

A. **What was Jesus' purpose?**

1. To destroy Satan's occupation (his job)

1 John 3:8 (KJV)
[8] He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

"Works" Greek Strong's Number: 2041
Ergon-To work as in one's occupation
From a primary (but obsolete) **ergo** (to *work*); *toil* (as an effort or occupation); by implication an *act* :- deed, doing, labour, work.

Literally Jesus came to destroy the purpose and occupation of the Devil. He removed Satan from his self-appointed Job through the finished work of Calvary on the cross. (John 12:31-32)

John 12:31-32 (KJV)
[31] Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.
[32] And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me.

2. He made a show of the demonic realm embarrassing them openly

Colossians 2:14-15 (KJV)
[14] Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;
[15] *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Colossians 2:15 (HCSB)
[15] He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; He triumphed over them by Him.

A triumph was a parade or procession for a general or king usually taking ones defeated king or a representation stripping him of his armor or kingly robe and marching him in the streets embarrassing him openly while others jeered and laughed.

3. He finished the work

John 17:4 (KJV)
[4] I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

Hebrews 2:14-15 (HCSB)
[14] Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through His death He might destroy the one holding the power of death—that is, the Devil—
[15] and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death.

"Destroy" here is the Greek word katargeō which means render useless, to paralyze.

4. Satan essentially was disarmed and all his things plundered

Luke 11:21-22 (HCSB)
21 When a strong man, fully armed, guards his estate, his possessions are secure.
22 But when one stronger than he attacks and overpowers him, he takes from him all his weapons he trusted in, and divides up his plunder.

Mighty victor over Satan- Jesus defeated Satan

1 John 3:8- Ended Satan's occupation spiritually and physically

Colossians 2:15- "stripped off" his authority and made a show-

Hebrews 2:14- Through his death Paralyzed Satan

Luke 11:21-22- Took Satan's weapons

Terry Law: "It is important to understand the reality of Satan and just who he is: the father of lies and essence of evil. He is the first and chief sinner. Chafer wrote, "The fall of this mighty angel was not a compromise between good and evil. He became the embodiment of evil and wholly void of good." What more, we should not elevate him to an evil equivalent of God. The Bible shows that Satan is very limited, and he is never given a position equal to God."[5]

B. Our purpose is to do the same as Jesus through the power of the cross and the Holy Spirit

(How do we use the cross and the power of the Holy Spirit to defeat our enemy the Devil?)

John 20:21-22 (KJV)
21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you.
22 And when he had said this, he breathed on *them*, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

We are called by what we do to destroy Satan's influence in our realm of influence.

C. Does Satan rule the Earth?

1. Satan is a created Cherub over the throne in heaven and cast down because of pride and rebellion

[5] Terry Law, The Truth About Angels, (Orlando FL., Creation house, 1994), p.123

Ezekiel 28:14 (KJV)
14 Thou *art* the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee *so*: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Ezekiel 28:17 (KJV)
17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Isaiah 14:12-16 (KJV)
12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!
13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:
14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.
15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.
16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, *and* consider thee, *saying, Is* this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

2. He was already fallen at the time of Adam-

Genesis 3:4 (KJV)
4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

Luke 10:18 (KJV)
18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

3. Before the cross Jesus called Satan the ruler or prince of this world

John 14:29-30 (KJV)
29 And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.
30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for <u>the prince of this world</u> cometh, and hath nothing in me.

4. The Earth is the Lord's and has always been the Lord's

1 Corinthians 10:26 (HCSB)
26 for the earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it.

5. In the beginning Adam ruled the Earth- The word "subdue" means "to bring into subjection or to conquer it".

Genesis 1:26-28 (KJV)
26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and <u>let them have dominion</u>

over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

6. Satan said to Jesus that the kingdoms of the earth were his-

Matthew 4:8-11 (KJV)
8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.
11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

At the time Jesus came this was partially true. He had taken the rule away from Adam. Satan desires to rule the world through men.

2018- A display from the Satanic Temple-Chicago has been placed in the Statehouse rotunda at the Capitol in Springfield, Ill. CreditCreditBernard Schoenburg/The State Journal-Register, via Associated Press.

New York Times:
"Satan Is in the Illinois Capitol. Because it's the Holidays!" By Liam Stack Dec. 6, 2018
"Yes, Illinois, there is a Satan. If you're looking for him, just check near the Christmas tree and the menorah in the state Capitol.
It is there, among the twinkling lights and flickering candles, that you will find a tribute to the prince of

darkness by the Chicago chapter of the Satanic Temple, a group based in Salem, Mass., that has 15 chapters nationwide.
It looks a bit different from the pine boughs and mistletoe often associated with this time of year: a woman's hand presenting an apple as a serpent coils around her wrist. A pentagram and the words "knowledge is the greatest gift" are written on the pedestal below.
The onyx-black statue has drawn criticism from people who think a mephistophelian tribute to the Fall of Man seems a little ... un-Christmas like. But state officials said there was little they could do once the temple requested a spot in the holiday display, which was unveiled to the public on Monday… The Satanic tribute is one of four in the Capitol rotunda, along with the Christmas tree, the menorah and a solstice display from an anti-religion group that includes a sign that says "Religion is but myth and superstition that hardens hearts and enslaves minds.""[6]

7. Paul called the Devil the god of this age or world system

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (KJV)
3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

8. Through the cross and resurrection Satan was cast out of the earth sphere- This is why Jesus came to the earth:

John 12:27-32 (HCSB)
27 "Now My soul is troubled. What should I say—Father, save Me from this hour? But that is why I came to this hour.
28 Father, glorify Your name!" Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again!"
29 The crowd standing there heard it and said it was thunder. Others said that an angel had spoken to Him.
30 Jesus responded, "This voice came, not for Me, but for you.
31 Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be cast out.
32 As for Me, if I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all [people] to Myself."

Genesis 3:15 (KJV)
15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

9. Satan is now the principality over the power of the air- Lit. the ruler of the domain of the air

[6] https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/06/us/satan-statue-illinois-capitol.html

Ephesians 2:2-3 (KJV)
[2] Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
[3] Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

10. In a future event he will be cast out of the air into the earth again for the last half of the tribulation period.

Revelation 12:3-11 (KJV)
[3] And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.
[4] And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.
[5] And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and *to* his throne.
[6] And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days.
[7] And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,
[8] And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.
[9] And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.
[10] And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.
[11] And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Job 1:6-7 (KJV)
[6] Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.
[7] And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

Dr. Lester Sumrall once made this statement about thinking about the demons all the time:

"Leave the subject alone till it is needed… If you are gonna always go around thinking about devils, the Devils gonna tie you up in a corner in a knot and you won't know how

to get out. If you live like Jesus did, when you have a problem take care of it, otherwise keep your mind on worshipping the Lord Jesus and not on the negative stuff."[7]

11. The church now has the dominion in the earth and over Satan

Luke 10:18-20 (KJV)
18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.
19 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.
20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

[7] Sumrall, Lester. The ministries of the Holy Spirit Teaching Series. (Tape 7 side 2)- Tape # 28041

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lessons 4

A Spiritual Warfare- Understanding Our Enemy's Tactics-2

(Note: Lesson 4 finishes lesson 3's outline-See point "II. C")

III. Our battle, what we wrestle against- Demonic attacks

A. First and foremost it's a *spiritual battle*

2 Corinthians 10:3 (KJV)
3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

Ephesians 6:12 (HCSB)
12 For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens.

1 Timothy 1:18-19 (KJV)
18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;
19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

The essentials of good warfare:

1. Having faith
2. A good conscience

Some teach the church is the bride, and she is not a soldier, and others teach the church should be about warfare and good soldiering.

2 Timothy 2:3 (KJV)
3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

In II Corinthians 10, the strongholds that are to be overthrown and destroyed are "arguments, theories and reasonings," (Verse 5, Amplified), not devils, spirits and ghosts. In both I Timothy 1:18 and II Timothy 2:4, the language is allegorical. We must be about this warfare of pulling down strongholds and not chasing demons. In the Amplified Bible, Paul admonishes Timothy to wage the "good warfare." In II Timothy 2:5-6, Paul goes on with the examples of Timothy being like a good Olympic runner, and a good farmer. Timothy was not an Olympic runner, a farmer, or a soldier. Timothy was a young preacher. Paul used these examples to teach about rules, ministerial pay, and hardships.
In spite of the mis-concepts of modern teaching on spiritual warfare, there still are battles the believer faces, and an enemy called Satan.

B. Who we war against: Our enemy Satan and his organization of devils

Ephesians 6:12 (HCSB)
12 For our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens.

Principalities (rulers), against powers (authorities), against the rulers of the darkness of this world (world powers), against spiritual wickedness (spiritual forces of evil) in high places.

According to Dr. Lester Sumrall:

> "The Bible would not have said that there were devils (demons) if they did not really exist. Satan and his cohorts are very real, and they are your worst enemies."[8]

C. How we battle:

Anne Gimenez co-pastor of the Rock Church in Virginia Beach, Virginia says:

"The devil has had us fooled. He has made us think that we have to beat him up, bind him, get him in a pit and sit on him before we can have any victory. We must resist the devil, but the battle and victory aren't ours. The battle is the "Lord's and the victory is already His."[9]

1. Put on the whole armor of God-
   Ephesians 6:11 (KJV)
   11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

[8] Dr. Lester Sumrall, Alien Entities, (Tulsa, OK., Harrison House, 1984) p.11
[9] C. Peter Wagner- editor, Engaging the Enemy, Anne Gimenez (Ventura, Ca: Regal Books, 1991), p.80

2. To stand, not to wrestle like he wants you to in your own ability and strength.

Ephesians 6:13-14 (KJV)
13 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.
14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

a. Traditionally an Olympic wrestling match the opponent would be naked or near naked.

b. Satan was stripped and comes with his suggestions and mind tricks

c. Don't get down and wallow with him- deception is this: wrestling with the devil

d. Put on your armor and stand up-keep standing

3. If you stand up in this way he will flee from you

James 4:7-8 (KJV)
7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded.

"Resist"- Gk. *Anthistēmi* -means to stand against or to oppose

4. Spiritual warfare can be hard at times- Paul's advice to Timothy:

2 Timothy 2:3-4 (KJV)
3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

a. Endure hardness

b. Be careful to not be distracted with worldly affairs- this is Satan's trick

B.U.S.Y. = Burdened under Satan's Yoke

5. Warfare is primarily about praying and how we pray

Ephesians 6:18-20 (KJV)
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Anne Gimenez:

> "As I meditate on this reality, I was struck with a new insight. "God," I asked, "my victory doesn't depend on my beating up the devil?" The Lord answered, "No, your part is to fast and pray. Let your requests be made known, then let me send my heavenly hosts to your rescue. Let me send someone who is a match for those wicked spirits. You are no match for the devil."[10]

These Scriptures have been cited to reinforce the teaching that believers are at war with Satan on the earth. However, in reality they tend to exemplify allegorically the Christian life as a "war," and the believer being a warrior. The conclusion of Ephesians 6, is to "pray at all times…" The *action* is to war in prayer, not to "go after Satan with your sword." It is to "keep alert and watch with strong purpose and perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints." (Verse 18, Amplified)

Eph.6:18 (AMP) Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose *and* perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people).[11]

6. The battle is the Lord's-David's response to Goliath

1 Samuel 17:47 (KJV)
47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle *is* the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

> **C.H. Spurgeon:** "If we are indeed contending for truth and righteousness, let us not tarry till we have talent, or wealth, or any other form of visible power at our disposal; but with such stones as we find in the brook, and with our own usual sling, let us run to meet the enemy. If it were our own battle we might not be confident; but if we are standing up for Jesus, and warring in His strength alone, who can withstand us? Without a trace of hesitancy let us face the Philistines; for the Lord of Hosts is with us, and who can be against us?"[12]

7. If God be for us who can be against us?

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[10] C. Peter Wagner- editor, Engaging the Enemy, Anne Gimenez (Ventura, Ca: Regal Books, 1991), p.78-79

[11] *The Amplified Bible*. (1987). (Eph 6:18). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

[12] C. H. Spurgeon, *Faith's Checkbook*, (London: Alabasterm Passmore, and Sons, 1893), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, 71.

Romans 8:31 (KJV)
31 What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?

8. Spiritual warfare in the heavenlies are with angels and demons

Revelation 12:7 (KJV)
7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

Standing up against the enemy is a mindset that we have to have. Modern media teaches us to be afraid of the devil and shows him to have great power. He was defeated by our savior at the cross and now uses deception and accusation to defeat us.

NOTES

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 5

Satan's Devices or Mind Tricks

I. Satan's devices or mind-tricks (Gk. *Noema*)

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (KJV)
3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
4 (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
5 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;
6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

2 Corinthians 2:11 (KJV)
11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

He lures men to fight a battle with him in their own strength on his ground and his way. He also tries to mold our thinking from a very young age.

A. He uses men to do Evil things- Ephesians 2:2-3

Ephesians 2:1-3 (HCSB)
1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins
2 in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler who exercises authority over the lower heavens, the spirit now working in the disobedient.
3 We too all previously lived among them in our fleshly desires, carrying out the inclinations of our flesh and thoughts, and we were by nature children under wrath as the others were also.

When men agree with the enemy, they either act like the enemy or they engage in his activities, and this becomes one of Satan's primary ways of battling the believer; through evil thoughts and through evil men who are controlled by his thoughts.

1. Paul's thorn in the flesh- A demon that used people to persecute Paul

2 Corinthians 12:5-10 (HCSB)
5 I will boast about this person, but not about myself, except of my weaknesses.

6 For if I want to boast, I will not be a fool, because I will be telling the truth. But I will spare you, so that no one can credit me with something beyond what he sees in me or hears from me,
7 especially because of the extraordinary revelations. Therefore, so that I would not exalt myself, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to torment me so I would not exalt myself.
8 Concerning this, I pleaded with the Lord three times to take it away from me.
9 But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Therefore, I will most gladly boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may reside in me.
10 So I take pleasure in weaknesses, insults, catastrophes, persecutions, and in pressures, because of Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2. Grace is a barrier for you- "sufficient" in Greek is *Arkeo* from a root that mean "to raise a barrier"

3. This devil caused problems for Paul in his body and other areas of his life specifically through trials of pressure and persecution.

B. He uses our flesh to control us- Romans 7:5-6 HCSB-(see Eph. 2:3 above)

Romans 7:5-6 (HCSB)
5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions operated through the law in every part of us and bore fruit for death.
6 But now we have been released from the law, since we have died to what held us, so that we may serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old letter of the law.

C. He uses our own "longing desires" or "lust" against us- James 1:12-15

James 1:12-15 (KJV)
12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.
13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.
15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

D. He attacks our thinking- Spiritual warfare is primarily against our minds- deception, depression, negative thinking

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (AMP)
4 For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow *and* destruction of strongholds, 5 [Inasmuch as we] refute

arguments *and* theories *and* reasonings and every proud *and* lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought *and* purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One), 6 Being in readiness to punish every [insubordinate for his] disobedience, when your own submission *and* obedience [as a church] are fully secured *and* complete.

1. He cannot read your mind but he does your actions and words which tells how your thinking

Joyce Meyer wrote in her book *The Battlefield of the Mind*:

> "From Scripture we see that we are in a war…Our enemy, Satan, attempts to defeat us with strategy and deceit, through well-laid plans and deliberate deception.
> …He begins by bombarding our mind with a cleverly devised pattern of little nagging thoughts, suspicions, doubts, fears, wonderings, reasonings and theories. He moves slowly and cautiously (after all well-laid plans take time)."[13]

2. He does plant thoughts-

   a. Human reasoning's- Satan effects our thinking sometimes

Matthew 16:21-23 (ASV)
21 From that time began Jesus to show unto his disciples, that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and the third day be raised up.
22 And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall never be unto thee.
23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art a stumbling-block unto me: for thou mindest not the things of God, but the things of men.

   b. Thought bombs- Remember the three areas of strongholds: 2 Cor. 10:4-5

      1. Individuals' thoughts

      2. Thought systems (ideologies, philosophies, etc.)

      3. Geographical and political areas.

      All of these involve the way people think and Satan has mastered systems to affect how people to think and believe. Those can include parents, media, education, and political systems. Bad thinking leads to bad believing and wrong concepts about God.

      Terry Law in his book The Power of Praise and Worship wrote:

      "While each of us wrestle with strongholds of thought on a personal level, we are also influenced by corporate thought systems: political ideologies, philosophies and

[13] Joyce Meyer, Battlefield of the Mind, (Tulsa, Ok., Harrison House, 1995), p.15

world religious beliefs. Communism and secular humanism are examples of these corporate thought-systems. Easy access to print and other media have allowed these thought-systems to spread throughout the world, and they have permeated many societies with their destructive lies. I call these thought- systems "thought bombs" because they are actually weapons being used in spiritual warfare… It is crucial for us to be aware of these "thought bombs" that are influencing us and our children, especially through our education system and media." [14]

c. Toxic thinking changes our DNA

Dr. Caroline Leaf wrote in her Book: *The gift in You:*
"Our thoughts, with their intertwined emotions, produce words and behaviors, which in turn stimulate more thinking, choices and thought building. We are constantly reacting to the circumstances and events of this life and as this cycle goes on, our brains become shaped in a process that will either be in a positive direction or a negative direction. So it is the quality of our thinking and choices, our reactions, which determine our brain architecture. This means that the quality of our thinking (consciousness) affects the shape or architecture of the brain and resultant quality of health in our minds and bodies…. Taking this to a deeper level, research shows that DNA actually changes shape according to our thoughts. As you think those negative thoughts about the week ahead that hasn't happened yet, or that person who hasn't actually said or done anything yet, (even in the absence of the concrete stimulus) the toxic thinking has changed your brain wiring in a negative direction and thrown your mind and body into stress. According to Dr Herbert Benson, MD, and president of Harvard Medical School's Mind-Body Institute (http://www.massgeneral.org/bhi/research/), toxic thoughts lead to stress, which affects our body's natural healing capacities. Toxic thinking literally 'wears down' the brain and the rest of the body.

The Institute of Heartmath discusses an experiment titled "Local and nonlocal effects of coherent heart frequencies on Conformational Changes of DNA." This study showed that thinking and feeling anger, fear and frustration caused DNA to change shape according to thoughts (that is thoughts with their intertwined feelings). The DNA responded by tightening up, becoming shorter and switching off many DNA codes, which reduced quality expression; we will feel 'shut down" by negative emotions and our body feels this too. What was really exciting about this study is the fact that the negative "shut down" or poor quality of the DNA codes was reversed with feelings of love, joy, appreciation and gratitude! The researchers also found that HIV positive patients with these positive thoughts and feelings had 300,000 times the resistance!"[15]

3. Statistics:

[14] Law, Terry. (1985) The Power of Praise and Worship. (P. 41-42). (By Terry Law Ministries) published by Victory House Inc. Tulsa Ok.

[15] Leaf, Dr. Caroline. https://drleaf.com/blog/you-are-what-you-think-75-98-of-mental-and-physical-illnesses-come-from-our-thought-life/

Dr.'s say 75-98 % of all sickness starts in the mind
Dr. Caroline Leaf:
"Here are just a few statistics confirming this number: A study by the American Medical Association found that stress is a factor in 75% of all illnesses and diseases that people suffer from today. The association between stress and disease is a colossal 85% (Dr Brian Luke Seaward). The International Agency for Research on Cancer and the World Health Organization has concluded that 80% of cancers are due to lifestyles and are not genetic, and they say this is a conservative number (Cancer statistics and views of causes Science News Vol.115, No 2 (Jan.13 1979), p.23). According to Dr Bruce Lipton (The Biology of Belief, 2008), gene disorders like Huntington's chorea, beta thalassemia, cystic fibrosis, to name just a few, affect less than 2% of the population. This means the vast majority of the worlds population come into this world with genes that should enable the to live a happy and healthy life. He says a staggering 98% of diseases are lifestyle choices and therefore, thinking. According to Dr H.F. Nijhout (Metaphors and the Role of Genes and Development, 1990) genes control biology and not the other way around. According to W.C Willett (balancing lifestyle and genomics research for disease prevention Science (296) p 695-698, 2002) only 5% of cancer and cardiovascular patients can attribute their disease to hereditary factors. According to the American Institute of health, it has been estimated that 75 – 90% of all visits to primary care physicians are for stress related problems. Some of the latest stress statistics causing illness as a result of toxic thinking can be found at: http://www.naturalwellnesscare.com/stress-statistics.html"[16]

a. Hope deferred makes the heart sick

Proverbs 13:12 (KJV)
12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but *when* the desire cometh, *it is* a tree of life.

b. A merry heart does good like a medicine

Proverbs 17:22 (KJV)
22 A merry heart doeth good *like* a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

4. Deception occurs when we allow something else to be true over the word of God- Thy word is truth- Also when we hear the word, but fail to put it into action in our lives.

Philippians 4:8 (KJV)
8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.

Psalm 119:11 (KJV)
11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

2 John 1:6-7 (KJV)
6 And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye

[16] Leaf, Dr. Caroline. https://drleaf.com/blog/you-are-what-you-think-75-98-of-mental-and-physical-illnesses-come-from-our-thought-life/

have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.
7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who c<u>onfess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh.</u> This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

James 1:22 (KJV)
22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

5. We must renew our minds-

Romans 12:2 (KJV)
2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

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STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 6

Dealing with Satan and Demons-

Review:

In reference to Paul's thorn in the flesh- This was a demonic attack that cause problems in many ways for Paul, including physical attacks. Yes Satan tries to attack us at time with physical infirmities. Not all physical problems are direct demonic attacks though, (even though sickness comes from the fall of man and the curse of death and thus indirectly from the enemy). Some are physical ailments that need healing. Those that are demonic attacks can be dealt with very simply by binding the devil and commanding him to let loose. For some deliverances that are connected to physical ailments we need to pray and fast in advance, as Jesus taught his disciples concerning an epileptic spirit that was hurting a boy that they were not able to set him free. (Matt 17:14-21)

I. Demons and physical sickness

Mark 9:14-29 (HCSB)

14 When they came to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and scribes disputing with them.
15 All of a sudden, when the whole crowd saw Him, they were amazed and ran to greet Him.
16 Then He asked them, "What are you arguing with them about?"
17 Out of the crowd, one man answered Him, "Teacher, I brought my son to You. He has a spirit that makes him unable to speak.
18 Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I asked Your disciples to drive it out, but they couldn't."
19 He replied to them, "You unbelieving generation! How long will I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring him to Me."
20 So they brought him to Him. When the spirit saw Him, it immediately convulsed the boy. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.
21 "How long has this been happening to him?" Jesus asked his father. "From childhood," he said.
22 "And many times it has thrown him into fire or water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."
23 Then Jesus said to him, "'If You can'? Everything is possible to the one who believes."
24 Immediately the father of the boy cried out, "I do believe! Help my unbelief."

25 When Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly coming together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you: come out of him and never enter him again!"
26 Then it came out, shrieking and convulsing him violently. The boy became like a corpse, so that many said, "He's dead."
27 But Jesus, taking him by the hand, raised him, and he stood up.
28 After He went into a house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"
29 And He told them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer [and fasting]."

A. Sometime sickness can be a direct result of demon possession.

This is why Jesus Himself on several occasions cast out demonic spirits out of sick people, instead of commanding them to be physically healed. When the evil spirit left they were made whole.

B. All sickness is the result of a fallen Adam giving place to Satan.

Gloria Copeland who has prayed for literally thousands of sick people to be healed and has seen remarkable results said this:

> "Adam's sin of high treason was not God's will. Adam was a free man and a ruler of the earth. God had given him this domain and Adam by his own will made Satan lord and father over him… Sin is manifested in the spirit. Sickness is manifested in the body. Both are the results of Satan and the rulership that man commited to him in the fall. Both are works of evil neither are from the hand of God. If God's will had been sickness and death, he would not have wrought sickness by the hand of His enemy."[17]

Dr. Lester Sumrall once told us as students that "Sickness was limited death." Without death being passed to Adam, there would be no sickness.

When Jesus was on this earth He was just as vigilant healing people's bodies as casting out devils. In many places both were connected.

Acts 10:38 (HCSB)
38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were under the tyranny of the Devil, because God was with Him.

C. Remember Jesus destroyed curse of sickness and the power of death on the cross

[17] Copeland, Gloria, God's will for your healing. (1972) Kenneth Copeland Ministries P.15

Galatians 3:13 (KJV)
13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:

2 Timothy 1:10 (KJV)
10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

II. Satan and demons

A. Satan is called the "god of this world" and the "prince of the power of the air." (John 14:30, II Corinthians 4:4)

This is his description *after* the cross. The definitions of "Satan" or the "devil" is significant in relation to spiritual warfare. In Revelation he is called the accuser of the brethren.

Revelation 12:9-11 (KJV)
9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.
10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.
11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

The 1828 version of **Noah Webster's dictionary** defines "Satan" and "devil," as:

Satan: The grand adversary of man; the devil or prince of darkness; the chief of the fallen angels.
Devil: In *Christian theology*, an evil spirit or being; a fallen angel, expelled from heaven for rebellion against God; the chief of the apostate angels; the implacable enemy and tempter of the human race. In the new Testament, the word is frequently and erroneously used for *demon.*[18]

D. Satan or the devil is the adversary of the believer.

1 Peter 5:8-9 (KJV)
8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

[18] Noah Webster, American Dictionary of the English Language, (San Francisco, CA. The foundation for American Christian Education, reprinted Aug. 2000), vol 2,p.63, vol. 1, p.60

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

He is God's enemy who was an archangel at one time in heaven. **Terry Law** writes:

"It is important to understand the reality of Satan and just who he is: the father of lies and essence of evil. He is the first and chief sinner. Chafer wrote, "The fall of this mighty angel was not a compromise between good and evil. He became the embodiment of evil and wholly void of good." What more, we should not elevate him to an evil equivalent of God. The Bible shows that Satan is very limited, and he is never given a position equal to God."[19]

Satan hates us because he hates God. He is come to kill, steal from, and destroy us (John 10:10), but greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world. Jesus has come to bring His life!

John 10:10 (KJV)
10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

1 John 4:4 (KJV)
4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Satan is not the Lion of Judah, Jesus is! Peter said he was *like* a roaring lion. He said Satan *wants* to devour, but didn't say he was a lion. He was defeated by Jesus and all he has is his roar.

E. The believer is in Battle

Once a believer awakens out of the blissful moment of salvation in which he has gloriously been saved from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God (Colossians 1:13), he finds himself in battle.

C. S. Lovett wrote in his classic book *Dealing with the Devil*:

> "I have been a Christian 20 years and no one told me about Satan. I didn't dream that there was a personal devil, any more than I suspected Jesus was a personal Savior. How could I know there were spiritual mechanics for dealing with him just as there are for dealing with Christ? I didn't know there was anything I had to do about Satan any more than I knew I had to do business with Jesus to be saved. No pastor, no professor at seminary, no friend in Christ ventured to explain our fantastic enemy."[20]

[19] Terry Law, The Truth About Angels, (Orlando FL., Creation house, 1994), p.123
[20] C.S. Lovett, Dealing With The Devil (Baldwin Park, CA: Personal Christianity Chapel, 1981), P.9

Satan is a very real adversary to the Christian on the earth. It is God who he hates and wishes to overthrow. Because the believer represents God's reign and kingdom, he wages war against them on the earth.

Judson Cornwall believes that who one worships is the base of conflict with Satan:

> "The object of worship became the motivation for the conflict. This was Satan's original desire, and it remains unchanged to this day."[21]

F. This battle has already been declared won, and finished by the Lord Jesus Himself from atop the cross of Calvary. (John 19:30)

However, there is still an ongoing "wrestling match" with principalities, rulers of darkness, and spiritual wickedness in high places. According to Ephesians Chapter 6:12, the believer does not wrestle with flesh and blood, "but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*." Paul said there is a "wrestling" match with these forces. When the believer is properly clothed with the spiritual armor listed in Ephesians 6, Satan who comes naked to a wrestling match (as the custom in those days were), finds the believer armed to the maximum and flees in terror. God never says they actually wrestle.

Judson Cornwall also states that Satan has been stripped of all his power:

> "At Christ's ascension, He paused at Satan's headquarters to strip him of all rank, position, authority, and power."[22]

E. Submitted to God- resist the Devil

Submit yourselves therefore to God. <u>Resist</u> the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

The Greek word for "flee" in James 4:7 is *pheugo,* it means to "escape" or "flee away, or seek safety by flight."[23] It literally means, "to run in terror."

It is true <u>the devil can never totally defeat a Christian.</u> Those who are the Lord's are delivered from total defeat. The devil can never have the complete unconscious control over believers as he does the rest of the world. The devil can demoralize Christians. He can frighten them, make them miserable and defeat them in many ways. The devil wants to defeat believers because they pose potential threats to the devil's kingdom and to his rule over the rest of mankind.

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[21] Judson Cornwall, <u>It's God's war</u>, (Hagerstown, MD., McDougal Publishing, 1998), p.36
[22] ibid, p.38
[23] <u>The Online Bible</u>, (Ontario, Canada, Millennium Edition 1.13, June 17, 2002) www.onlinebible.net

The Battle as the world sees it:[24]

The defeat of Satan:[25]

[24] https://wallpapercave.com/w/uezW4C7

[25] https://betterworldimo.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/jesus_defeating_the_devil_blog_2018-e1526486890946.jpg

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 7

Dealing with Satan and Demons-Part 2

Review:

I. **Demons and physical sickness**
II. **Satan and demons**

III. Who has the authority?

At times people fall under the complete control of Satan and are possessed by demons. We as believers have been given authority and power to cast out the demons. Jesus gave us this authority.

Acts 10:38 (KJV)
38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

HCSB "Under the tyranny of the Devil"

Jesus had this authority even before the cross. Sickness and possession are forms of oppression of the devil.

A. Power was given to the twelve

Luke 9:1-2 (KJV)
1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.
2 And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

B. Authority was given to the 70

Luke 10:17-20 (KJV)
17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.
18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.
19 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.
20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

C. A promise to the Church just *before* Jesus was crucified

John 14:12-14 (KJV)
12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.

D. Authority given to the church *after* the resurrection

1. By the authority of my name

Mark 16:14-20 (KJV)
14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.
15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
18 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.
19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.
20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

2. Go in His power

Matthew 28:18-20 (KJV)
18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

[20] Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

3. Paul cast out a demon years later proving this gift was not just for the 12 & the 70

Acts 16:14-18 (KJV)
[14] And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard *us*: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.
[15] And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought *us*, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us.
[16] And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:
[17] The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.
[18] And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

IV. How to cast out a Demon

Let us not suppose that people are merely possessed by thoughts, but real demonic forces. At this point we must take authority over the devils and not allow them even to speak or manifest.

A. We must know our authority

Paul says "I command thee," notice he didn't say, "The Lord command thee." He knew that Jesus had given this authority to all believers. Then he continues, "In the name of Jesus, come out of her." It is because of the blood shed at Calvary and the name of Jesus that demons must come out of the possessed.

B. We must use His name- Jesus

C. We must know Jesus personally

According to the Bible one must have a relationship with the Lord and know Him to command demons to go. This is illustrated in Acts 19:13-17 with the seven sons of Sceva who tried unsuccessfully to cast out a demon in the "name of Jesus that Paul preaches." They knew the name but did not know Jesus.

Acts 19:13-17 (KJV)
13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.
14 And there were seven sons of *one* Sceva, a Jew, *and* chief of the priests, which did so.
15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?
16 And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.
17 And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

D. We must be prayed up and fasted (especial for some)

Mark 9:17-29 (KJV)
17 And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;
18 And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.
19 He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.
20 And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.
21 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.
22 And ofttimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.
23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things *are* possible to him that believeth.
24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.
25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, *Thou* dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.
26 And *the spirit* cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.
27 But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.
28 And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?
29 And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

E. Bind the strongman first-

Mark 3:27 (KJV)
27 No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

F. The example of Jesus-

1. A Possession in church

Mark 1:23-27 (KJV)
23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,
24 Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.
25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.
26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.
27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine *is* this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

2. A possession in the country side

Matthew 8:28-33 (KJV)
28 And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.
29 And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?
30 And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding.
31 So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.
32 And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.
33 And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.

3. Demons recognize Jesus

4. Three statements Jesus used in reference to demons:

   a) "Hold thy peace" In Mark 1:25 Jesus literally says be silent! Or "shut up!" The Greek is phimoō, which means "Muzzle it!"

   b) "Come out"

   c) "Go" Matthew 8

5. Generally command the demon directly. Counseling is for another time and for helping a person to recover themselves out of the snare of the devil-

2 Timothy 2:24-26 (KJV)
24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient,
25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

[26] And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

6. Did Jesus ask demons for their names? No He asked the man what is your name, and the demon answered back "we are legion for we are many." Sometimes it may be important to know what type of demon (i.e. spirit of infirmity, lust, pride) you're dealing with.

Luke 8:26-39 (HCSB)
[26] Then they sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.
[27] When He got out on land, a demon-possessed man from the town met Him. For a long time he had worn no clothes and did not stay in a house but in the tombs.
[28] When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and said in a loud voice, "What do You have to do with me, Jesus, You Son of the Most High God? I beg You, don't torment me!"
[29] For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was guarded, bound by chains and shackles, he would snap the restraints and be driven by the demon into deserted places.
[30] "What is your name?" Jesus asked him. "Legion," he said—because many demons had entered him.
[31] And they begged Him not to banish them to the abyss.
[32] A large herd of pigs was there, feeding on the hillside. The demons begged Him to permit them to enter the pigs, and He gave them permission.
[33] The demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.
[34] When the men who tended them saw what had happened, they ran off and reported it in the town and in the countryside.
[35] Then people went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man the demons had departed from, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.
[36] Meanwhile, the eyewitnesses reported to them how the demon-possessed man was delivered.
[37] Then all the people of the Gerasene region asked Him to leave them, because they were gripped by great fear. So getting into the boat, He returned.
[38] The man from whom the demons had departed kept begging Him to be with Him. But He sent him away and said,
[39] "Go back to your home, and tell all that God has done for you." And off he went, proclaiming throughout the town all that Jesus had done for him.

This story is repeated in Mark 5

Mark 5:8-9 (KJV)
[8] For he said unto him, Come out of the man, *thou* unclean spirit.
[9] And he asked him, What *is* thy name? And he answered, saying, My name *is* Legion: for we are many.

a. Who is in control?

It was the demons who answered back denoting that they were in full control of the man. Sometimes it is important to know if a person is in control of his faculties before attempting to cast a demon out of him. Some people do not want to be set free, and we should honor their wishes or else seven more demons might possibly come back to possess them. (Matthew 12:43-45).

b. Don't talk to demons-

Secondly we should never enter into a conversation with a demon through a person. What good would one gain from a lying and deceptive fallen creature? Most people who engage in these practices usually are grandstanding and making a show of their authority over devils. Jesus taught the saints to not do this.

Luke 10:20 (KJV)
20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Yes at times demons try to speak out, but we should not allow this to happen. In fact, this is why Jesus spoke loudly to the demons to "shut up." He did not allow them to manifest in His presence, and neither should we.

G. Satan should be under our feet-

Romans 16:19-20 (KJV)
19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all *men*. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.
20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

V. Like a flood? It is the Spirit that comes in like a flooded river and raises up a standard against our enemies (KJV translators put the comma in the wrong place and the HCBS misses part of it)

Isaiah 59:19 (KJV)
19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

It should read:
"When the enemy comes; like a flooded water way, the Spirit of the Lord will raise up a standard that causes him to run away."

1 John 5:18 (HCSB)
18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not sin, but the One who is born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him.

Stop listening to the Devil. One of my best friends Pastor **Paul Knuckles** said this about Satan:

"The devil was never given authority in this earth ever by God. He is an illegal immigrant and an illegal alien. He's not of this earth, he's not from this earth. He has no authority here. The only people who have a legal right to be on this earth are those who have been born of the dust of this earth and they have been given authority here. That's why Jesus had to come as a man. Because God did it legally, God did it right. Because God did it legally and when Jesus sacrificed himself and lay down His life it mattered, it made a difference. It broke the power of death.

Now, it was the fact that the Devil deceived Adam, that caused sin to enter the world. It wasn't the fact that the Devil was here on the earth that made any difference. It was the fact that Adam turned his ear and listened to him and obeyed him that made the difference. He had to disobey God and His word to obey the other voice: Satan. That was the problem, and that was the sin. It was man, God always has been dealing with man… Sometimes the church is so fixated on the Devil. Look that dude has been dealt with. You have to deal with him in your life when he pops up. You have to rebuke him, you have to take authority over him, and you have to change your mind- not to listen to him. Ok? But he's not your problem, it's your obedience to the Word of God that is the problem.

We should listen more to the Holy Ghost…discipline is not easy but it pays off… Flow with the Holy Ghost and let your spirit be in control, not your mind. Let the Holy Spirit be in power. "How do I do that? Read the Bible! Get the word of God inside you, that's the only thing that can overcome the flesh. That's the only thing that can overcome the world, is the word of God. If you speak the word of God and you speak the name of Jesus, chains break off! Bondage is destroyed. God gave us the Holy Spirit. God didn't give us the Holy Ghost as a play toy. God gave us the Holy Ghost so we would have power over the devil in this world. Power to enforce the word of God in this earth! Power to enforce the victory that we have been given! We need to stand our ground and take authority, or the devil will run all over us." [26]

[26] Knuckles, Paul. Taken from a live message dated 7/28/19 from Allegan Christian Center Allegan Mi. All rights reserved

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 8

The sword of the Lord- The weapon of the Word of God

TEXT:

2 Cor. 10:3-6 (MESSAGE)
"The world is unprincipled. It's dog-eat-dog out there! The world doesn't fight fair. But we don't live or fight our battles that way—never have and never will. The tools of our trade aren't for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground of every obstruction and building lives of obedience into maturity."[27]

Ephesians 6:13-18 (HCSB)
13 This is why you must take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand.
14 Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest,
15 and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace.
16 In every situation take the shield of faith, and with it you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
17 Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is God's word.
18 Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert in this with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.

A few points to understand so far….

1. We are in a war
2. Satan's position should be under our feet
3. Armor is for your protection and defense
4. We have "powerful God-tools" to defeat the enemy's "thought bombs." (see lesson 5-Terry Law quote)
5. These weapons are the word, the blood, and the name of Jesus

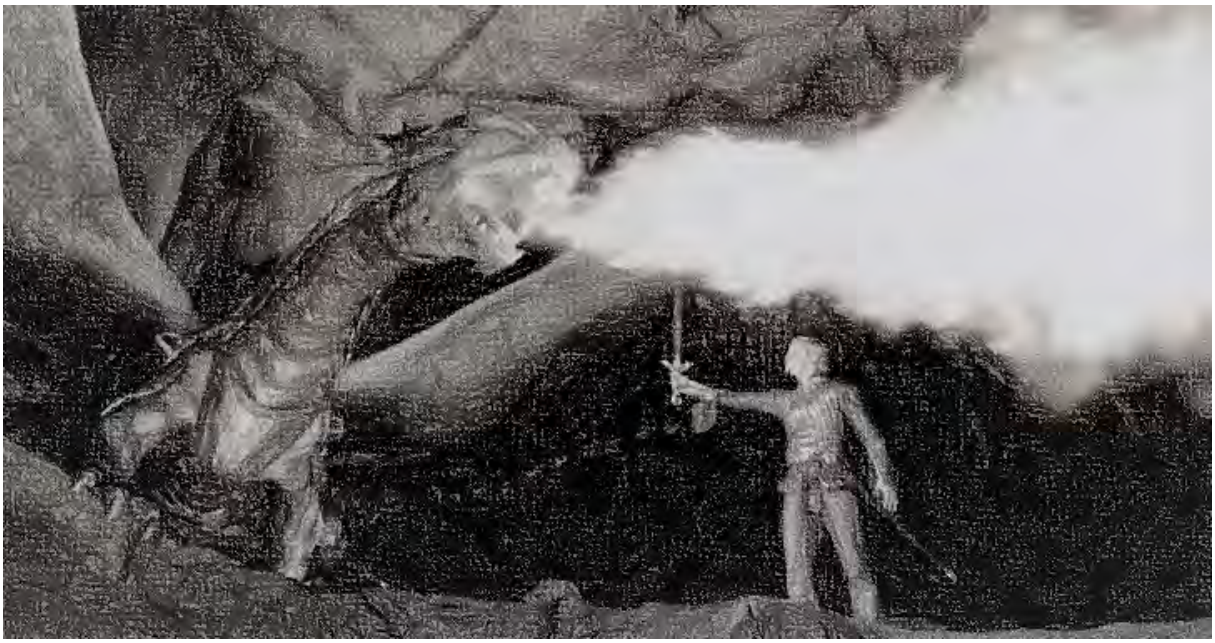
[27] Peterson, E. H. (2005). *The Message: the Bible in contemporary language* (2 Co 10:3–6). Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.

6. We use these weapons through: prayer, preaching, testimony, and praise and worship
7. The sword is for the offensive also, for you to press forward and tear down the devils strongholds
8. God's word: It is called in the Greek text here- the *rhema* word- Lit. utterance

I. Introduction- The sword

To skillfully yield this weapon we must understand its purpose and use. In basic training we broke down and reassembled our weapons 100 times before we ever shot one shot out of it. We were required to know everything about it and its ability before we yielded its power.

A. The dream-



On Dec. 5th 2002 the Lord gave me a vivid dream about the church fighting a great dragon. I saw a great dark mountain on the edge near what seemed to be a large body of water, and it rose up as a great cliff like a vertical wall against the sea. It was dark and stormy all around. Inside of the great wall cliff hundreds of feet upwards there were large cavities or pockets hewn out naturally it seemed, where large groups of people could be safe from the sea and darkness. So large they could hold hundreds of people. I saw myself and a number of people in one of the crevices. I knew in my spirit that this was a church. At the time I assumed it was the church that was my next assignment from the Lord but now I realize it is the churches in general that I would pastor.

I saw a great dragon attacking those in the pocket of that mountain cliff over and over. The people seemed confused and afraid and defenseless against this dragon. The dragon couldn't really reach them deep in the rock but some would be caught off guard as they strolled out on the platform of cave on the rock. I saw folks along with myself trying to fight and stay off the great winged creature breathing fire from his nostrils. I knew I was a part of this church in the rock but this group had been attacked so much that most of them were hiding and fearful, some running around chaotically.

This is what I wrote years ago describing my dream, "In my mind I knew I should be afraid for a great dragon was attacking them in the rock. However I wasn't afraid because I recognized this dragon. I knew his weaknesses. I had fought him before. I felt confident. I was trying to teach the people how to overcome him. I had a sword in my hand." That dragon was absolutely fearful and defenseless against my sword. The feeling I remember was how week this creature really was against these people and against this sword. But he had them all fooled. It was my job in the dream to show them how to defeat the dragon and it was working, for the people seemed to be learning and winning against him by using the sword.

B. **The basics**

1. Know the Bible is God's word

2 Peter 1:16-21 (KJV)
16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when <u>there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory</u>, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
18 And <u>this voice which came from heaven we heard</u>, when we were with him in the holy mount.
19 We have also <u>a more sure word of prophecy</u>; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:
20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Peter 1:19 (HCSB)
19 So <u>we have the prophetic word strongly confirmed</u>. You will do well to pay attention to it, as to a lamp shining in a dismal place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

2. Know that the word of God speaks about who we are and how God thinks of us and how we should think of ourselves. Understanding the revealed word of God changes the way that we think and believe. It washes our thinking. If we have and believe wrong thoughts about ourselves, we have already begun the road to defeat.

3. The weapon of the "word" is not the *logos* or the whole Bible

Ephesians 6:17 (KJV)
17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word (LB- *Rhema*-Specific revealed spoken word) **of God:**

4. The sword of the Lord is the *rhema* of the word-a specific revealed scripture that God gives you in your life. This is what we use against our enemy.

Matthew 4:3-4 (KJV)
3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

The Greek word for "word" here is *rhema.* Rhema means: the specific and revealed spoken word of God. Contrasted is the Greek word *logos,* which means the general word of God. Quoting scripture against the enemy will not sufficiently protect one from his attacks. One must use specific and revealed scriptures that the Holy Spirit has taught the individual as he grows in the Lord.

5. Many times it's necessary to speak it out loud

> "The Devil does not flee from the presence of the Word of God in our minds … it must come out of our mouths"

C.S. Lovett wrote in his classic, *Dealing with the Devil*:

> "The devil trembles at the word of God!...What is it that makes Satan fear the Bible? Is it the fact that millions are in print? No. Does it bother him when Christians study the Bible? No. Is he pained when they quote Scripture passages in their gatherings and sermons? Indeed not. The Scriptures by themselves don't affect Satan. He knows the Bible by heart and can quote chapter upon chapter. He's so clever with the word, he can design subtle twists in it for his agents…. There's only one time when Satan fears the Word of God…WHEN IT IS USED AGAINST HIM!..."
>
> When the Bible is used as a weapon against Satan, he shudders under the impact of it. When a Christian SPEAKS the Word of God to Satan, the Holy Spirit moves into action. Something amazing happens which smashes the power of Satan and crumbles his spirit."[28]

6. We must pray with the *rhema* word also and declare it out loud

"Spiritual warfare is a pro-active approach to our faith. We actively resist the devil when his hosts harass us. We actively pursue spiritual disciplines that will make us stronger and better prepared. We actively engage the enemy when people are in spiritual bondage.

We utilize prayer as a weapon to penetrate strongholds that cannot be reached in any other way. Spiritual warfare is the putting aside of passive attitudes towards faith which keep us from commitment and cause us to pursue only those things that will benefit us. Instead of seeking our own agenda, we submit our will to God and accept the sacrifices He calls us to make."[29]

[28] C.S. Lovett, Dealing With The Devil, (Baldwin Park, CA., Personal Christianity Chapel, 1967), p.114
[29] Spiritual Warfare Ministries, Inc**.,** What is Spiritual Warfare **, (**http://www.sw-mins.org/strat1.html, 1998)

STUDY GUIDE

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Lesson 9

The sword of the Lord- part 2

TEXT:

2 Cor. 10:3-6 (MESSAGE)
"The world is unprincipled. It's dog-eat-dog out there! The world doesn't fight fair. But we don't live or fight our battles that way—never have and never will. The tools of our trade aren't for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground of every obstruction and building lives of obedience into maturity."[30]

Ephesians 6:13-18 (HCSB)
13 This is why you must take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand.
14 Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt around your waist, righteousness like armor on your chest,
15 and your feet sandaled with readiness for the gospel of peace.
16 In every situation take the shield of faith, and with it you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
17 Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is God's word.
18 Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert in this with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.

I. Introduction- The sword

A. **The dream-**

[30] Peterson, E. H. (2005). *The Message: the Bible in contemporary language* (2 Co 10:3–6). Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.

B. **The basics-(See last lesson)**

C. **We must study the word (logos) and be able to rightly divide it**

2 Timothy 2:15 (HCSB)
15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, correctly teaching the word of truth. (LB-The logos of truth)

Elbert Willis in *The conquest of the mind* wrote:

> "In II Timothy 2:15 God says, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." This is the way you learn how to receive from God. Unwillingness to pay the cost to establish a receptive foundation discloses roots of insincerity and laziness. Many people want all the benefits God promises, but they do not want to do much studying. They won't even go to hear a teaching once or twice a week because they feel they already have enough. It is obvious that they do not have much, by simply observing their lives. The mind must be renewed. If you do not take the time to study and meditate in the Word, it shows your insincerity. You are trying to manipulate God."[31]

"Rightly divide" KJV- "Greek: *orthotomeo* (GSN-<G3718>), set straight; handle right. Only here. It means not only to give the true meaning, but also the correct application to the various times and classes of people. See notes, Mk. 4:12; Mk. 4:20; Mk. 4:22-23. Truth must be divided dispensationally, prophetically, historically, and with regard for classes and subjects. The chief fundamental principle of interpretation is to gather from the Scriptures themselves the precise meaning the writers intended to convey. We must exercise common sense and reason, applying the same principles and grammatical rules to the Bible as we do to other books."[32] -Dake

1 Peter 3:15 (HCSB) Be ready always
15 but honor the Messiah as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.

D. **The "sword" is Rhema word**

John 6:63
63 …the words that I speak to you, they are Spirit, and they are life

1 Thessalonians 2:13

[31] Elbert Willis, Conquest Of The Mind (Lafayette, Louisiana: Fill in the Gap Publications, 1980, 82), p.11
[32] Finis Jennings Dake, *Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text*, (Lawrenceville, GA: Dake Bible Sales, Inc., 1997), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "Chapter 2".

13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

John 8:31-32 (KJV)
31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;
32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

"(John 8:31-32) Here Jesus tells us how we are to win the victory over the lies of Satan. We must get the knowledge of God's truth in us, renew our minds with His Word, then use the weapons of 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5 to tear down strongholds and every high and lofty thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.
These "weapons" are the Word received through preaching, teaching, books, tapes, seminars and private Bible study. But we must "abide" (continue) in the Word until it becomes revelation given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit."[33]

E. The difference between Logos and Rhema- The word that God speaks

Logos is the entirety of scripture or the Bible, *rhema* is the specific words that God speaks to a believer through His word for some instance in his life.

The **Vine's Expository Dictionary** explains it this way:

"The significance of *rhema* (as distinct from logos) is exemplified in the injunction to take "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God," Eph. 6:17; here the reference is not to the whole Bible as such, but to the individual scripture which the Spirit brings to our remembrance for use in time of need, a prerequisite being the regular storing of the mind with scripture."[34]

It is the *rhema word,* (the word) that Jesus said that was more powerful that a two edged sword.

Hebrews 4:12 AMP
12 For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.

[33] Joyce Meyer, p.19
[34] W.E. Vine, Vine's Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testaments, (Old Tappan, NJ., Fleming H. Revell, 1981), p.230 New Testament volume

F. Jesus Himself used the *rhema* word against Satan- Mathew 4

Matthew 4:8-10 (KJV)
8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

A quick study of the temptation of Christ reveals that He was tempted in every area in which humans can be tempted: spirit, soul and body. Yet He overcame the devil each time by the Word of God. Spiritual warfare here did not include a single physical blow. Jesus did not even "pray" Satan's attacks away. He spoke out loud and quoted written Scriptures against Satan and defeated his attacks. When the believer does the same he has properly yielded the sword of the Spirit.

G. The example of the sower who sowed the word on good ground- (See separate study)

Mark 4:20 (KJV)
20 And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive *it*, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.

Luke 8:15 (KJV)
15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Matthew 13:23 (KJV)
23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth *it*; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

The Greek word used in this parable for "word" of God being sown is *Logos*. Those who were changed by the logos are described as being "good ground." 1/4th of the seed or Logos went into good soil. <u>This whole parable is about what brings forth good fruit from the logos.</u> It's the revelation of God's word or what we would call the *rhema* of God's good word (the logos). Below are the descriptions from the synoptic gospels of **how one gets from *Logos* to *Rhema* in one's life.**

Mark- They <u>heard the word and receive (accepted) it</u> and bore fruit
Matthew- <u>they heard the word and understood it</u>
Luke- they <u>heard the word and keep it (hold it fast) in an honest and good heart and bear fruit with patient endurance</u>

So when we put these accounts together we understand how to get to having revealed *rhemas* from God, we must: HUAMDP

1. <u>Hear the word</u> from an anointed person (sower) or source (reading/study)

2. Understand it- (good teaching/Holy Spirit)
3. Accept it (hold near with delight)
4. Hold it fast (Hold on to it) in an honest and good heart-memorize it
5. By patient enduring (Faith: patiently waiting with joyful expectation) declare it out loud in faith
6. Bear fruit- produce results

Pitfalls we must avoid: The three other places: The trampled hardened path, rocky ground, and thorns

1. Not understanding. Satan comes and snatches away from those not understanding the word- Seed sown along the path. Given without revelation and received with no understanding.

   Matthew 13:19 (HCSB)
   19 When anyone hears the word about the kingdom and doesn't understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the one sown along the path.

   This happens in most churches across America every Sunday. Salvation is the first and foremost revelation that people should get. But this parable relates to any rhema that one could receive from the sowing of the logos.

2. No depth or maturity- Hears the word and receives it with joy but has no root in himself (immature) and persecution comes and he stumbles in offence. Seed sown on rocky ground.

   Matthew 13:20-21 (HCSB)
   20 And the one sown on rocky ground—this is one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy.
   21 Yet he has no root in himself, but is short-lived. When pressure or persecution comes because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

3. Being distracted- Receives the word but becomes distracted by the world and seduced by wealth. These things choke the word and kill it. Seed sown among thorns.

   Matthew 13:22 (HCSB)
   22 Now the one sown among the thorns—this is one who hears the word, but the worries of this age and the seduction of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

F. The faith that pleases God comes from Rhemas

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)
6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Romans 10:17 (KJV)
17 So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word (LB-rhema) of God.

Revelations of the word or *rhemas* are imparted only from diligent study and reading of scripture. These revelations can also come through hearing and hearing the word of God preached over and over again. This is why listening to messages over and over again will bring revelation to us. Faith comes this way.

III. How to use the Word

A. Hear the word- Supernatural Faith comes this way-

Romans 10:17 (HCSB)
17 So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the message about Christ.

B. Meditate on the word- Recite it to yourself and a friend

Romans 12:2 (HCSB)
2 Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

Joshua 1:8 (KJV)
8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate (HCSB- recite it) **therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.**

C. Confess the word- "say the same as"

2 Corinthians 4:13 (KJV)
13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

D. Pray the word- Quote God's word in your prayers

Jeremiah 1:12 (KJV)
12 Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.

Isaiah 55:11 (HCSB)
11 so My word that comes from My mouth will not return to Me empty, but it will accomplish what I please and will prosper in what I send it [to do]."

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 10

The Weapon of the Blood

Text:

Ephesians 6:10-11 (HCSB)
10 Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength.
11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil.

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (HCSB)
3 For though we live in the body, we do not wage war in an unspiritual way,
4 since the weapons of our warfare are not worldly, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds…

John 10:10 (KJV)
10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

Satan your enemy wants to steal from you, kill (slay for a purpose) you, and cause destruction (destroy you spiritually by causing you to perish)

Jesus has come to give Zoe life (The God kind of life) and give it super abundantly (without measure).

Ephesians 2:2 (HCSB)
2 in which you previously walked according to the ways of this world, according to the ruler who exercises authority over the lower heavens, the spirit now working in the disobedient.

We do not walk or war according to the ways of the world-Nothing about this warfare is natural

I. Introduction

Ephesians 2:12-13 (HCSB)
12 At that time you were without the Messiah, excluded from the citizenship of Israel, and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.
13 But now in Christ Jesus, you who were far away have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah.

It is because of His blood that we have been brought near to God.

"An Airborne Major entered a Texan mental institution in the spring of 1959. He had been arrested for several crimes, such as robbery and forgery. He had tried to kill himself twice. His marriage had fallen apart and for years he had been drinking very heavily. Yet, just a few years before he had been one of the most promising young officers in the Airforce, headed for a brilliant career.
One single momentous event turned the major's life upside down. He flew the lead plane over Hiroshima when the first atom bomb was dropped. Shortly afterward his life changed radically. In his dreams he would see throngs of Japanese men, women and children chasing him. His life began to collapse.
The professional psychologist who treated him said that the major was subconsciously trying to provoke punishment from society to atone for the guilt he felt over Hiroshima. Guilt was like a cancer, destroying his very soul." Terry Law [35]

II. Satan's name means the "accuser" of the brethren

Definition: In the Greek "accuser" is *diabolos*- it is used 35 times as the name of Satan or the devil-

Strong's Concordance:
1228 diabolos {dee-ab'-ol-os}
from 1225; TDNT - 2:72,150; adj
AV - devil 35, false accuser 2, slanderer 1; 38

1) prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely

1a) a calumniator, false accuser, slanderer,

2) metaph. applied to a man who, by opposing the cause of God, may be

said to act the part of the devil or to side with him

Once of a man - Judas -
John 6:70-AV Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?

[35] Law, Terry. (1985) The Power of Praise and Worship. (P. 90). (By Terry Law Ministries) published by Victory House Inc. Tulsa Ok.

Three times this word was translated as “accuser” -

1Timothy 3:11-AV Even so [must their] wives [be] grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

2 Timothy 3:3-AV Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

Titus 2:3-AV The aged women likewise, that [they be] in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

Satan’s ultimate plan is to separate you from God. He uses many tactics, but guilt is one that is very effective. He is the accuser, this is his name.

Matthew 4:1-AV Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

Acts 10:38-AV How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Satan tries to attack our heart and conscience by accusing us. "You did not pray right. You did not read your Bible right. You did not witness right. You were not bold enough. You were not strong enough. You did not sing that right. You sang that for your own honor and glory. You did that for show. You did this or that." Everything in the world that you do, he accuses you.

An example was Zechariah’s vision of the high priest Joshua, and Satan the accuser:

Zechariah 3:1-4 (KJV)
1 And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.
2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: *is* not this a brand plucked out of the fire?
3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.
4 And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.

Joshua was clothed with a change of raiment signifying salvation. This prophetic story speaks of a future being clothed by the righteousness of God. Anything else is “filthy” rags. This also allows us to stand against our enemy with boldness even if he is constantly accusing us.

Another example is the tribulation period where Satan who had accused the brethren day and night is cast down into the earth.

Revelation 12:10-AV

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for <u>the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.</u>

In Luke 22:31-32 The Bible says that Jesus said to Peter before the cross, "Satan has "desired" to have you. This word desire in the Greek is the word *exaiteō* (pronounced- ex-ahee-teh'-om-ahee) that means "demanded or requisitioned and received approval." We know how Peter was challenged at the arrest and trial of Jesus. But Jesus said that He was praying for Peter that his faith fail not. Why would the Lord give permission to the Devil to sift someone as wheat? Because if the Lord is praying for you and interceding then He must know that the Devil is no match for us with Christ in us. In Christ we are always victorious.

Luke 22:31-32 (KJV)
31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, <u>Satan hath desired *to have* you</u>, that he may sift *you* as wheat:
32 But <u>I have prayed for thee</u>, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

A. **It is important that we have <u>a pure conscience</u> –**
Condemnation comes when we do something wrong because we have been trained this way. Shame on you. Satan uses these guilty feeling to drag us back into failure.

1 Peter 3:15-16 (HCSB)
15 but honor the Messiah as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.
16 However, do this with gentleness and respect, <u>keeping your conscience clear</u>, so that when you are accused, those who denounce your Christian life will be put to shame.

1. Don't wait too long to repent- Less condemnation and guilt, better conscience
2. We overcome sin by hiding God's word in our hearts
3. Guilt can be a powerful force to keep us in the merry go round of sinning (habitual sinning)

God wants you to have boldness and confidence to declare boldly God's word-

Story: One time I gave advice to my pastor friend who was a counselor and someone was trying to falsely sue him. I prayed with him and told him "No weapon formed against you will prosper." God protected him and kept him from harm. He later gave me the same advice when someone was falsely accusing me. He said, "Are you better than Jesus? "He was falsely accused too." Then my friend quoted back to me the scripture I gave him. God was faithful to His word!"

Isaiah 54:17 (HCSB)
17 No <u>weapon formed against you will succeed</u>, and <u>you will refute any accusation raised</u>

against you in court. This is the heritage of the LORD's servants, and their righteousness is from Me." [This is] the LORD's declaration.

It is what Jesus did for us that makes us right. We must believe this or Satan will constantly bombard us and our conscience. Consider Jesus who constantly endured false accusation from others. He was accused falsely and He is God. Satan's tactic is to use others even close friends who like Judas turn on us. The last days will be full of this according to Jesus in Luke 21:12-16.

Hebrews 12:1-3 (KJV)
1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

NOTES:

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 11

The Weapon of the Blood- continued

Text:

Ephesians 6:10-11 (HCSB)
10 Finally, <u>be strengthened by the Lord</u> and by His vast strength.
11 Put on the full armor of God <u>so that you can stand against</u> the tactics of the Devil.

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (HCSB)
3 For though we live in the body, <u>we do not wage war in an unspiritual way</u>,
4 since the weapons of <u>our warfare are not worldly</u>, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds…

I. Introduction

II. Satan's name is the "accuser" of the brethren

A. It is important that we have <u>a pure conscience</u> –

Condemnation comes when we do something wrong because we have been trained this way. Shame on you. Satan uses these guilty feeling to drag us back into failure.

B. The Blood provides it – A new covenant

Hebrews 9:14 (KJV)
14 How much more shall <u>the blood of Christ</u>, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, <u>purge your conscience</u> from dead works to serve the living God?

Hebrews 10:19-23 (KJV)
19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,
20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;
21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;
22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)

If we feel guilty all the time, we will never draw near to the throne room of our Father. This is the tactics of Satan. To always accuse us and make us feel unworthy.

C. Sin Consciousness-

Man has a highly developed sin consciousness. A spiritual inferiority complex. When sin is preached, we say "that's me!"
Condemnation preaching keeps the believer focused on sin, versus the preaching of the Gospel of righteousness. keeps them focus on what Jesus has done for them.
The believer is constantly controlled by an inferiority complex "I'm not worthy".
Guilt is a powerful force. It robs of spiritual victory.

"A minister had a friend who was the caretaker of a zoo. One day, they imported a new snake from the continent of Africa." The zookeeper invited the minister to watch. He took a little sparrow, opened the door of the cage, and threw the sparrow in. When the bird saw the snake it was terrified and it fluttered around in the farthest corner away from the snake. The snake did not chase the bird. He simply coiled and fastened his eyes on the bird. The little bird stopped it's fluttering. It was slowly being hypnotized by the snake. Soon the little bird hopped down off the perch, the snake opened his mouth, and the little bird jumped in."[36]

Paul talked about the mystery of iniquity -II Thess. 2:7 - Sin and guilt have a hypnotic quality about them.

2 Thessalonians 2:7 (KJV)
7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way.

As long as our eyes are fastened on sins, we are unable to break away from them. We should be looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

[36] Law, Terry. (1985) The Power of Praise and Worship. (P. 93). (By Terry Law Ministries) published by Victory House Inc. Tulsa Ok.

III. The merry-go-round of sin failure

Sometimes we fall into sinning habitually because of wrong thinking. It isn't always about not being able to resist temptation. Sometimes we are geared to fail.

A. Habits of sin

Hebrews 12:1 (HCSB)
1 Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us,

A Survey- 500 people were asked, "what do you experience when you are feeling guilty?'
Three categories

1. A fear of punishment
2. A feeling of depression, worthlessness, and lowered self esteem
3. A feeling of isolation and rejection

"When we grow up, we transfer these parental reactions to God." When we sin, we immediately expect these three reactions from God. The devil uses this to condemn us.

B. Loss of strong faith-

1 John 3:18-21 (HCSB)
18 Little children, we must not love with word or speech, but with truth and action.
19 This is how we will know we belong to the truth and will convince our conscience in His presence,
20 even if our conscience condemns us, that God is greater than our conscience, and He knows all things.
21 Dear friends, if our conscience doesn't condemn [us], we have confidence before God

C. We don't pray etc. - condemnation roots- repent immediately.

The longer sin stays the stronger the roots of guilt.

Romans 8:1-4 (HCSB)
1 Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus,
2 because the Spirit's law of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.
3 What the law could not do since it was limited by the flesh, God did. He condemned sin in the flesh by sending His own Son in flesh like ours under sin's domain, and as a sin offering,
4 in order that the law's requirement would be accomplished in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

IV. Guilt reactions-

1 John 3:21 (KJV)
21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God.

Guilty is a legal judgment of condemnation. When Jesus died for us He paid the guilty sentence of death for sin for all mankind. When one rejects Christ he is rejecting this atonement that was paid for him and will choose to represent himself one day before the judge. When a believer sins today Satan uses guilty feelings to control him. Guilt and self-condemnation always leads one to more sinning not towards freedom. A believer should feel convicted by the spirit in him when he sins to confess his sin and forsake it.

A. **Some give up**
B. **Anger**
C. **Emotionally drained**
D. **Rationalizing guilt with blame. Guilt --Blame**

Genesis 3:9-13 (KJV)
9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou?
10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.
11 And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?
12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.
13 And the LORD God said unto the woman, What *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

Adam and Eve- man tried to cover himself because of guilt and shame - innocent blood had to be shed to cover man's sin. God covered him.
Works is a way of covering, religion is a covering.

E. **Constructive Sorrow – Leads to repentance**

Not the Kid caught with his hand in the cookie jar. He's not really sorry, he's just sorry cause he got caught.

Gk. Word for repent = change your mind, do an about face.
Godly sorrow comes when the Holy Spirit convicts us to turn around.

2 Corinthians 7:9-AV
Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.

2Corinthians 7:10-AV For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

F. Guilt vs. conviction of the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:1 (HCSB)
1 Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus,

The Holy Spirit does not use guilt to change us. Guilt and condemnation are not of God- Guilty is a legal condemnation, but when the Holy Spirit speaks to us He "convicts" us and it brings us to repentance. What we call the conviction of the Holy Spirit really is not the best word for what He does. It's almost like a mother teaching a child how to do right, verses punishing them for what they did.
Conviction is God clearly showing us our sins and admonishing us to change. It's Godly sorrow working in us to change us.

Romans 2:4 (KJV)
4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Romans 2:4 (HCSB)
4 Or do you despise the riches of His kindness, restraint, and patience, not recognizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

V. Righteousness and the gospel

Romans 1:16-17 (KJV)
16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

"The Gospel is given to us as a revelation of righteousness."
"Our living must be predicated upon our righteousness, only then can we live correctly." Terry Law- P. 97

If you don't believe you're righteous you won't act like it. The Bible says that the real person is who he thinks he is in his heart, not so much what he says out of his mouth.

Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)
7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so *is* he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart *is* not with thee.."

2 Corinthians 5:21 (KJV)
21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Romans 10:10 (KJV)
10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

God has made us righteous in spite of how we perform - Rom. 10:10 - with the heart man believeth unto righteousness. There must come a time when we declare we are righteous before God.

VI. The blood and our righteousness- We are made just before God by His blood

Rom. 5:9 - justified (made righteous) by the blood. This is where we learn to attack the accuser. Believers are to overcome the Devil's guilty accusations by the blood of Jesus.

Romans 5:9-AV Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

A. We are made righteous by the blood.

Romans 6:11-18 (KJV)
11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.
14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

B. We overcome by the blood-

Revelation 12:10-11 (KJV)
10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.
11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

1. Blood
2. Confession

This verse means that we must testify to what the Word says that the Blood of Jesus does for us. This is the key!

VII. The Blood

Neither male spermatozoa nor female ovum has blood in it. New life develops when these two meet at conception. The blood type of a child is determined at the moment of conception and protected by placenta from any flow of mother's blood into the fetus. Since conception did not occur naturally in the fallopian tube Mary did not supply any of her Adamic blood into the spotless Lamb of God. Jesus blood was pure.

A. Jesus' blood type was pure and precious -Jesus has the blood of God

Jesus placed His blood on God's alter for my sin's

Hebrews 9:12-AV Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us].

B. How do we apply the blood today? Exodus 12

Even if we understand the power of the blood, we need to understand how the blood applied to our address every day.

Exodus 12:22-23 (KJV)
22 And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip *it* in the blood that *is* in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that *is* in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.
23 For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite *you*.

How did they get the blood from the basin to the doorpost? A weed like herb called hyssop. We are required to do something.

VIII. The believer's testimony

Revelation 12:11 and they did overcome him because of the blood of the Lamb, and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life--unto death; (YLT)

v. 22 - The hyssop was dipped in blood then the blood was sprinkled onto the doorposts.
Rev. 12:11 - Word of their testimony- "Our testimony is like the hyssop that daily applies to blood in our lives."

We must declare the effective work of the blood on our behalf
The blood: a spiritual weapon. – This is where we plead the blood of Jesus and it becomes powerful against our enemy.

We must focus our eyes on the power of the blood, not sin.

A. Five devotional scriptures on blood: Use these in your testimony and confession out loud

1. Eph. 1:7- Redemption, forgiveness

Ephesians 1:7 (HCSB)
7 We have redemption in Him through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

2. I John 1:7- Continually cleanses me

1 John 1:7 (HCSB)
7 But if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

3. Romans 5:9- Justified (righteous) just as if I had never sinned

Romans 5:9 (HCSB)
9 Much more then, since we have now been declared righteous by His blood, we will be saved through Him from wrath.

4. Heb. 13:22- Sanctified

Hebrews 13:12 (KJV)
12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. 1Corinthians 6:19-AV What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

5. I Cor. 6:19, 20- Bought with the price of blood

1 Corinthians 6:20 (KJV)
20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

IX. Conclusion

Colossians 3:1-4 (KJV)
1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
4 When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

REFERENCES

1. "The Power of Praise and Worship"- Terry Law
2. "How to find Fullness of Power"- R. A. Torrey

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 12

The Weapon of the Name of Jesus

Text:

II Corinthians 10:4 (AMP)
4 For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow *and* destruction of strongholds,
5 [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments *and* theories *and* reasonings and every proud *and* lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought *and* purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One), [37]

1 Peter 5:8-9 (KJV)
8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Sober and vigilant means to not be intoxicated with strong drink, or figuratively to be "serious." Vigilant means to "stay awake." We are to be clear minded and awake! We have a real adversary and we are called to resist him steadfastly in the faith. God has given us various weapons to use against our enemy. Ephesians 6 tells of armor and a weapon, the Sword of the Lord, and concludes telling us to pray.

We should pray in the name of Jesus. Jesus: Is it a magical name? How do we pronounce it?

"Greek Strong's Number: 2424
Greek Word: Ἰησοῦς
Transliteration: Iēsous
Phonetic Pronunciation: ee-ay-sooce'
Root: of Hebrew origin <H3091>
Cross Reference: TDNT - 3:284,360

[37] *The Amplified Bible*. (1987). (2 Co 10:4–5). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

Part of Speech: n pr m
Vine's Words: Jesus

Usage Notes:

English Words used in KJV:
Jesus 972
Jesus (Joshua) 2
Jesus (Justus) 1
[Total Count: 975]

of Hebrew origin [<H3091> (Yehowshuwa`)]; *Jesus* (i.e. *Jehoshua*), the name of our Lord and two (three) other Israelites :- Jesus."[38]

I. How He obtained His Name- Hebrews 1:1-5 (HCSB)

Hebrews 1:1-4 (HCSB)
1 Long ago God spoke to the fathers by the prophets at different times and in different ways.
2 In these last days, He has spoken to us by [His] Son. God has appointed Him heir of all things and made the universe through Him.
3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact expression of His nature, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
4 So He became higher in rank than the angels, just as the name He inherited (Greek-obtained by inheritance) is superior to theirs.
5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, You are My Son; today I have become Your Father, or again, I will be His Father, and He will be My Son?

A. Threefold Greatness: Jesus was all three

1. Some are born to a great name-Like a King or Czar-v. 2
2. Some have a great name because of great achievements-v. 3
3. Some have a great name conferred upon them vs 4

Philippians 2:8-11 (HCSB)
8 He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross.
9 For this reason God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name,
10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow— of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth—
11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

[38] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "2424".

Those who in Heaven, Earth and Hell will bow at the name of Jesus. God has given Him a name above every name that is named.

B. What was His purpose?

1. Mighty victor over Satan- Jesus defeated Satan "stripped off" & made a show-

Colossians 2:15 (HCSB)
15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; He triumphed over them by Him.

2. Through death Paralyzed Satan- "Destroyed" here means "render entirely idle."

Hebrews 2:14 (HCSB)
14 Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through His death He might destroy the one holding the power of death—that is, the Devil—

3. Took Satan's amour and weapons

Luke 11:21-22 (HCSB)
21 When a strong man, fully armed, guards his estate, his possessions are secure.
22 But when one stronger than he attacks and overpowers him, he takes from him all his weapons he trusted in, and divides up his plunder.

II. Authority in the Name- Revelation 1:18- Have the keys of death and hell

Revelation 1:17-18 (HCSB)
17 When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. He laid His right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last,
18 and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades.

All authority in Heaven, Earth and Hell belongs to Jesus and he gives us that authority through His name and the power of the Holy Spirit.

A. In My Name whatever you ask….

John 14:12-14 (HCSB)
12 "I assure you: The one who believes in Me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.
13 Whatever you ask in My name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
14 If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

When we say "In the name of" something we are saying "By the authority of" that entity. Jesus gave us power to use His name. In the world this is called the "Power of Attorney." If you ask a lawyer, "What is the value of the Power of Attorney of someone's name?" He will answer. "It depends on how much authority or power this name represents."

B. Ask the Father in My name so that your Joy is full- Before Jesus left He gave His Name to us.

John 16:22-24 (HCSB)
22 So you also have sorrow now. But I will see you again. Your hearts will rejoice, and no one will rob you of your joy.
23 In that day you will not ask Me anything. "I assure you: Anything you ask the Father in My name, He will give you.
24 Until now you have asked for nothing in My name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.

Jesus did not use a qualifier here, "if it be thy will Lord" - It does not read "if we believe" or "if we have faith"- Almost like a blank check. Prayer prayed in His name will receive His special attention.

James says you don't receive sometimes because you don't ask and when you do you ask wrongly because your desires are out of order.

James 4:2-3 (KJV)
2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.
3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

Quote: E.W. Kenyon

" The measure of His ability [LB-The measure of the ability of the Lord Jesus Christ] is the measure of the value of that Name, and all that is invested in that Name belongs to us, for Jesus gave us the unqualified use of His Name."[39]

"The power of attorney means the legal and written authority to transact business for another. One may be a general agent to represent another in all of his business, or a special agent who is authorized to do some specific work, or transact some special business. The agent can act with all authority within the bounds of the legal authorization as much as the one who gave him this authority. All believers have full, legal, redemptive, gospel, blood-bought, promised, and family rights to use the name of Jesus"[40] -**Finis Dake**

[39] Kenyon, E.W. (1964) The Wonderful Name of Jesus. Kenyon's Gospel Publishing Society

[40] Finis Jennings Dake, *Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text*, (Lawrenceville, GA: Dake Bible Sales, Inc., 1997), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "Chapter 16".

C. Go as My Ambassadors

1. All authority…Go in my name. Take my name. As He is so are we in this world.

Matthew 28:18-20 (HCSB)
18 Then Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

2. IN MY NAME- The power of attorney to use his name to baptize, drive out demons, speak with new tongues, supernatural protections, and healing others.

Mark 16:15-18 (HCSB)
15 Then He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation.
16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.
17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: In My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new languages;
18 they will pick up snakes; if they should drink anything deadly, it will never harm them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will get well."

This power is not magical or even God imposing His will on others. It is the believer's weapon to use the name of Jesus in this world to bring God's kingdom in others and bring glory to His son.

III. The Use of His Name-

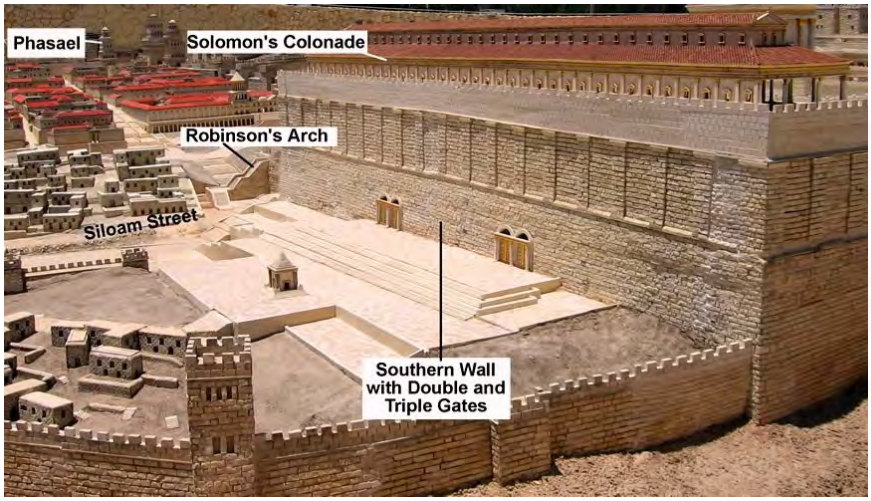
A. Salvation in His Name

Acts 4:11-12 (HCSB)
11 This [Jesus] is the stone rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone.
12 There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people, and we must be saved by it."

Philip preached the name

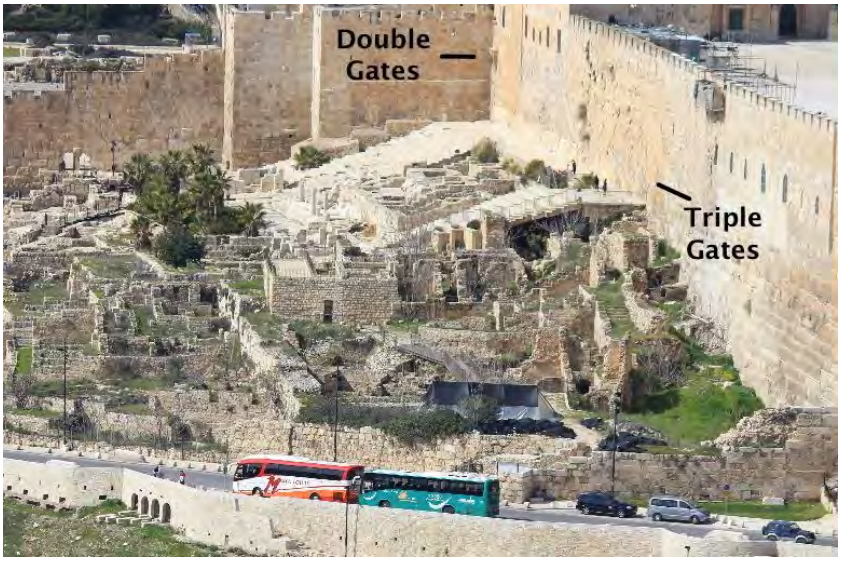
Acts 8:12 (HCSB)
12 But when they believed Philip, as he preached the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

B. Healing in His Name- The first recorded use of the Power of Attorney



Above is what it looked like outside /to the right is the interior ceiling

Note: The double Gate was probably the most likely place called the Beautiful Gate because of its interior domes were so beautiful. See https://www.ritmeyer.com/2010/12/14/the-beautiful-gate-of-the-temple/ for Ritmeyer's great explanation.



The Double Gate today

Acts 3:1-9 (HCSB)

[1] Now Peter and John were going up together to the temple complex at the hour of prayer at three in the afternoon.

[2] And a man who was lame from birth was carried there and placed every day at the temple gate

called Beautiful, so he could beg from those entering the temple complex.
3 When he saw Peter and John about to enter the temple complex, he asked for help.
4 Peter, along with John, looked at him intently and said, "Look at us."
5 So he turned to them, expecting to get something from them.
6 But Peter said, "I don't have silver or gold, but what I have, I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!"
7 Then, taking him by the right hand he raised him up, and at once his feet and ankles became strong.
8 So he jumped up, stood, and started to walk, and he entered the temple complex with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.
9 All the people saw him walking and praising God,

Peter, says "What I have…" What he had was the authority to use the name of Jesus.

Acts 4:7-10 (HCSB)
7 After they had Peter and John stand before them, they asked the question: "By what power or in what name have you done this?"
8 Then Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders:
9 If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a disabled man—by what means he was healed—
10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene—whom you crucified and whom God raised from the dead—by Him this man is standing here before you healthy.

Notice the reaction of the council

Acts 4:13-22 (HCSB)
13 When they observed the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed and recognized that they had been with Jesus.
14 And since they saw the man who had been healed standing with them, they had nothing to say in response.
15 After they had ordered them to leave the Sanhedrin, they conferred among themselves,
16 saying, "What should we do with these men? For an obvious sign, evident to all who live in Jerusalem, has been done through them, and we cannot deny it!
17 However, so this does not spread any further among the people, let's threaten them against speaking to anyone in this name again."
18 So they called for them and ordered them not to preach or teach at all in the name of Jesus.
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NOTES:

STUDY GUIDE

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A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 13

The Weapon of the Name of Jesus- continued

REVIEW:

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8 He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross.
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Those who in Heaven, Earth and Hell will bow at the name of Jesus. God has given Him a name above every name that is named.

B. **What was His purpose? Col 2:15, Hebrews 2:14, Luke 11:21-22**

II. Authority in the Name- Revelation 1:18- Have the keys of death and hell

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A. Salvation in His Name- Acts 4:11-12

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Peter, "What I have…"Notice the reaction of the council

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21 After threatening them further, they released them. They found no way to punish them, because the people were all giving glory to God over what had been done;
22 for this sign of healing had been performed on a man over 40 years old.

C. Signs and wonders by thy name- After the encounter they prayed

Acts 4:29-31 (HCSB)
29 And now, Lord, consider their threats, and grant that Your slaves may speak Your message with complete boldness,
30 while You stretch out Your hand for healing, signs, and wonders to be performed through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."
31 When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak God's message with boldness.

Acts 4:32-34 (KJV)
32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any *of them* that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.
33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.
34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

D. Gathered for Prayer in His Name- to agree in prayer, He is present when we worship together in His name.

Matthew 18:19-20 (HCSB)
19 Again, I assure you: If two of you on earth agree about any matter that you pray for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven.
20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there among them."

In other words, we know that the Father always hears Jesus and answers His prayers, so when we use His name it's like Jesus Himself was doing the praying. This puts prayer because of the New Covenant even on a legal basis.

E. Demons cast out in His Name

Luke 10:17 (KJV)
17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

1. **Paul and Silas-** cast out a mocking spirit of divination in the name

Acts 16:16-18 (HCSB)
16 Once, as we were on our way to prayer, a slave girl met us who had a spirit of prediction. She made a large profit for her owners by fortune-telling.
17 As she followed Paul and us she cried out, "These men, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation, are the slaves of the Most High God."
18 And she did this for many days. But Paul was greatly aggravated and turning to the spirit, said, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out right away.

2. Seven sons tried to use the name of Jesus- The evil spirit recognized Paul and Jesus but not these men nor their right to use the name because they did not know Jesus personally. "The name of the Lord was magnified"

Acts 19:11-17 (HCSB)
11 God was performing extraordinary miracles by Paul's hands,
12 so that even facecloths or work aprons that had touched his skin were brought to the sick, and the diseases left them, and the evil spirits came out of them.
13 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists attempted to pronounce the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I command you by the Jesus that Paul preaches!"
14 Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this.
15 The evil spirit answered them, "I know Jesus, and I recognize Paul—but who are you?"
16 Then the man who had the evil spirit leaped on them, overpowered them all, and prevailed against them, so that they ran out of that house naked and wounded.
17 This became known to everyone who lived in Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. Then fear fell on all of them, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

> Quote: "Paul's ministry in the Name of Jesus was so outstanding, the miracles so pronounced, that even wicked men, sorcerers attempted to use it." The wonderful Name of Jesus P.44- E.W. Kenyon

We must know the person who is that name:

Matthew 7:21-23 (KJV)
21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?
23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

IV. Conclusion- Short List:

A. Do all things in the Name of Jesus

Colossians 3:17 (HCSB)
17 And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

B. Give thanks always for all things in the Name

Ephesians 5:20 (HCSB)
20 giving thanks always for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

C. Washed, sanctified, justified in the Name

1 Corinthians 6:11 (HCSB)
11 And some of you used to be like this. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

D. Anoint the sick in the name

James 5:14 (HCSB)
14 Is anyone among you sick? He should call for the elders of the church, and they should pray over him after anointing him with olive oil in the name of the Lord.

E. We should believe in the Name of His son Jesus Christ, and love one another even as He commanded us.

1 John 3:23 (HCSB)
23 Now this is His command: that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another as He commanded us.

Without this weapon, the church is powerless and without authority

F. Giving and reward

Mark 9:41 (KJV)
41 For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.

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STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 14

The Launching Rocket of Preaching

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (MESSAGE)
The world is unprincipled. It's dog-eat-dog out there! The world doesn't fight fair. But we don't live or fight our battles that way—never have and never will. The tools of our trade aren't for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground of every obstruction and building lives of obedience into maturity.[41]

2 Corinthians 10:4 (NAS95)
for the [a]weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but [1]divinely powerful [b]for the destruction of fortresses.[42]

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (WUESTNT)
For, though we are ordering our behavior in the sphere of human experience, not in accordance with mere human considerations are we waging warfare [against evil], for the weapons of our warfare are not human but mighty in God's sight, resulting in the demolition of fortresses, demolishing reasonings and every haughty mental elevation which lifts itself up against the experiential knowledge [which we believers have] of God, and leading captive every thought into the obedience to the Christ,[43]

I. Introduction:

Terry Law in his book, the *Power of Praise and Worship* teaches that there are three powerful "warheads" we have against our enemy and that they are the Word of God, the blood and the name of Jesus. We have discussed these in detail. Law also states that there are "rockets" that we

[41] Peterson, E. H. (2005). *The Message: the Bible in contemporary language* (2 Co 10:3–6). Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.
[a] 1 Cor 9:7; 2 Cor 6:7; 1 Tim 1:18
[1] Or *mighty before God*
[b] Jer 1:10; 2 Cor 10:8; 13:10
[42] *New American Standard Bible: 1995 update*. (1995). (2 Co 10:4). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.
[43] Wuest, K. S. (1961). *The New Testament: an expanded translation* (2 Co 10:1–12). Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans.

launch to attack our enemies with these warheads. These "rockets" are how we get our powerful weapons to the point of attack. They are much like ICBM missiles today in modern warfare. He states, "The four primary spiritual launching rockets are: prayer, preaching, testimony, and praise and worship." [44]

While our weapons are mighty and powerful we must learn how to deliver these powerful "warheads." Any good swordsman knows that it takes time to learn how to wield its power. It takes discipline and practice. The good thing is that we all have our sword which is the most powerful weapon against our enemy- Satan. We have and always will have, the better tools and weapons of war. Courage to fight the fight of faith is always needed and comes as we submerge our minds and souls in the word of God.

II. Preaching- If God has chosen us then we have a powerful position in the world

Preaching means to "proclaim" or to "herald." Preachers are to launch the Word of God by heralding it wherever they go. Paul told Timothy to "preach the word (logos)." We all can be heralders of the truth, so discount the fact that you're not called to "preach."

Mark 1:38 (HCSB)
38 And He said to them, "Let's go on to the neighboring villages so that I may preach there too. This is why I have come."

2 Timothy 4:2 (KJV)
2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

A. Some are called/sent to preach

Romans 10:13-16 (KJV)
13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.
14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?
15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!
16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

B. Different "preachers" have different gifts and abilities

Ephesians 4:11-12 (HCSB)
11 And He personally gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
12 for the training of the saints in the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ,

[44] Law, Terry. (1985) The Power of Praise and Worship. (p.108). (By Terry Law Ministries) published by Victory House Inc. Tulsa Ok.

1 Corinthians 12:7 (HCSB)
7 A demonstration (KJV manifestation- LB- expression) **of the Spirit is given to each person to produce what is beneficial:**

C. The example of Jeremiah

Jeremiah 1:7-10 (HCSB)
7 Then the LORD said to me: Do not say, "I am ⌊only⌋ a youth," for you will go to everyone I send you to and speak whatever I tell you.
8 Do not be afraid of anyone, for I will be with you to deliver you. ⌊This is⌋ the LORD's declaration.
9 Then the LORD reached out His hand, touched my mouth, and told me: I have now filled your mouth with My words.
10 See, I have appointed you today over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and demolish, to build and plant.

D. The example of Paul

He preached the word, the name, and the blood

Acts 9:20-21 (KJV)
20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.
21 But all that heard *him* were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

E. The example of Timothy

1 Timothy 4:10-14 (KJV)
10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.
11 These things command and teach.
12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.
13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.
14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

1 Timothy 1:18 (HCSB)
18 Timothy, my son, I am giving you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies previously made about you, so that by them you may strongly engage in battle,

2 Timothy 2:4 (KJV)
4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

NOTES:

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Lesson 15

The launching rocket of Testimony

I. The launching rocket of Testimony

What is a Christian Testimony?
"The word "testimony" is used in few different ways. One common usage is when a person is brought into a courtroom and placed under oath to tell, attest to, or give witness to his or her personal knowledge or experience with reference to the case that is being heard. To link the word "Christian" to the word "testimony" is to narrow the focus of the testimony and who can give it. Only a Christian can give a Christian testimony… As an example, a testimony could include how He brought us through a difficult time in our life (such as a loss or some sort or a severe illness) and built our faith in Him through that experience."[45]

When we testify of God's goodness and what He has done for us it delivers a declaration out loud and those words destroy the enemy's strongholds.

A. We're not all called to be preachers but all are to be witnesses

Acts 1:8 (KJV)
8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and <u>ye shall be witnesses unto me</u> both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

"It is testimonies of believers that will bring worldwide revival." Law p. 115

The Holy Spirit has been given to make us a witness, <u>to launch</u> our rockets. He has given us the fuel that powers our rockets. <u>Everyone will listen to a personal testimony</u>. Every person's testimony is a witness to God's power. Paul spoke his testimony everywhere he went. Parts of it are recorded 3 times in scripture.

[45] https://www.gotquestions.org/Christian-testimony.html

> "We are not called upon to enter into controversy with those who hold false theories. Controversy is unprofitable. Christ never entered into it. 'It is written' is the weapon used by the world's Redeemer. Let us keep close to the Word. Let us allow the Lord Jesus and His messengers to testify. We know that their testimony is true." **Ellen G. White**- American Writer Died 1915

B. The accuser is defeated by the blood and by our personal witness

Revelation 12:10-11 (HCSB)
10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: The salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Messiah have now come, because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown out: the one who accuses them before our God day and night.
11 They conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not love their lives in the face of death.

"A witness, in the sense that I am using the word, is a man whose life and faith are so completely one that when the challenge comes to step out and testify for his faith, he does so, disregarding all risks, accepting all consequences." **Whittaker Chambers**- American writer died in 1961

To testify is to witness. KJV bible used these words interchangeably.

"Testimony" is the Greek Strong's Number: 3141
Greek Word: μαρτυρία **Transliteration:** martyria **Phonetic Pronunciation:** mar-too-ree'-ah
Root: from <G3144>
Cross Reference: TDNT - 4:474,564
Part of Speech: n f
Vine's Words: Testimony, Witness
Usage Notes:

English Words used in KJV: witness 15 testimony 14 record 7 report 1
[Total Count: 37]

from <G3144> (martus); *evidence* given (judicially or generic) :- record, report, testimony, witness. [46]

It is an oral record of what God has done for you.

C. Let the redeemed say so

Psalm 107:1-2 (KJV)

[46] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "3141".

[1] O give thanks unto the LORD, for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
[2] Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so*, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

Everyone has a testimony. There is nothing more real in all the world than to recount what God has done specifically for you.

Romans 10:8-11 (KJV)
[8] But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;
[9] That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
[10] For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
[11] For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

D. All believers should testify

1 Peter 2:9-12 (KJV)
[9] But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:
[10] Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.
[11] Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;
[12] Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:9 (HCSB)
[9] But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the One who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

E. When we lift up Jesus all men will be drawn to Him

John 12:31-32 (KJV)
[31] Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.
[32] And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me.

Let us determine in every way to lift up Jesus and tell His-Story and what He has done for us!

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Lesson 16

The launching rocket of Prayer

I. Introduction

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (HCSB)
3 For though we live in the body, we do not wage war in an unspiritual way,
4 since the weapons of our warfare are not worldly, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds. We demolish arguments
5 and every high-minded thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, taking every thought captive to obey Christ.

Terry Law in his book, the *Power of Praise and Worship* teaches that there are three powerful "warheads" we have against our enemy and that they are the Word of God, the blood and the name of Jesus. We have discussed these in detail. Law also states that there are the "rockets" that we launch to attack our enemies with these warheads. These "rockets" are how we get our powerful weapons to the point of attack. They are like ICBM missiles today in modern warfare. He states, "The four primary spiritual launching rockets are: prayer, preaching, testimony, and praise and worship." [47]

Joke: Little boy was worried about the pastor who came over for dinner was wearisome of the pastors long prayers but notice he prayed a short prayer over dinner, and said, "I guess you don't pray long when you're hungry!"

Readers Digest relayed a true story of a little girl who went with her next door neighbor to church and the pastor was teaching the children about first communion and was practicing it with them. He ask the children to kneel down and to cup their hands and he placed a piece of bread in their hands and said "God be with you." Apparently this made a strong impact and impression on the little girl and she went home and told her mother to kneel and to cup her hands like she had learned, and as she placed a piece of bread from her sandwich into her

[47] Law, Terry. (1985) The Power of Praise and Worship. (p.108). (By Terry Law Ministries) published by Victory House Inc. Tulsa Ok.

mother's hands she leaned over and whispered in her most angelic voice and said: "God will get you."

Sometimes we miss the precise prayers that are said and sometimes we say prayers that we don't even mean.

Matthew 6:5-8 (KJV)
5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.
6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.
8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Prayer is our untapped resource of power

Definitions: Talking with God, petition, worship,
My definition of prayer: Pray and watch- it's a two way communication. It's not just asking.

A. There are many kinds of prayers and ways to pray all with their own set of instructions.

Ephesians 6:18-20 (KJV)
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,
20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 6:18 (AMP) Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose *and* perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people). [48]

Ephesians 6:18 (GW)
18 Pray in the Spirit in every situation. Use every kind of prayer and request there is. For the same reason be alert. Use every kind of effort and make every kind of request for all of God's people.

Ephesians 6:18 (HCSB)
18 Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert in this with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.

[48] *The Amplified Bible*. (1987). (Eph 6:18). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

After teaching about spiritual warfare and armor Paul admonishes us to:

1. Prayer-with all "kinds of": At all times on every occasion (food, trips, events, gatherings, honoring God first)
2. Supplications- A petition or prayer request
3. Watching- Staying alert while praying listening for an answer
4. Intercessions- standing in the gap for someone else
5. Perseverance-persistent prayers
6. Specific prayers- be specific in your prayers as much as possible- for ministers
7. In the Spirit-1 Cor. 14:14-15
8. Vs. 19-20- Pray for your pastor to have boldness to preach the gospel-why? The weapon of the word is being projected into darkness demolishing stronghold! (last lesson).

B. Watching and praying- Peter "watch and pray" that you enter not into temptation-

Matthew 26:40-41 (KJV)
40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?
41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.

What is watching? Staying alert and listening for instruction. "Could you not watch with me" In Gethsemane Jesus was waiting for an answer as He prayed for God's purpose for Him. Watching is to be awake and alert while you pray, awaiting for God to speak to you. Jesus was "watching" as He prayed. He told them after waking them the third time "Sleep on." They were awake but asleep spiritually. They had not learned to "watch." Later because Peter didn't "watch" in his prayers he acted in the flesh and cut a servants ear off.

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Lesson 17

The launching rocket of Prayer- part 2

I. Introduction

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Definitions: Talking with God, petition, worship,
My definition of prayer: Pray and watch- it's a two way communication. It's not just asking.

A. **There are many kinds of prayers and ways to pray all with their own set of instructions. Ephesians 6:18-20 (KJV)**

B. **Watching and praying- Peter "watch and pray" that you enter not into temptation-Matthew 26:40-41 (KJV)**

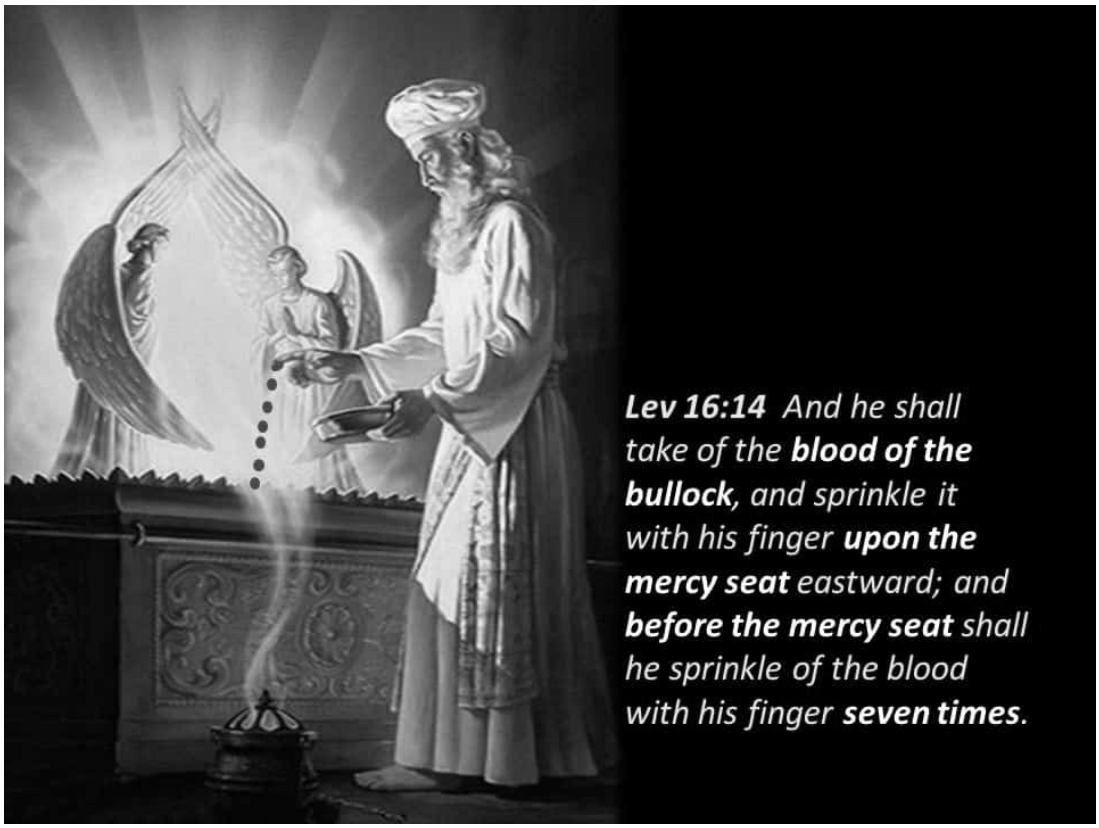
II. Prayer our launching rocket of power

A. **We must have confidence when we pray- Boldness to enter the holy of holies**

Philippians 1:6 (KJV)
6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

Hebrews 10:19-23 (KJV)
19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,
20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;
21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;
22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)

Once a year *one* man could go fearfully in with the blood of an unblemished sacrifice and offer it's blood for the sins of Israel. This was a fore shadow of what was to come in Christ.



C.I Scofield: "The first intimation of sacrifice is Gen 3:21 the "coats of skins" having obviously come from slain animals. The first clear instance of sacrifice is Gen 4:4 explained in Heb 11:4 Abel's righteousness was the result of his sacrifice, not of his character.
(2) Before the giving of the law the head of the family was the family priest. By the law an order of priests was established who alone could offer sacrifices. Those sacrifices were "shadows," types, expressing variously the guilt and need of the offerer in reference to God,

and all pointing to Christ and fulfilled in Him."[49]

Adam Clarke: "This is an allusion to the case of the high priest going into the holy of holies. He went with fear and trembling, because, if he had neglected the smallest item prescribed by the law, he could expect nothing but death. Genuine believers can come even to the throne of God with confidence, as they carry into the Divine presence the infinitely meritorious blood of the great atonement; and, being justified through that blood, they have a right to all the blessings of the eternal kingdom."[50]

Jack Wellman: "The High Priest's Duties
First of all, they would cast lots over which goat to sacrifice and then tie a tongue-shaped piece of scarlet cloth tied to the horn of the Azazel or scapegoat. Next, the goat would be placed before the people and wait until all their sins were laid upon him, after which the priest would offer the sacrifice of a bullock, and only then could the high priest enter the Most Holy Place, or the Holy of Holies. The priest entered into the Most Holy Place the first time to burn incense, representing the prayers of the priests, and then enters a second time with the blood of the bullock. The third time the priest enters the Holy of Holies is to sprinkle the blood of the goat on the mercy seat. He also sprinkles it toward (but not on) the veil, the altar of incense, and then the burnt-offering. That's when the high priest lays the personal sins and guilt of all the people on the scapegoat, where confession is made over it and the goat is led away to die, sometimes pushed over a precipice to ensure its death. Then it's the high priest's reading and prayers in the Court of the Women before he puts on the golden garments to offer the burnt and other sacrifices. After this, he enters the Most Holy Place one last time where he offers the burnt offering and the other sacrifices."[51]

1. **This "new and living way"** spoken of here speaks of Christ being the sufficient sacrifice once and for all perpetually (v.14 forever) sanctifying believers who are saved. He was not just the sacrifice, but he became our high priest. Now that our high priest went in, He made a new way for us to come into the very presence of God ourselves being infilled and clothed with Him. We have been made righteous because of Him. We are now priest and kings and can come boldly to the throne room without fear.

   When we pray now we come boldly as those with relationships asking our Father, and not as mere subjects hoping for a covering from the blood of animals.

   1 John 5:14-15 (KJV)
   14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will,

[49] C.I. Scofield, ed., *The Holy Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments*, WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "Chapter 10".
[50] Adam Clarke, *Adam Clarke's Commentary*, (New York: Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, 1826), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "Hebrews".

[51] Wellman, Jack. https://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/what-did-the-high-priest-do-on-the-day-of-atonement/

he heareth us:
15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

2. **Two clues to getting your prayers answered:**

This is something the Lord revealed to me about these verses. Ask in confidence in accordance with His will. What is His will? Of course those things He has given us and promised us in His word. Has He not promised us all the same things? If He heals one and not another isn't that partiality? Does God want to heal everyone who ask? Of course He does. So where is the disconnect? Why are some healed and others not? A few clues are here in this verses. Coming into His presence first is the first part. Some pray begging God hoping that He will do something, but do it outside His presence.
"And if we know that He hear us," is the second part. We have to know that He is hearing us as we pray, this is *how* we pray "according to His will." Having confidence when we pray that He is hearing us; this is also His will. It is one thing to know what is written as His "will," but it is another thing to be so bold to think you know His will and *know for sure* that He is listening to you. This kind of confidence is a key to getting you prayers answered. Some people actually pray and don't expect an answer.

B. Faith and prayer

Hebrews 11:1 (KJV)
1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

To have faith is *to know* not hope for. There is nothing wrong with hoping for something. But, praying in faith is not hoping. Having faith and praying in faith is knowing it's done. Your *faith* is the evidence and substance of things not seen. Your faith says it's already done; why? Because faith is evidence and substance of what is not yet seen. If we have faith for something we already know it's done. Rom 10:17 says "Faith comes by hearing the word."

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)
6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

1. Faith pleases God
2. Believe that He is- The beginning of faith
3. Believe that He rewards those who diligently seek him

> "Diligently seek" Ekzēteō Pronunciation: ek-zay-teh'-o
>
> from <G1537> (ek) and <G2212> (zeteo); to *search out*, i.e. (figurative) *investigate, crave, demand*, (by Hebrew) *worship* :- en- (re-) quire, seek after (carefully, diligently).[52]

[5252] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "1567".

Hebrews 4:14-16 (KJV)
14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession.
15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin.
16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

God know us so much that he knows how many hairs we have on our head- Matthew 10:30
He takes no pleasure when we lack anything.

C. Praying the right way understanding God's ways and His will

We learn and grow by exercising our senses about good and evil. By experience we grow in faith. People lose everything because they fail to seek and understand God's word.

Hebrews 5:14 (KJV)
14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Hosea 4:6 (KJV)
6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Joke: Chandelier
The church was having a business meeting.
One of the main items on the agenda
was deciding whether or not to buy
a fancy chandelier for the entrance.
The congregation was about to vote
when Sam, the resident "aginer" (someone who is against everything)
woke up, rose and said,
"I'm agin it fer four reasons:
One, we don't need it.
Two, we can't afford it.
Three, if we was to git it,
they ain't nobody here can play it.
An' four, what we really needs here is more light."

An example of knowing right interpretation: Isaiah 59:19
Who put that comma there? The purpose of good study is knowledge

Isaiah 59:19 (KJV)
19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

We must first learn to ask. Then we must ask with the right motive.

James 4:2-3 (KJV)
2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.
3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

1. You don't have because you're fighting over things you don't have
2. You don't have because you haven't asked
3. You don't have because you ask the wrong way
4. You don't have because you are just asking to fulfill only what you can get for yourself

D. Every great awakening began with a small group praying through

Hebrews 10:35-36 (KJV)
35 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.
36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

E.M. Bounds: ""Revivals," as Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman reminds us, "are born in prayer. When Wesley prayed, England was revived; when Knox prayed, Scotland was refreshed; when the Sunday School teachers of Tannybrook prayed, 11,000 young people were added to the church in a year. Whole nights of prayer have always been succeeded by whole days of soul-winning…When God's people become so concerned about the state of religion that they lie on their faces day and night in earnest supplication, the blessing will be sure to fall."[53]

Supplemental

PRAYER brought REVIVAL- by J. Edwin Orr.

J. Edwin Orr was one of the foremost authorities on Revival in the last century. This article, based on one of his messages, is adapted from articles reproduced in the National Fellowship for Revival newsletters in New Zealand and Australia.

Dr. A. T. Pierson once said, 'There has never been a spiritual awakening in any country or locality that did not begin in united prayer.' Let me recount what God has done through concerted, united, sustained prayer.

Not many people realize that in the wake of the American Revolution (following 1776-1781) there was a moral slump. Drunkenness became epidemic. Out of a population of five million, 300,000 were confirmed drunkards; they were burying fifteen thousand of them each year. Profanity was of the most shocking kind. For the first time in the history of the

[53] https://www.independentbaptist.com/the-beginning-of-revivals-begins-with-prayer/

American settlement, women were afraid to go out at night for fear of assault. Bank robberies were a daily occurrence.

What about the churches? The Methodists were losing more members than they were gaining. The Baptists said that they had their most wintry season. The Presbyterians in general assembly deplored the nation's ungodliness. In a typical Congregational church, the Rev. Samuel Shepherd of Lennos, Massachusetts, in sixteen years had not taken one young person into fellowship. The Lutherans were so languishing that they discussed uniting with Episcopalians who were even worse off. The Protestant Episcopal Bishop of New York, Bishop Samuel Provost, quit functioning; he had confirmed no one for so long that he decided he was out of work, so he took up other employment.

The Chief Justice of the United States, John Marshall, wrote to the Bishop of Virginia, James Madison, that the Church 'was too far gone ever to be redeemed.' Voltaire averred and Tom Paine echoed, 'Christianity will be forgotten in thirty years.

Take the liberal arts colleges at that time. A poll taken at Harvard had discovered not one believer in the whole student body. They took a poll at Princeton, a much more evangelical place, where they discovered only two believers in the student body, and only five that did not belong to the filthy speech movement of that day. Students rioted. They held a mock communion at Williams College, and they put on anti-Christian plays at Dartmouth. They burned down the Nassau Hall at Princeton. They forced the resignation of the president of Harvard. They took a Bible out of a local Presbyterian church in New Jersey, and they burnt it in a public bonfire. Christians were so few on campus in the 1790's that they met in secret, like a communist cell, and kept their minutes in code so that no one would know.

How did the situation change? It came through a concert of prayer.

There was a Scottish Presbyterian minister in Edinburgh named John Erskine, who published a Memorial (as he called it) pleading with the people of Scotland and elsewhere to unite in prayer for the revival of religion. He sent one copy of this little book to Jonathan Edwards in New England. The great theologian was so moved he wrote a response which grew longer than a letter, so that finally he published it is a book entitled 'A Humble Attempt to Promote Explicit Agreement and Visible Union of all God's People in Extraordinary Prayer for the Revival of Religion and the Advancement of Christ's Kingdom on Earth, pursuant to Scripture Promises and Prophecies...'

Is not this what is missing so much from all our evangelistic efforts: explicit agreement, visible unity, unusual prayer?

1792 - 1800

This movement had started in Britain through William Carey, Andrew Fuller and John Sutcliffe and other leaders who began what the British called the Union of Prayer. Hence, the year after John Wesley died (he died in 1791), the second great awakening began and swept Great Britain.

In New England, there was a man of prayer named Isaac Backus, a Baptist pastor, who in 1794, when conditions were at their worst, addressed an urgent plea for prayer for revival to pastors of every Christian denomination in the United States.

Churches knew that their backs were to the wall. All the churches adopted the plan until America, like Britain was interlaced with a network of prayer meetings, which set aside the first Monday of each month to pray. It was not long before revival came.

When the revival reached the frontier in Kentucky, it encountered a people really wild and irreligious. Congress had discovered that in Kentucky there had not been more than one court of justice held in five years. Peter Cartwright, Methodist evangelist, wrote that when his father had settled in Logan County, it was known as Rogue's Harbour. The decent people in Kentucky formed regiments of vigilantes to fight for law and order, then fought a pitched battle with outlaws and lost.

There was a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian minister named James McGready whose chief claim to fame was that he was so ugly that he attracted attention. McGready settled in Logan County, pastor of three little churches. He wrote in his diary that the winter of 1799 for the most part was 'weeping and mourning with the people of God.' Lawlessness prevailed everywhere.

McGready was such a man of prayer that not only did he promote the concert of prayer every first Monday of the month, but he got his people to pray for him at sunset on Saturday evening and sunrise Sunday morning. Then in the summer of 1800 come the great Kentucky revival. Eleven thousand people came to a communion service. McGready hollered for help, regardless of denomination.

Out of that second great awakening, came the whole modern missionary movement and its societies. Out of it came the abolition of slavery, popular education, Bible Societies, Sunday Schools, and many social benefits accompanying the evangelistic drive.

1858 - 1860

Following the second great awakening, which began in 1792 just after the death of John Wesley and continued into the turn of the century, conditions again deteriorated. This is illustrated from the United States.

The country was seriously divided over the issue of slavery, and second, people were making money lavishly.

In September 1857, a man of prayer, Jeremiah Lanphier, started a businessmen's prayer meeting in the upper room of the Dutch Reformed Church Consistory Building in Manhattan. In response to his advertisement, only six people out of a population of a million showed up. But the following week there were fourteen, and then twenty-three when it was decided to meet everyday for prayer. By late winter they were filling the Dutch Reformed Church, then the Methodist Church on John Street, then Trinity Episcopal Church

on Broadway at Wall Street. In February and March of 1858, every church and public hall in down town New York was filled.

Horace Greeley, the famous editor, sent a reporter with horse and buggy racing round the prayer meetings to see how many men were praying. In one hour he could get to only twelve meetings, but he counted 6,100 men attending.

Then a landslide of prayer began, which overflowed to the churches in the evenings. People began to be converted, ten thousand a week in New York City alone. The movement spread throughout New England, the church bells bringing people to prayer at eight in the morning, twelve noon, and six in the evening. The revival raced up the Hudson and down the Mohawk, where the Baptists, for example, had so many people to baptize that they went down to the river, cut a big hole in the ice, and baptized them in the cold water. When Baptists do that they are really on fire!

More than a million people were converted to God in one year out of a population of thirty million. Then that same revival jumped the Atlantic, appeared in Ulster, Scotland and Wales, then England, parts of Europe, South Africa and South India anywhere there was an evangelical cause. It sent mission pioneers to many countries. Effects were felt for forty years. Having begun in a movement of prayer, it was sustained by a movement of prayer.

1904 - 1905

That movement lasted for a generation, but at the turn of the century there was need of awakening again. A general movement of prayer began, with special prayer meetings at Moody Bible Institute, at Keswick Conventions in England, and places as far apart as Melbourne, Wonsan in Korea, and the Nilgiri Hills of India. So all around the world believers were praying that there might be another great awakening in the twentieth century.

* * *

In the revival of 1905, I read of a young man who became a famous professor, Kenneth Scott Latourette. He reported that, at Yale in 1905, 25% of the student body were enrolled in prayer meetings and in Bible study.

As far as churches were concerned, the ministers of Atlantic City reported that of a population of fifty thousand there were only fifty adults left unconverted.

Take Portland in Oregon: two hundred and forty major stores closed from 11 to 2 each day to enable people to attend prayer meetings, signing an agreement so that no one would cheat and stay open.

Take First Baptist Church of Paducah in Kentucky: the pastor, an old man, Dr J. J. Cheek, took a thousand members in two months and died of overwork, the Southern Baptists saying, 'a glorious ending to a devoted ministry.'

That is what was happening in the United States in 1905. But how did it begin?

* * *

Most people have heard of the Welsh Revival which started in 1904. It began as a movement of prayer.

Seth Joshua, the Presbyterian evangelist, came to Newcastle Emlyn College where a former coal miner, Evan Roberts aged 26, was studying for the ministry. The students were so moved that they asked if they could attend Joshua's next campaign nearby. So they cancelled classes to go to Blaenanerch where Seth Joshua prayed publicly, 'O God, bend us.'

Evan Roberts went forward where he prayed with great agony, 'O God, bend me.'

Upon his return he could not concentrate on his studies. He went to the principal of his college and explained, 'I keep hearing a voice that tells me I must go home and speak to our young people in my home church. Principal Phillips, is that the voice of the devil or the voice of the Spirit?' Principal Phillips answered wisely, 'The devil never gives orders like that. You can have a week off.' So he went back home to Loughor and announced to the pastor, 'I've come to preach.'

The pastor was not at all convinced, but asked, 'How about speaking at the prayer meeting on Monday?' He did not even let him speak to the prayer meeting, but told the praying people, 'Our young brother, Evan Roberts, feels he has a message for you if you care to wait.'

Seventeen people waited behind, and were impressed with the directness of the young man's words. Evan Roberts told his fellow members, 'I have a message for you from God.

* You must confess any known sin to God and put any wrong done to others right.

* Second, you must put away any doubtful habit.

* Third, you must obey the Spirit promptly.

* Finally, you must confess your faith in Christ publicly.'

By ten o'clock all seventeen had responded. The pastor was so pleased that he asked, 'How about your speaking at the mission service tomorrow night? Midweek service Wednesday night?' He preached all week, and was asked to stay another week. Then the break came. Suddenly the dull ecclesiastical columns in the Welsh papers changed:

'Great crowds of people drawn to Loughor.'

The main road between Llanelly and Swansea on which the church was situated was packed with people trying to get into the church. Shopkeepers closed early to find a place in the big church.

Now the news was out. A reporter was sent down and he described vividly what he saw: a strange meeting which closed at 4.25 in the morning, and even then people did not seem willing to go home. There was a very British summary: 'I felt that this was no ordinary gathering.'

Next day, every grocery shop in that industrial valley was emptied of groceries by people attending the meetings, and on Sunday every church was filled.

The movement went like a tidal wave over Wales, in five months there being a hundred thousand people converted throughout the country. Five years later, Dr J. V. Morgan wrote a book to debunk the revival, his main criticism being that, of a hundred thousand joining the churches in five months of excitement, after five years only seventy-five thousand still stood in the membership of those churches!

The social impact was astounding. For example, judges were presented with white gloves, not a case to try; no robberies, no burglaries, no rapes, no murders, and no embezzlements, nothing. District councils held emergency meetings to discuss what to do with the police now that they were unemployed.

In one place the sergeant of police was sent for and asked, 'What do you do with your time?' He replied, 'Before the revival, we had two main jobs, to prevent crime and to control crowds, as at football games. Since the revival started there is practically no crime. So we just go with the crowds.'

A councilor asked, 'What does that mean?' The sergeant replied, 'You know where the crowds are. They are packing out the churches.' 'But how does that affect the police?' He was told, 'We have seventeen police in our station, but we have three quartets, and if any church wants a quartet to sing, they simply call the police station.'

As the revival swept Wales, drunkenness was cut in half. There was a wave of bankruptcies, but nearly all taverns. There was even a slowdown in the mines, for so many Welsh coal miners were converted and stopped using bad language that the horses that dragged the coal trucks in the mines could not understand what was being said to them.

That revival also affected sexual moral standards. I had discovered through the figures given by British government experts that in Radnorshire and Merionethshire the illegitimate birth rate had dropped 44% within a year of the beginning of the revival.

The revival swept Britain, Scandinavia, Germany, North America, Australasia, Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Chile. As always, it began through a movement of prayer.

What do we mean by extraordinary prayer? We share ordinary prayer in regular worship services, before meals, and the like. But when people are found getting up at six in the morning to pray, or having a half night of prayer until midnight, or giving up their lunch time to pray at noonday prayer meetings, that is extraordinary prayer. It must be united and concerted.

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E. Specific and heartfelt

James 5:16-18 (KJV)
16 Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.
18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

The Amplified Bible reads in verse 16: "The earnest (heartfelt continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]."

"Fervent"
Transliteration: energeō **Phonetic Pronunciation:** en-erg-eh'-o
from <G1756> (energes); to *be active, efficient* :- do, (be) effectual (fervent), be mighty in, shew forth self, work (effectually in).[54]

F. Waring in prayer- The first day thy words were heard-I am come to answer

Daniel 10:12-13 (KJV)
12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.
13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

Ephesians 6:10 (KJV)
10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

How is His might displayed? By putting on the whole armor of God and standing against the Devil.

[54] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "1754".

Ephesians 6:11 (KJV)
11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

How do we stand against the Devil?

Ephesians 6:18 (HCSB)
18 Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert in this with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.

Praying in the Spirit is spiritual warfare.

G. Use your whole arsenal of weapons- Conquer evil with good

1. Gifts of the Spirit vs Fruit of the Spirit. Fruit is inward, gifts are outward.

Galatians 5:22-23 (HCSB)
22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith,
23 gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Romans 12:12 (HCSB)
12 Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer…

Romans 12:17-21 (HCSB)
17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Try to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes.
18 If possible, on your part, live at peace with everyone.
19 Friends, do not avenge yourselves; instead, leave room for His wrath. For it is written: Vengeance belongs to Me; I will repay, says the Lord.
20 But If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For in so doing you will be heaping fiery coals on his head.
21 Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

Ted Cabal- "More likely, then, "fiery coals" envision a positive effect: shaming the enemy into repentance. The burning coals may refer to an Egyptian ritual during which one demonstrated genuine repentance by carrying hot coals in some container. Paul urged Christians to do good to enemies so they see their sins and repent. Obviously, repentance will not always follow, but this is the Christian response when injured (recall Mt 5:44–47)."[55]

Royce Gordon Gruenler, Evangelical Commentary of the Bible: "Since the context of Paul's exhortation (12:17–21) indicates an absolutely upright intention in not returning evil for evil, but in doing "what is right," and living at peace with everyone as far as it is

[55] Cabal, Ted et al. *The Apologetics Study Bible: Real Questions, Straight Answers, Stronger Faith*. Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2007. Print.

possible, it is out of the question to interpret the metaphor of burning coals as a sly way of really getting even with an enemy, for that would be to allow evil to overcome the Christian, when in fact the believer is to manifest Christ-like hospitality toward an enemy in hope that divine grace working through the believer will win him over as a friend and thereby overcome evil with good (v. 21)." [56]

2. Bruise Satan's head- "Bruise" (KJV) in Greek means to shatter or to crush completely

Romans 16:19-20 (HCSB)
[19] The report of your obedience has reached everyone. Therefore I rejoice over you. But I want you to be wise about what is good, yet innocent about what is evil.
[20] The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

Syntribō **Phonetic Pronunciation:** soon-tree'-bo from <G4862> (sun) and the base of <G5147> (tribos); to *crush completely*, i.e. to *shatter* (literal or figurative) :- break (in pieces), broken to shivers (+ -hearted), bruise.[57]

[56] Gruenler, Royce Gordon. "Romans." *Evangelical Commentary on the Bible*. Vol. 3. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1995. 951. Print. Baker Reference Library.
[57] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "4937".

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 18

The launching rocket of Prayer- part 3
Limiting God in our prayers

I. Can we limit God in our prayers?

We Serve a Limitless God

God is infinite. God is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-capable. There are **no limits** restricting God. Yet despite this, to their own harm His people tend to minimize God's unlimited power by wrong thinking.

Psalm 78:40-42 (KJV)
40 How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, *and* grieve him in the desert!
41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.
42 They remembered not his hand, *nor* the day when he delivered them from the enemy.

Israel diminished their expectations of our unlimited God. How? They did not remember…

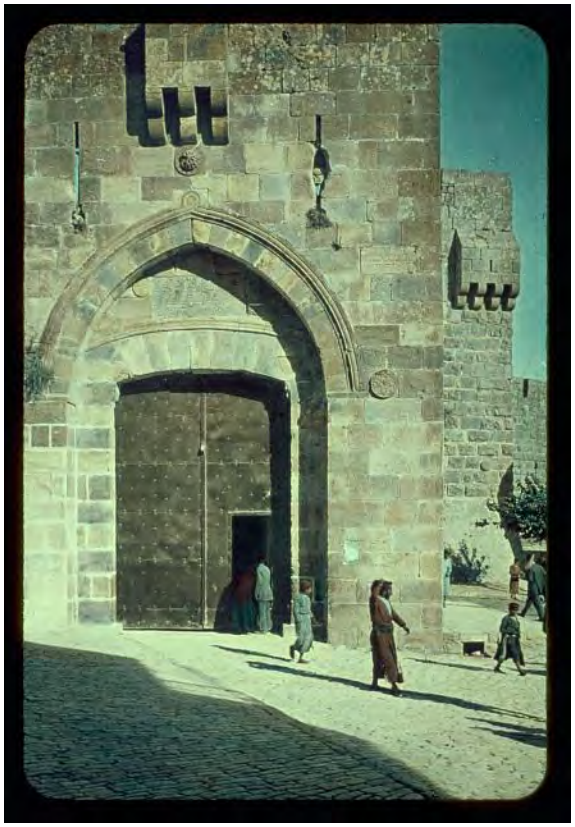
Is it possible to be blessed financially and be a true Christian?

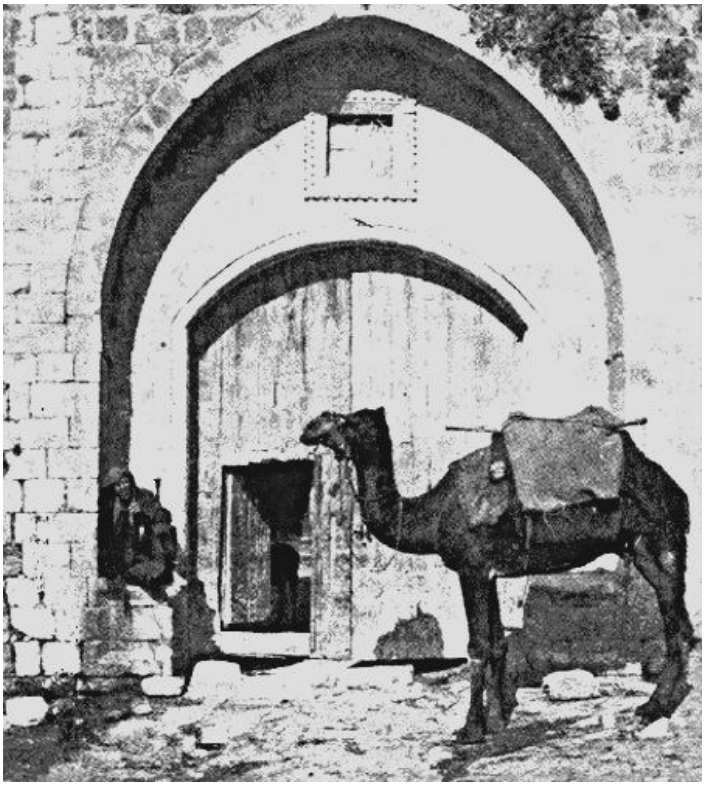
A. Jesus said all things are possible

Matthew 19:23-30 (KJV)
23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.
24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.
25 When his disciples heard *it*, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?
26 But Jesus beheld *them*, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.

27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?
28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.
30 But many *that are* first shall be last; and the last *shall be* first.

The "*eye of the needle*" mentioned in the Bible, was one of the many gates providing passage through Jerusalem's massive walls. The "Needle Gate" was used when the city's main gates were closed at night. It was designed for security so that enemies could not simply ride into the city. The gate was so small, that a rich man would have to unload his camel and then with great effort, lead his camel through –a slow & difficult process.





Left: Jaffa gate in Jerusalem and its Eye of the needle door.

Right: A similar Eye of the needle gate in Nazareth

B. **Jesus was limited by their unbelief**

Matthew 13:57-58 (KJV)
57 And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.
58 And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

C. Is it right to have plenty?

There are two ways we can look at prosperity-

1. Having too much is wrong (and it can lead to a downfall like in America today).

2. God is not against one prospering, He is against ones pride and laziness that comes with it.

   God's way of thinking is "don't limit me", and "I will bless you as long as you glorify me in your life."

   It takes money to reach people any way you look at it. Our overflow is to bless people.

   What is false humility? The Pharisees gave publicly so people would see them- praise of men. Rich people tend to condescend to others because they think because they have so much they must know more or have more of God's favor. This is the thinking during Jesus' day.

   The Bible teaches that God gives us extra so we can help and bless others.

Quotes:

"There is no limit to what a person can do if he doesn't mind who gets the credit for it."

Great men do great things as long as they know how to not accept credit for it and give it to God or others.

We are never to accept or seek for the applause of men.

D. 2 Kings 4:1-7- God wants to bless you- get some empty vessels

2 Kings 4:1-7 (KJV)
1 Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.
2 And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.
3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, *even* empty vessels; borrow

not a few.

4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

5 So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought *the vessels* to her; and she poured out.

6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, *There is* not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.

7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

•Don't limit God's ability to provide supernaturally. Through the prophet Elisha, God was going to provide a miraculous supply of valuable oil for the destitute widow.

• He told her to borrow empty jars, and "don't ask for just a few." Elisha understood God's unlimited power and His limitless care for His people. God miraculously filled every single jar brimful and delivered the widow from her poverty.

• Do you need a miracle in your life today? Don't ask for just a little of God's help. There's no limit to how much Almighty God can help you. His ability to meet your need is without boundaries.

STUDY GUIDE

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 19

The launching rocket of Prayer- part 4

I. Pray the Word, pray the blood, pray the name

A. Pray the Word: When we pray using the word of God, it is a type of "confession" (meaning to say the same as) and our faith is built up.

Faith filled prayers. Satan fears the faith filled declaration of the Word.

> **Michael Bradly:** "Praying the Scriptures will increase your spiritual growth. You actually learn what God says about certain situations, and by praying His Word you will see His results. Many people have testified that just by praying the healing scriptures they have been healed, physically as well as mentally."[58]

Hebrews 4:12 (Darby)
12 For the word of God [is] living and operative, and sharper than any two-edged sword, and

[58] http://www.prayingscriptures.com/

penetrating to [the] division of soul and spirit, both of joints and marrow, and a discerner of the thoughts and intents of [the] heart.
Isaiah 55:11 (KJV)
11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

When heaven and Earth are passed away God's word will still be in existence. His word is eternal and powerful. Nothing is more powerful. Jesus declared:

Matthew 24:35 (KJV)
35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Examples of praying with the Word of God: "Confessions of Victory in Spiritual Warfare:

Jesus bore my sicknesses and carried my pains, and with His stripes I am healed- body you have to get in line with the Word of God. Is 53:4-5, 1 Peter 2:24

God has delivered me from the power of darkness and has conveyed me into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom I have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. Col. 1:13-14

Father, there is no weapon that can be formed against me that will succeed, I am more than a conqueror through Christ who strengthens me! Isaiah 54:17, Rom. 8:37

In righteousness I shall be established. I shall be far from oppression, for I shall not fear. Is 54:14

Now thanks be to God who always leads me in triumph in Christ. 2 Cor. 2:14

For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, to destroy the works of the devil. Jesus came to destroy all the works of the devil in my life. 1 John 3:8

Whoever is born of God overcomes the world. I am born of God and overcome the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith. I believe that Jesus is the Son of God, and so I overcome the world. 1 John 5:4-5

I am of God, and have overcome the spirits of antichrist, because greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

I am complete in Christ, who is the head of all principality and power. Col 2:10

God has raised me up and made me sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Eph. 2:6

The power that raised Christ above all principality and power is mightily working in me. Eph. 1:20

I submit to God. I resist the devil and he shall flee from me. 1Peter 4:11

B. Praying the blood or pleading the blood- This can be an offensive or a defensive prayer

Michael Bradly: "In my own personal opinion – I believe that learning how to Plead the Blood of Jesus will give you one of the most powerful, if not the most powerful form of offensive prayer that you can use for any kind of deliverance and/or protection that you may need from the Lord.
This form of offensive prayer can not only be used to get God's protection on you before any type of adversity ever strikes you, but it can also be used for physical, emotional, and mental healings, for battling demons, and for battling any kind of storm cloud that may have just come your way."59

Three specific things contained in the Blood of Jesus – forgiveness, deliverance, and protection.

1. Prayer of confession- The blood cleanses us- Matt. 26:28, Eph. 1:7; 2:13

1 John 1:7-9 (KJV)
7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ephesians 1:7 (KJV)
7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

2. The blood provides our deliverance- "Pleading the blood" through the prayers of thanksgiving and authority.

Colossians 1:11-14 (KJV)
11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;
12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:
13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:
14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

[59] Bradly, Michael. https://www.bible-knowledge.com/blood-of-jesus-how-to-plead-for-protection-and-deliverance/

Revelation 12:11 (KJV)
11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

A prayer of deliverance for a brother who has fallen into sin

1 John 5:14-16 (KJV)
14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:
15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.
16 If any man see his brother sin a sin *which is* not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

Bradly: "What defeated Satan and all his dark powers? The physical death of Jesus on the cross. And what did Jesus do when He died that day on the cross for all of us? He shed His Blood!
This is why Pleading the Blood of Jesus works so well in real life combat situations when it really is needed to defeat attacks that are coming against us from the dark side.
Many Christians are not fully aware of this second fact about the Blood of Jesus – that the Blood of Jesus can also be used to engage with our enemies when they do try to launch any kind of an attack against us. I believe that all of the above Scripture verses definitely tell us that the blood that Jesus shed that day on the cross has totally defeated Satan and all of his dark powers.
The only thing left is for all Christians to fully realize this incredible fact, and to grab a hold of this powerful truth and not to be afraid to use when they need it – especially when demons or other evil people are attempting to come against them with any type of unjust action or attack."[60]

3. Praying the blood for protection-(defensive prayers)

Exodus 12:13 (KJV)
13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt.

Bradly: "If the shed blood of the Old Testament lambs used for the temporary covering of sins eventually leads to the shedding of Jesus' blood for permanent and total forgiveness of all of our sins – can we also use that same analogy and say that the shed blood of the lambs used in the Passover for divine protection could also lead to the shed Blood of Jesus having divine protection in it?"[61]

[60] Bradly, Michael. https://www.bible-knowledge.com/blood-of-jesus-how-to-plead-for-protection-and-deliverance/
[61] Bradly, Michael. https://www.bible-knowledge.com/blood-of-jesus-how-to-plead-for-protection-and-deliverance/

How to plead the blood:

Plead the blood *on* the object or person that you want protected

Plead the blood *against* whatever may come against that object or person

Seal the prayer *with* a statement of faith and belief to God the Father telling Him that you are going to stand in faith believing His word and thanking Him that he will protect the object or person you just plead the blood over.

A sample prayer:

"Father, in the name of Jesus, I now plead the Blood of Jesus over every inch of my physical body, over my whole soul and spirit. I now plead the Blood of Jesus against any demons who may try and come against me. I now Plead the Blood of Jesus against any bad and evil people who may try and come against me.
I now plead the Blood of Jesus against any natural accidents or catastrophes that may come against me. I now plead the Blood of Jesus against any diseases, viruses, or illnesses that could possibly come against me.
Father, in the name of Jesus, I now have full faith and belief that the Blood of Jesus will now fully protect me against all of the things that I have just Pled His Blood on.
Thank you Father, Thank you Jesus."

C. Praying with the name of Jesus- The Christian power of Attorney to use it.

David Reagan: "We must first realize that the concept of name in scripture involves much more than a tag that identifies that person and distinguishes him or her from other people. Although it does do that, it also has a much deeper meaning. Name in scripture represents the very essence of the person. A person's personality, character, reputation and authority are all wrapped up in his name."[62]

Jesus's last discourse to the disciples before the cross he repeated this promise: Ask the Father in my name and I will do it.

John 14:12-14 (KJV)
12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

John 15:16 (KJV)
16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

[62] Reagan, David. http://www.learnthebible.org/praying-in-the-name-of-jesus.Html

John 16:23-27 (HCSB)
23 In that day you will not ask Me anything. "I assure you: Anything you ask the Father in My name, He will give you.
24 Until now you have asked for nothing in My name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.
25 "I have spoken these things to you in figures of speech. A time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but I will tell you plainly about the Father.
26 In that day you will ask in My name. I am not telling you that I will make requests to the Father on your behalf.
27 For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came from God. :

Once again this is the power of Attorney to use His name. Example: "Father, in the name of Jesus I ask you to heal my body, bring clarity to my mind and peace to me."

II. Conclusion- When the church uses prayer to launch the word, the blood and the name, they cannot fail.

A. The powerful church

Matthew 16:18 (KJV)
18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:18-19 (HCSB)
18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the forces of Hades will not overpower it.
19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth is already bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth is already loosed in heaven."

Gates represent fortitude and authority. The key to victory is what you say and do on earth in prayer will happen simultaneously in the heavenlies. This could mean our prayers cause heaven to act, and or when heaven binds and loosens, we act accordingly against evil. God does something in His realm and we declare it. We pray and God sends His angels to work. While some say we do not necessarily have the authority to command angels as yet, our praying causes heavenly forces to enact.

B. The work of angels

Hebrews 1:3-4 (HCSB)
3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact expression of His nature, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the

Majesty on high.
4 So He became higher in rank than the angels, just as the name He inherited is superior to theirs.

Angels are sent like apostles (set apart and sent out on a particular mission) to serve and minister believers. When we ask the Father in Jesus name they are dispatched to do the will of the Father.

Hebrews 1:14 (KJV)
14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

C. Command Me

Isaiah 45:11 (KJV)
11 Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.

Strongs Greek Concordance: "Command"

Greek: Transliteration: ṣāwâ Phonetic Pronunciation: tsaw-vaw'
Root: a primitive root
Part of Speech: v
Vine's Words: Command (To)

Usage Notes:

English Words used in KJV:
command 514, charge 39, commandment 9, appoint 5, bade 3, order 3, commander 1 *miscellaneous translations* 4

A primitive root; (intensive) to *constitute, enjoin* :- appoint, (for-) bid, (give a) charge, (give a, give in, send with) command (-er, -ment), send a messenger, put, (set) in order.[63]

This is a privileged that comes with relationship. We are to declare with a command prophetically to God what He is already doing or stated in His word concerning His workings with His people. When it is in line with what He is doing and you know it by asking Him, then charge and "command" God by declaring out-loud what He is doing or going to do for His people.

Dake's Annotated Bible: "Command Me concerning the work of My hands. This literally means that men have the authority to pray in such faith that they can direct the Almighty to do for them those things which they want and need. God would rather do things for His people than to withhold from them. To command God is an expression of the highest relationship, friendship, and cooperation to the same end in life. It is a rare privilege to

[63]James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "6680".

command Him, and if exercised properly in fervent, respectful petition, there is nothing that will be impossible to the believer (Isa. 45:11; Mt. 17:20; 21:22; Mk. 9:23; 11:22-24; Jn. 14:12-15; 15:7,16)." [64]

NOTES:

[64] Finis Jennings Dake, *Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text*, (Lawrenceville, GA: Dake Bible Sales, Inc., 1997), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "Chapter 45".

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 20

The launching rocket of praise and worship

TEXT:

2 Cor. 10:3-6 (MESSAGE)
"The world is unprincipled. It's dog-eat-dog out there! The world doesn't fight fair. But we don't live or fight our battles that way—never have and never will. The tools of our trade aren't for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground of every obstruction and building lives of obedience into maturity."[65]

I. The weapon of Praise and Worship Introduction

A. Worship and excellence

We need to strive for excellence in worship not perfection. It's ok to grow in the area of worship. We will answer to God on how we prioritize our worship experience. Too often we do not prioritize our worship service as the hub of everything we do. We must have a spirit of excellence not perfectionism here if we are to reach others for Christ.

B. Worship and evangelism- Breaking through the darkness

Sally Morgenthaler In her book "Worship Evangelism"-"As leaders we will not only be held accountable for what we teach and preach (James 3:1), but we will also answer to God for how we have or have not prioritized worship among the people of God. How are we weighting the church schedule, allocating volunteer hours, and managing our resources? Are

[65] Peterson, E. H. (2005). *The Message: the Bible in contemporary language* (2 Co 10:3–6). Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.

we doing whatever it takes to make worship as God-honoring, fresh, culturally accessible, and excellent as it can be? Or does it consistently get the leftovers?
One pastor proudly stated, "I believe we spend more time and energy on the one hour and ten minutes of our [seeker service] than all four of the [worship services] on Sunday." Is this really something to be proud of? Certainly, in this day and age, any evangelistic endeavor requires a high degree of excellence. But does that mean worship has to get the dregs? Are we not all called to excellence in every aspect of ministry?"[66]

Some have changed their services to be more "seeker sensitive" so they might be able to reach out better. A service that is seeker sensitive is a service that pleases the eye and has a more worldly feel in order to attract the lost. There is nothing wrong with trying to attract the lost but when we compromise the presence of the Lord to do that it becomes wrong. Being "seeker sensitive" in itself is not wrong, it's one way to fish for the lost, but we cannot sacrifice what church and worship should be: The celebration of God among His people.

John 12:32-33 (HCSB)
32 As for Me, if I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all [people] to Myself."
33 He said this to signify what kind of death He was about to die.

It is the gory message of the cross that must be told. When Jesus is truly lifted up in our services He draws men to Himself. We cannot be about *hiding* the light as a means of evangelism. We can still think outside the box and use technology wisely to reach a multifaceted crowd. We can use this tool to deliver the powerful Word of God, the Blood of Jesus and the Name of Jesus to the world breaking the very darkness that shadows them.

Matthew 5:13-16 (HCSB)
13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt should lose its taste, how can it be made salty? It's no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled on by men.
14 "You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden.
15 No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house.
16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

What is worship evangelism?

Jack Hayford- "A resource for incomplete and broken mankind to find completion and wholeness in His presence."[67]

C. His presence comes because of relationship

Matthew 18:19-20 (HCSB)
19 Again, I assure you: If two of you on earth agree about any matter that you pray for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven.
20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there among them."

[66] Morgenthaler, Sally. (1999) Worship Evangelism, (p. 42) Zondervan Publishing House Grand Rapids MI.
[67] Hayford, Jack. (1987) Worship His Majesty (p.56) Word Waco TX.

1. Is God in the service?

   A relationship of worship, not just coming to church once a week. LB- "Church without His presence is just religion."

   A friend of mine was in a service visiting another church one day. It was a beautiful older traditional church with a large altar area and high ceilings. Everything was proper, except God's presence. It seems folks had taken all the comforts of religion over having the presence of the Lord there. As they were in the service, a loud phone began to ring in the rectory. My friend leaned over and said to his wife, "That's God calling to say he's not going to be here today!"

2. QUOTE: Carmelite Fryer Brother Lawrence (1614-91) in *The Practice of the Presence of God*:

   "I drove away from my mind everything that was capable of interrupting my thought of GOD." [68]

   "… I have quitted all forms of devotion and set prayers but those to which my state obliges me. And I make it my business only to persevere in His holy presence, wherein I keep myself by a simple attention, and a general fond regard to GOD, which I may call an actual presence of GOD; or, to speak better, an habitual, silent, and secret conversation of the soul with GOD, which often causes in me joys and raptures inwardly, and sometimes also outwardly, so great that I am forced to use means to moderate them, and prevent their appearance to others."

   …This King, full of mercy and goodness, very far from chastising me, embraces me with love, makes me eat at His table, serves me with His own hands, gives me the key of His treasures; He converses and delights Himself with me incessantly, in a thousand and a thousand ways, and treats me in all respects as His favourite. It is thus I consider myself from time to time in His holy presence." [69]

   When we get into God's presence, do we feel like we are His favorite?

   Getting into God's presence is something we do every day. My job is to teach you how to fight the dragon (my dream) but worship is a weapon and we must understand how to use its force as a weapon every day.

D. **Two powerful elements- A song and a sword**

[68] Brother Lawrence, (1614-1691) The Practice of the Presence of God: The Best Rule of Holy Life, (Under: "First Letter) Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 2004), WORD*search* CROSS e-book.
[69] Brother Lawrence, (1614-1691) The Practice of the Presence of God: The Best Rule of Holy Life, (Under: "Second Letters) Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 2004), WORD*search* CROSS e-book.

Psalm 149:1-9 (KJV)

1 Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, *and* his praise in the congregation of saints.
2 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.
3 Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

1. Definitions:

V 1- "Praise" Transliteration: Greek is hālal Phonetic Pronunciation: haw-lal'
"a primitive root; to *be clear* (origin of sound, but usually of color); to *shine*; hence to *make a show*, to *boast*; and thus to *be* (clamorously) *foolish*; to *rave*; causative to *celebrate*"[70]

"New" song- Greek is ḥādāsh Phonetic Pronunciation: khaw-dawsh'. Which means a "fresh" song or a new song. A spontaneous song.

V2- "Rejoice" Greek is śāmaḥ Phonetic Pronunciation: saw-makh'
Strongs: "a primitive root; probably to *brighten* up, i.e. (figurative) *be* (causative make) *blithe* or *gleesome* :- cheer up, be (make) glad,"[71]

"Joyful" Greek is gûwl Phonetic Pronunciation: gool
"***guwl***, gool; a primitive root; properly to *spin* round (under the influence of any violent emotion), i.e. usually *rejoice*, or (as *cringing*) *fear* :- be glad, joy, be joyful, rejoice."[72]

V.3 "Praise" same as above

"Name"- as a mark or memorial of individuality; by implication *honor, authority, character*- Famous

"Dance" A (round) dance

"Sing praises" Greek is zāmar Phonetic Pronunciation: zaw-mar' To sing with music-
"a primitive root … through the idea of *striking* with the fingers; properly to *touch* the strings or parts of a musical instrument, i.e. *play* upon it; to make *music*, accompanied by the voice; hence to *celebrate* in song and music"[73]

4 For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.
5 Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.

[70] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "1984".
[71] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "8055".
[72] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "1523".
[73] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "2167".

6 *Let* the high *praises* of God *be* in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand;
7 To execute vengeance upon the heathen, *and* punishments upon the people;
8 To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;
9 To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.

V.5 "Joyful" Greek 5937- ʿālaz Phonetic Pronunciation: aw-laz' Means to "Jump for joy".

"Sing aloud" Greek is Transliteration: rānan Phonetic Pronunciation: raw-nan'

"A primitive root; properly to *creak* (or emit a stridulous sound), i.e. to *shout* (usually for joy) :- aloud for joy, cry out, be joyful, (greatly, make to) rejoice, (cause to) shout (for joy), (cause to) sing (aloud, for joy, out), triumph."[74]

V. 6 "High Praises of God" Greek 7319 is rômēmut- Phonetic Pronunciation: ro-mem-aw'- means the exaltation of God's praises.

Two elements or weapons here- Vs 6-9

1. High praises- V, 6- Exalted praises in your mouth. In Verse 1 a "new" song- "Hymns" can be new songs not written down. Psalms were written down.
2. A two edged sword

This honor have all the saints, not just those dressed for battle- Prophetic of the last days of judgment but speaks of warfare now

2. Many different kinds of song in worship

Ephesians 5:18-20 (KJV)
18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;
20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

3 kinds of songs:
1. Psalms- A set piece of music (What we call hymns today)
2. Hymns- A new song that praises
3. Spiritual songs- Prophetic and spontaneous

E. Singing and warfare- At the presence of the Lord they will scatter, our goal is to bring the presence of the Lord

[74] James Strong, *Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary*, (Austin, TX: WORD*search* Corp., 2007), WORD*search* CROSS e-book, Under: "7442".

Psalm 9:1-3 (KJV)
1 I will praise *thee*, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.
2 I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.
3 When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence.

Psalm 68:1-4 (KJV)
1 Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.
2 As smoke is driven away, *so* drive *them* away: as wax melteth before the fire, *so* let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
3 But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice (jump for joy) before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.
4 Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.

Praising and thanking God with unity brings the glory of God

2 Chronicles 5:13-14 (KJV)
13 It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers *were* as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up *their* voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, *saying*, For *he is* good; for his mercy *endureth* for ever: that *then* the house was filled with a cloud, *even* the house of the LORD;
14 So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

Have you ever seen the glory of God? The tangible presences of God will be displayed in a place where folks are worshiping as one and lifting up their voices in praise and thanksgiving.

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 21

The launching rocket of praise and worship-2

I. Introduction- Anointing or *fatness*?

Isaiah 10:27 (KJV)
27 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

Dr. Michael Brown: "What, then, is the text actually saying? It's best to understand *shamen* here as "fatness" (pronounced SHA-MEYN), which would produce a literal translation of, "The yoke will be destroyed because of the fat." But what does that mean?
The New International Version expresses it well: "In that day their burden will be lifted from your shoulders, their yoke from your neck; the yoke will be broken because you have grown so fat."
Do you get the picture? Here is an ox with a yoke on its neck, enslaving it to the will of its master, forcing it to a life of servitude. But eventually, it gets so healthy and fat that the yoke simply bursts from off its neck. That ox is now free!
And that is a picture for each of us when we find ourselves bound or oppressed or beaten into submission by the enemy. We simply feed our spirits the living Word day and night, we continue in worship and praise and prayer and communion, and little by little, we get so healthy and strong—so "fat"—that suddenly the yoke of oppression has to burst. The fatness destroys the yoke!"[75]

II. What is thanksgiving, praise and worship and how they work?

Romans 12:1 (HCSB)
1 Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship.

A. Worship defined- To bow down

[75] Brown, Dr. Michael. https://www.charismanews.com/opinion/39700-a-hebrew-insight-that-breaks-the-yoke

Genesis 24:26 (KJV)
[26] And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the LORD.

"'Worship' (Old English 'weorthscipe'='worth-ship') originally referred to the action of human beings in expressing homage to God because he is worthy of it. It covers such activities as adoration, thanksgiving, prayers of all kinds, the offering of sacrifice and the making of vows. Nowadays, however, 'worship' is used for any kind of interaction between God and his people, expressed in (but not confined to) cultic or formal activity by a religious group or individuals. It therefore includes not only the human approach to God but also the communications of God with his people, and the whole communal activity that takes place when the people gather together religiously. Such activity is the formal expression of spiritual attitudes which should characterize God's people at all times (Rom. 12:1)."[76]

DEF.: It is by relationship, entering into His presence. You can praise and thank someone without relationship but one needs to have a relationship to really enter into worship. Praise can be horizontal, but worship must be vertical.

Tom Kraeuter from his book, *Worship is… WHAT?!:*
"One of the most common questions that has disturbed the mind of mankind throughout history is this: why are we here; what is our purpose? People of every generation have pondered this question. Fortunately, Scripture clearly depicts the reason for our existence: to worship God. When we begin to understand that worship is our reason for being, it will revolutionize our thinking in every area of life."

I learned to worship on an old creek bed down in Embolden Mo. Close to my house with a beginner guitar.

B. The earthly tabernacle and God's glory there was a pattern of worship

Hebrews 9:23-24 (HCSB)
[23] Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be purified with these [sacrifices], but the heavenly things themselves [to be purified] with better sacrifices than these.
[24] For the Messiah did not enter a sanctuary made with hands (only a model of the true one) but into heaven itself, so that He might now appear in the presence of God for us.

1. Our center, our purpose is to worship-
   During the time of Moses God commanded 3 tribes to be on each side of the camp and in the center of it all was the tabernacle. Worship should be our center. The earthly tabernacle was patterned after the heavenly. Every detail of the tabernacle was a symbol of what now is worship: Our "way into the most holy place" the very presence of our glorious God. Outer court, Inner Court, Holy of Holies.

2. There is no more a veil keeping us from the Holy of Holies

[76] Marshall, I. H. (1996). Worship. In D. R. W. Wood, A. R. Millard, J. I. Packer, & D. J. Wiseman (Eds.), *New Bible dictionary* (3rd ed., p. 1250). Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Hebrews 9:1-9 (HCSB)
1 Now the first [covenant] also had regulations for ministry and an earthly sanctuary.
2 For a tabernacle was set up, and in the first room, which is called the holy place, were the lampstand, the table, and the presentation loaves.
3 Behind the second curtain, the tabernacle was called the most holy place.
4 It contained the gold altar of incense and the ark of the covenant, covered with gold on all sides, in which there was a gold jar containing the manna, Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.
5 The cherubim of glory were above it overshadowing the mercy seat. It is not possible to speak about these things in detail right now.
6 With these things set up this way, the priests enter the first room repeatedly, performing their ministry.
7 But the high priest alone enters the second room, and [he does] that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance.
8 The Holy Spirit was making it clear that the way into the most holy place had not yet been disclosed while the first tabernacle was still standing.
9 This is a symbol for the present time, during which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the worshiper's conscience.

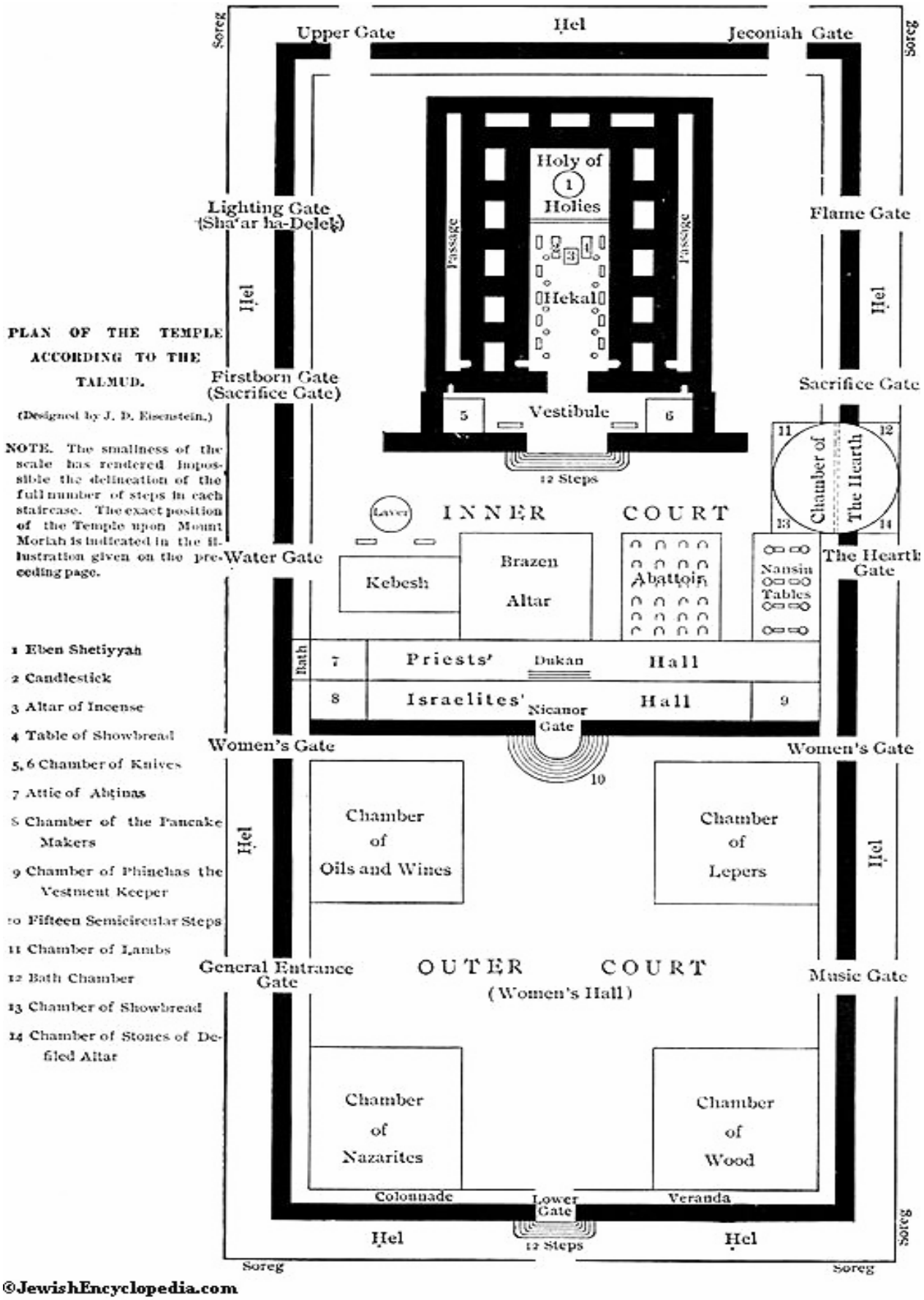
3. Spiritual sacrifices-

According to this verse the tabernacle was a physical example of what we do spiritually. We offer spiritual sacrifices that include gifts and sacrifices.

Matthew 27:50-51 (HCSB)
50 Jesus shouted again with a loud voice and gave up His spirit.
51 Suddenly, the curtain of the sanctuary was split in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked and the rocks were split.

> **Rod Parsley & Clint Brown:** "Praise and worship are more than preliminaries to preaching. They are more than a program; they are more than a ritual. God never intended our praise and worship to be watered down with the religious traditions of man. We get so caught up in playing church that we forget that we are on a battlefield. On that battlefield of life, our praise- the words we speak- will determine our victory or defeat. Bondages are torn asunder in the presence of heartfelt and unpretentious praise and worship."[77]

[77] Parsley, Rod & Clint Brown. (1993) Praise the ultimate experience Worship the ultimate relationship. (P.9) Harrison House, Tulsa OK.



PLAN OF THE TEMPLE ACCORDING TO THE TALMUD.

(Designed by J. D. Eisenstein.)

NOTE. The smallness of the scale has rendered impossible the delineation of the full number of steps in each staircase. The exact position of the Temple upon Mount Moriah is indicated in the illustration given on the preceding page.

1 Eben Shetiyyah
2 Candlestick
3 Altar of Incense
4 Table of Showbread
5, 6 Chamber of Knives
7 Attic of Abṭinas
8 Chamber of the Pancake Makers
9 Chamber of Phinehas the Vestment Keeper
10 Fifteen Semicircular Steps
11 Chamber of Lambs
12 Bath Chamber
13 Chamber of Showbread
14 Chamber of Stones of Defiled Altar

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JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 22

The launching rocket of praise and worship-3

The process of entering in- 3 stages (See temple diagram)

Psalm 100:1-4 (KJV)
[1] Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.
[2] Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
[3] Know ye that the LORD he *is* God: *it is* he *that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
[4] Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, *and* into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, *and* bless his name.

1. Know you're are subject to God because he made you
2. Start with singing from a joyful heart
3. Enter the outer court with songs of thanksgiving
4. Enter the inner court with songs of praise blessing His NAME
5. Then go into the Holy of Holies by worshipping Him because you now have relationship with Him

Thanksgiving and praise are ABOUT God and TOWARD God, but the last phase of pure worship is TO God.

Our "outer court" songs are more exuberant and physical in nature, clapping, shouting, dancing, and jumping.
Our "inner court" praises are more emotional and sometime are about our feelings about God to Him. These song glorify His name and are about His works and what He has done for us.
Our "Holy of Holies" Worship is all about him and to him. These are songs not tainted with the flesh or about us, they are songs only toward God and focused on Him.

A. Thanksgiving is how we start-Singing and thanking God

Thanksgiving is a New Testament word, Praise is an Old Testament word.

Terry Law: "Thanksgiving can be done in one's heart and private… All the Hebrew terms from the Old Testament for praise have a connotation of being public and open. Thanksgiving may be silent and private, but praise is vocal and public. Thanksgiving occurs when we breathe a prayer of thanks to God, Praise occurs when we thank God publicly, telling others of what He has done for us."[78]

When we lift our hands in praise it's a form of saying thanks.
Thank God <u>in</u> every situation, nor FOR everything-

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (KJV)
18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

How do we do this in times of trouble? We don't thank God for what the Devil does we say: "Lord, I thank you that your word says by your stripes I am healed."

B. Praise- We should show forth His Praises exalting God out loud- using our bodies. Sometime we get emotional here and if stay here.

1 Peter 2:9 (KJV)
9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should <u>shew forth the praises</u> of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Hebrews 13:15 (KJV)
15 By him therefore let us offer <u>the sacrifice of praise</u> to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name.

The best sacrifice is not a lamb but the sound of our voices to God giving thanks!

Psalm 34:1 (KJV)
1 I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise *shall* <u>continually *be* in my mouth</u>.

Parsley: "Praise is acknowledging what God has done, what He is doing, and what He will do. Praise will tell of God's works and deeds. Often what others know about Jesus comes straight from our mouths. Our praise, the words we speak, <u>will describe to them a Jesus they can really know.</u> Worship is acknowledging God for who He is. Worship is all that we are, rightly responding to all that He is. To worship Him you must know Him."[79]

C. Worship is vertical- Not *about* God but TO God

[78] Law, Terry. (1985) <u>The Power of Praise and Worship.</u> (p.121). (By Terry Law Ministries) published by Victory House Inc. Tulsa Ok.
[79] Parsley, Rod & Clint Brown. (1993) <u>Praise the ultimate experience Worship the ultimate relationship</u>. (P.20) Harrison House, Tulsa OK.

Spirit and truth- Jesus broke social, religious and geographical barriers. The Father seeks such to worship Him right now. This marks the change from Old Testament worship to New Testament worship. The difference is that we can worship with our spirit and not just on the outside.

John 4:19-24 (KJV)
19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.
20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.
21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.
22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.
23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
24 God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.

Philippians 3:3 (KJV)
3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

Raygene Wilson: from his *In Spirit and Truth* book- "This marks the difference between the Old Testament worship and New Testament worship…Jesus was referring here to the church age, the dispensation of the Holy Ghost. Thank God, that is where we are today! Now the emphasis has been taken off a *geographic location* and has been put on a *spiritual location*…"[80]

1. Worship today is communion-Fellowship with God

2 Corinthians 13:14 (KJV)
14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, *be* with you all. Amen.

"There was something brand-new to the people of that day. They couldn't do this under the Old Covenant. They didn't have God's Spirit living inside them the way believer's do today… In the Old Testament we find expressions like "danced *before* the Lord" and "with all *their* might." But under the New Covenant we can worship *in the Spirit* and do things in the power of *His* might… Being a New Testament worshipper is not just doing something on the *outside*, but doing something on the *inside* also"[81] Raygene Wilson

Acts 13:2 (KJV)
2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

[80] Wilson, Raygene. In Spirit and Truth, (1997) The Power of New Testament Praise and Worship (p.21) Raygene Wilson ministries Tulsa OK
[81] Wilson, Raygene. In Spirit and Truth, (1997) The Power of New Testament Praise and Worship (p.22) Raygene Wilson ministries Tulsa OK

2. Worship is drinking

Psalm 42:1-2 (KJV)
[1] As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.
[2] My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

John 7:36-39 (KJV)
[36] What *manner of* saying is this that he said, Ye shall seek me, and shall not find *me*: and where I am, *thither* ye cannot come?
[37] In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.
[38] He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.
[39] (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

1. Mankind
2. Thirst
3. Drink

3. You are the temple of God where the Holy Spirit dwells.

1 Corinthians 3:16 (KJV)
[16] Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

Man is three parts: Body, Soul, and spirit. Outer court thanksgiving is done with our bodies, inner court praise with our souls, and Holy of Holies worship with our spirits. Pure worship is with our spirits.

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Chapter 23

The launching rocket of praise and worship-4 Three examples of warfare and worship

Introduction: There are more that are for us than those who are against us

2 Kings 6:15-17 (KJV)
15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?
16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them.
17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

I. Three examples of warfare and worship

A. In the power of His might

Ephesians 6:10 (KJV)
10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

We declare- Song by Jay Sandifer

"We declare that the kingdom of God is at hand
That the spirits of darkness must flee
At the great and mighty command
That the Lord has given to you and to me
That there is power in the name of the Lord
To establish the kingdom of Heaven
We can no longer afford to be used; abused

We must take up authority"

How do wage war in song today? By declaring truth in song and entering into true worship.

"We are not a *conquering* army; we are an *occupying* army"- Raygene Wilson[82]

B. Fight the good fight of faith

1 Timothy 6:12 (KJV)
12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

1 John 4:4 (KJV)
4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Romans 8:37 (KJV)
37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Stand…

Ephesians 6:11-13 (KJV)
11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12 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*.
13 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.

We don't use our power and we don't shout at the devil. We lift up our high praises unto God and shout unto the Lord for Joy.

C. #1- Joshua at Jericho- Joshua 6

Joshua 6:16-20 (HCSB)
16 After the seventh time, the priests blew the trumpets, and Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city.
17 But the city and everything in it are set apart to the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and everyone with her in the house will live, because she hid the men we sent.
18 But keep yourselves from the things set apart, or you will be set apart for destruction. If you take any of those things, you will set apart the camp of Israel for destruction and bring disaster on it.
19 For all the silver and gold, and the articles of bronze and iron, are dedicated to the LORD and must go into the LORD's treasury."
20 So the people shouted, and the trumpets sounded. When they heard the blast of the trumpet,

[82] Wilson, Raygene. In Spirit and Truth, (1997) The Power of New Testament Praise and Worship (p.71) Raygene Wilson ministries Tulsa OK

the people gave a great shout, and the wall collapsed. The people advanced into the city, each man straight ahead, and they captured the city.

D. #2- Paul and Silas singing in the midnight hour in jail-

Acts 16:23-34 (KJV)
23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:
24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. Acts 16:25-34 (KJV)
25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.
26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.
27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.
28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.
29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,
30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.
33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.
34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

Paul and Silas even after being beaten and thrown into the worst part of the prison, began to sing songs of praise and worship to God. Their circumstances changed immediately for God did a miraculous thing. All of their bands were loosed and the doors opened. Worship brought God's presence into the jail and God saved and delivered many here.

E. #3- A battle won with worship- Jehoshaphat and three kings against Israel- 2 Chronicles 20:14-25

2 Chronicles 20:14-25 (KJV)
14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;
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.
16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel.
17 Ye shall not *need* to fight in this *battle*: set yourselves, stand ye *still*, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD *will be* with you.

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with *his* face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.
19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.
20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.
21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.
23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy *them*: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.
24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they *were* dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.
25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

The worship leader was the one who spoke prophetically here.

V, 17- He said "You will not need to fight"

Judah means "praise"
Tekoa comes from a Hebrew word that means "trumpet"
We are to declare God's presence and worship Him, not shout at the devil.

Jahaziel-A Levite descendant of Asaph: One of three worship leaders appointed by King David to lead the procession before the ark of the covenant when it was carried from Obed-Edom to Jerusalem (I Chron. 15:17). He was later employed for worship at the temple of Solomon. He was also credited as one of the writers of the Psalms. His sons were directed to prophecy with their instruments.

1 Chronicles 25:1-2 (KJV)
1 Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service was:
2 Of the sons of Asaph; Zaccur, and Joseph, and Nethaniah, and Asarelah, the sons of Asaph under the hands of Asaph, which prophesied according to the order of the king.

Jahaziel means "beheld of God" or "God has His eyes on him, or looking his direction."

V.17 Notice "For the Lord is with you" X2
Hebrew *Panyim* is a word for "presence." It means "the face as the part that turns." God's face would turn towards them. Remember Psalms 68:2 "The wicked perish at the presence of the Lord."

Kohathites were the Levites in charge of carry the ark of the covenant (1 Chron. 15). Hosea 10:11 says "Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods." Praise starts the process.

2 Chron. 20:21 (AMP)
When he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers to sing to the Lord and praise Him in their holy [priestly] garments as they went out before the army, saying, Give thanks to the Lord, for His mercy *and* loving-kindness endure forever! [83]

Put the singers out front of the army, this was God's way of showing that He would fight for them. The Levites were the tribe who had no land and were given charge of the temple worship and sacrifices. They lived to praise God out loud.

V. 22 **Tehillah**- means "hymn of high praise and new song". A psalm is what we call a "hymn" today. A hymn back then meant a "new song" not yet written down.

R. Parsley: "Praise releases the authority of God into our lives as we exalt Him. Praise says to God, "Sit down upon the throne that I build you. Take the weapon of my praise in Your hands and destroy my enemies, and break the awful power of the devil in my life. I give You that seat of authority. Take the reins of my life, Lord…
When the demonic forces of the adversary rise up against us, we build God's throne a little higher, We exalt Him, building His throne higher and higher…
We must build a throne of praise in that area so He can rule and reign from the place of authority we give Him. We must release that dominion to Him." P.38-39

II. Conclusion

Psalm 97:1-6 (KJV)
1 The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad *thereof*.
2 Clouds and darkness *are* round about him: righteousness and judgment *are* the habitation of his throne.
3 A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.
4 His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.
5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
6 The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

When Jesus returns His presence will bring great consequences to the earth, but for us it is a joy and glorious.

Isaiah 61:3 (KJV)
3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

[83] *The Amplified Bible*. (1987). (2 Ch 20:21). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

We need to pray for our New Testament spiritual Levitical priesthood- Our worship leaders and musicians. They operate under the ministry of helps and prophetic anointing. We are all ordained to praise and worship God.

NOTES:

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Chapter 24

The weapon of our children

Text:

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (KJV)
3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:
4 (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)
5 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;

We have discussed many of the weapons of our warfare, our enemy's tactics, and how we war in the spirit. Let's look at our final weapon in this series- Children.

I. Introduction: Three things to cover

1. God's young people are weapons against Satan's kingdom.
2. God wants to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children
3. My philosophy of Youth ministry

Why is the devil trying to destroy our children?

THIS IS A GENERATION IN CRISIS- Used from youth conference speaker **Ron Luce- Teenmania.com**

* 1 out of 11 attempt **SUICIDE** each year.
* 1 out of 10 fifteen year olds and younger have gone through family divorce in their life-time.
* 58% have been involved in objectionable content on the web.
* 40% have experimented with **SELF-INJURY** ("are "cutters").
* Use of prescription **DRUGS** (Ritalin, anti-depressants etc.) by children/teens has increased substantially in the past few years.

THIS IS A GENERATION WITHOUT MORALITY

By the time the average child graduates from high school, he/she will have watched 19,000 hours of TV including about 200,000 sexual acts and 1 million ACTS OF VIOLENCE.
1 in 10 high school females have reported being RAPED at some point in their life.
Fear of violence in schools is now the leading "worry" of public school teens.
48% of high school seniors are SEXUALLY ACTIVE (had sexual intercourse in past 3 months).
8000- 12,000 teens will get an S.T.D. every day! Over thirty are incurable
1 of 5 have herpes of 12 and older of those who are sexually active
47% of sexually active teens have at least one STD

THIS IS A GENERATION WITHOUT TRUTH
91% say there is NO ABSOLUTE TRUTH.
75% of teens in America believe the central message of the Bible is, "God helps those who help themselves".
53% believe Jesus committed sin (40% of born again teens believe Jesus committed sin).

Illustration: I heard this story told a little different with a dad and movies. The kids want to go see an "R" rated movie and dad says "Are "R" rated movies bad?" Kids reply "This movie only has "Just a little bit of bad stuff." So….

"This occasion brought to mind a story I heard several years ago on a Christian radio show. A gentleman was espousing the benefits of family devotions with our children. He told of a lesson he gave to his children concerning the harmful effects of sin. He asked his children if it was alright to lie. Several of the children said, yes it's alright to lie if telling the truth will offend or hurt someone's feeling. After all a little white lie never hurt anyone, it's for their good. The Dad then proceeds to tell the children he has baked some brownies for a treat. The children were so excited to have brownies because this was a favorite treat. The Dad says, "Before you eat the brownies I just want you to know that I put just a little cat poop in them. But it will be fine because after all just a little bit will never hurt you." As expected his children were grossed out and refused to eat the brownies. Brilliant Dad says, "I thought you said just a little bit won't hurt." Dad then goes forth to give the spiritual application of the lesson."[84]

Youth conference speaker- **Pam Stenzel**[85] - "Tell those who ridicule you for not having sex, "I will always have the opportunity to be like you if I choose to, but you will never ever have the opportunity to be like me."

A. Children are like arrows in a warriors quiver

Psalm 127:1-5 (KJV)
[1] Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh *but* in vain.

J. M. Boice in his commentary on Psalms 127:

[84] https://www.sparkpeople.com/mypage_public_journal_individual.asp?blog_id=3566426
[85] https://www.pamstenzel.com/

"The American statesman Benjamin Franklin was not a Christian; he was a deist, though he appreciated Christians. He thought well of George Whitefield, the Calvinistic evangelist, for example. Franklin understood the futility of work without God and expressed it well in his "Speech to the Convention for Forming a Constitution for the United States," delivered in Philadelphia in 1787.

> In the beginning of the contest with Britain when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayers in this room for the Divine protection. Our prayers, Sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending Providence. To that kind Providence we owe this opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten this powerful Friend? Or do we imagine that we no longer need his assistance? I have lived for a long time (81 years), and the longer I live the more convincing proof I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it possible that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings, that "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." I firmly believe this, and I also believe that without his concurring aid we shall proceed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel." [186]

2 ***It is*** **vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: *for* so he giveth his beloved sleep.**
3 **Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is his* reward.**
4 **As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth.**
5 **Happy *is* the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.**

"Heritage" means inheritance, "reward" can mean compensation or benefit. "Happy" here specifically refers to the fathers and means "blessed happy"! Having many children brings great blessings.

Arrows are weapons of war, children are like arrows, if we raise them with His help they will do damage to the enemy.

v.5- "They shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

> "The NIV interprets the MT's כִּי־יְדַבְּרוּ (*kî-yᵉḏabbᵉrû*, "when they speak") in its legal setting: "When they contend." Briggs (2:459) argues that the advantage of sons was particularly experienced in warfare, when the stalwart sons could defend the city and thereby the houses against the enemy (similarly Dahood: "[he] shall drive back his foes from the gate," *Psalms* 3:222). But the metaphor of war should not extend to the latter

[1] Quoted by Prothero, *The Psalms in Human Life*, 231–32.
[86] Boice, J. M. (2005). *Psalms 107–150: An Expositional Commentary* (p. 1118). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.
NIV The New International Version
MT Masoretic text

part of v. 5, because the blessing of a godly father is experienced when his sons help him to succeed even in times of adversity." [87]

I disagree obviously with the latter part of Boice's commentary here. I believe the metaphor should naturally be carried through.

W. MacDonald in the Believer's Bible Commentary on Psalm 127 says: "The Psalm is a tremendous unfolding of the word of the Lord through Zechariah, "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts" (Zech. 4:6). There is such a danger that we depend on the power of the dollar or on human ingenuity. But the Lord's will is not accomplished in that way. It is by His Spirit that we build for eternity. It is not what we do for God through our own resources, but what He does through us by His mighty power. All we can produce is wood, hay, stubble. He can use us to produce gold, silver, precious stones. When we act in our own strength, we are spinning our wheels. When we bring God into everything, our lives become truly efficient. Carnal weapons produce carnal results. Spiritual weapons produce spiritual results." [88]

We are building spiritual weapons as parents and we must rely on God to help us do this.

Psalm 127 (MSG Bible)

1-2 If GOD doesn't build the house,
the builders only build shacks.
If GOD doesn't guard the city,
the night watchman might as well nap.
It's useless to rise early and go to bed late,
and work your worried fingers to the bone.
Don't you know he enjoys
giving rest to those he loves?
3–5 Don't you see that children are GOD's best gift?
the fruit of the womb his generous legacy?
Like a warrior's fistful of arrows
are the children of a vigorous youth.
Oh, how blessed are you parents,
with your quivers full of children!
Your enemies don't stand a chance against you;
you'll sweep them right off your doorstep.[89]

A friend of mine close to my age had 10 children, and I ask him "How do you take care of so many children?" He said "I am blessed because the Bible says I am blessed! Every time I have another child I am not more poor, I'm more blessed." He was a man who God truly blessed with ideals and business. I helped him raise his first million dollars annually with his cleaning business.

[87] VanGemeren, W. A. (1991). Psalms. In F. E. Gaebelein (Ed.), *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (Vol. 5, p. 795). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.
[88] MacDonald, W. (1995). *Believer's Bible Commentary: Old and New Testaments*. (A. Farstad, Ed.) (p. 757). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.
[89] Peterson, E. H. (2005). *The Message: the Bible in contemporary language* (Ps 127:1–5). Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress.

Allen Keys Ran for president in 2004 used to have a talk radio show that broadcast in Savannah GA. where I used to live in the late 80's. He made the statement that newer generations were having less and less children to a detriment to our families and country. He suggested to have at least more children so that in our retirement we would have enough children to take care of us when we are older, without being a burden to them.

B. **Children are God's weapons of war**

NOTES:

JOYFUL HARVEST TEACHING SERIES

A Study of Spiritual Warfare

STUDY: Our Weapons of Warfare

Lesson 25

The weapon of our children- part 2

TEXT:

Psalm 127:4 (KJV)
4 As arrows *are* in the hand of a mighty man; so *are* children of the youth.

2 Samuel 1:25-27 KJV
25 How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! O Jonathan, *thou wast* slain in thine high places.
26 I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women.
27 How are the mighty fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

David called his youthful friend Jonathan a weapon of war.

I. Youth Ministry in the Bible- What is it? Pastors of youth?

The bible does not mention youth pastors directly but most certainly leaves room for pastors who are called as pastors to also have a specific calling to youth or children's ministry. They are to assist parents in training a new generation. Generally ministry to children fall under the ministry of "helps" found in 1 Cor. 12:28. Youth ministry to me is also:

1. Parents instructing and disciplining their children in a biblical way
2. Children honoring and obeying their parents in the Lord
3. Children being examples of believers; God's word make no excuses for teenagers regarding Godliness-

   1 Timothy 4:12 (KJV)
   12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

4. It is Equipping parents to lead their children

   Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)
   6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

   Provers 22:6 (AMP)

Train up a child in the way he should go [and in keeping with his individual gift or bent], and when he is old he will not depart from it. [Eph. 6:4; II Tim. 3:15.][90]

Strong's Concordance: Hebrew is ḥānak (2596) To dedicate, from a primitive root; properly to *narrow* [compare <H2614> (chanaq)]; figurative to *initiate* or *discipline* :- dedicate, train up.

Bend them: Train them by their God-given gifts and in a nurturing way discipline them.

II. Parents are the warriors and children are the weapons. How to "train" an arrow:

A. See the potential within- See the branch

Illustration: Two altar boys dropped the elements. One got slapped; he later became a leader in the communist party. The other was told, "Son you're going to make a great priest" He did.

"One Sunday morning years ago, a young altar boy was assisting the priest in the celebration of Holy Communion at the small church in their European village.
Nervously carrying out his new duties, he accidentally dropped the cruet of wine. The village priest immediately struck the boy sharply on his cheek and in stentorian fashion commanded, "Leave the altar, and don't come back!" The boy grew up to become Tito, the atheistic Communist leader who ruled Yugoslavia for several decades.
One Sunday morning not long thereafter, another young altar boy was assisting in the celebration of Holy Communion at the cathedral in a large American city. He also accidentally dropped the cruet of wine.
The bishop turned and looked at him. But instead of replying in anger, he gently smiled and whispered, "Someday you will be a priest." That boy also grew up and eventually came to be known as Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen – famous, at least in part, for his television series in the 1950s, "Life Is Worth Living."
What made the difference in the outcome of the two boys? Truth be known, probably much more than just these incidents in their lives. But this much we do know. One was driven away from that which is sacred – or literally, "according to the sanctuary" – while the other was encouraged to stay near that which is sacred. One adopted the humanistic world-and-life view and carried it to its conclusion. The other adopted the Christian world-and-life view and carried it to its conclusion. One died a harsh dictator, while the other died a servant of God and man, with the message of hope on his lips: "Life is worth living."[91]

[90] *The Amplified Bible*. (1987). (Pr 22:6). La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

[91] Johnson, Rev. Ronald C. A tale of two altar boys: Sustaining that which is sacred- (Published July 2011) https://www.losaltosonline.com/spiritual-life-archive/31708-J28344

B. Mold- Discipline and training a future generation

Illustration of forging an arrow: soak it in water- dry. Then soak in oil and pin it down to straighten it. Set it on fire to harden it. Test it, if it flies straight it goes in the quiver, if not then the process starts over. Longer arrows go farther, shorter arrows don't take as long.

Parent: "I cut you, and I formed you, your mine, son you will fly straight."

Proverbs 13:24 (HCSB)
24 The one who will not use the rod hates his son, but the one who loves him disciplines him diligently.

Hebrews 12:6-11 (HCSB)
6 for the Lord disciplines the one He loves and punishes every son He receives.
7 Endure [suffering] as discipline: God is dealing with you as sons. For what son is there that a father does not discipline?
8 But if you are without discipline—which all receive—then you are illegitimate children and not sons.
9 Furthermore, we had natural fathers discipline us, and we respected them. Shouldn't we submit even more to the Father of spirits and live?
10 For they disciplined us for a short time based on what seemed good to them, but He does it for our benefit, so that we can share His holiness.
11 No discipline seems enjoyable at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it yields the fruit of peace and righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

C. Fit them into the quiver- Fitting them into our family.

Proverbs 22:1-7 (HCSB)
1 A good name is to be chosen over great wealth; favor is better than silver and gold.
2 The rich and the poor have this in common: the LORD made them both.
3 A sensible person sees danger and takes cover, but the inexperienced keep going and are punished.
4 The result of humility is fear of the LORD, along with wealth, honor, and life.
5 There are thorns and snares on the path of the crooked; the one who guards himself stays far from them.
6 Teach a youth about the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.
7 The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is a slave to the lender.

Definition of "Train"=
Again the Heb. Root Is "*Chanak*" From "Narrow" to dedicate, discipline. **Websters**- Dedicate, make to do, to draw (Like a horse), to break the self will, without breaking the spirit- form by practice.

Ephesians 6:4 (KJV)
4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

The Holman Bible says "Fathers don't stir up anger in your children." Discipline is not about the punishment, but the learning to understand why something is wrong.

93% of gang members believe in God. The average age of joining is 12.
Children spell love T.I.M.E.

A weapon is only as good as the warrior using it.
Leaving a legacy is our responsibility

Statistic:
In Homes where only the woman is a Christian 17% of kids serve God. Man only, 62% serve God, both parents, 93% do.

D. Pull the bow and release the arrow- eventually they need to fly right

"When they are old they will not depart from it" Could be interpreted some will not get it till they are older. Home should always be a resting place, a safe place for children.

Bow =

Family core

Youth group

Christian school

E. The purpose of a marriage union (two become one) is to produce a Godly seed-This is youth ministry

Malachi 2:14-15 (KJV)
14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet *is* she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.
15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

Charles Dobson survey:

From ages 1-12 fathers spend less than 1 ½ minutes a day with a child. From ages 12-19 Less than 12 minutes a day. The average number of minutes a day is 7. [92]

III. The father's role

A. The Fathers role- Found in the purpose of proverbs

Proverbs 1:1-9 (KJV)
1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;
2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;
3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;
4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.
5 A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:
6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.
7 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.
8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:
9 For they *shall be* an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

To teach sons and daughters:

1. To know wisdom –the Godly application of knowledge (knowing anything)
2. To have instruction- Warnings and discipline
3. To understand insightful sayings- Teach what things mean, and why
4. To receive instructions of Godly wisdom, Righteousness, Justice, and integrity
5. To teach shrewdness to the inexperienced, knowledge and discretion to a young man—(V.4 HCSB)
6. To teach that wise young children hear and continue to learn all their life
7. Teaching young folks that good discernment is to seek council from others in tough matters
8. To understand mysteries and how to interpret them for life lessons
9. To teach their children that the beginning of understanding everything, starts with knowing that God created us and that we should respectfully honor Him in everything
10. To teach our children to hear and keep mom and dad's instructions.

B. Fathers in the last days

Malachi 4:5-6 (KJV)
5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:
6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

[92] https://www.thenational.ae/seven-minutes-a-day-the-modern-day-excuse-for-a-parent-1.459183

Acts 2:16-19 (KJV)
16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;
17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:
18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:
19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

C. Father involvement

1 Corinthians 4:15 (KJV)
15 For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet *have ye* not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

Taken From: Worldview warriors:

> "Children with involved Fathers are more confident, better able to deal with frustration, better able to gain independence and their own identity, more likely to mature into compassionate adults, more likely to have a high self-esteem, more sociable, more secure as infants, less likely to show signs of depression, less likely to commit suicide, more empathetic, boys have been shown to be less aggressive and adolescent girls are less likely to engage in sex."[93]

1. A survey was conducted to determine whether a person's religion carried through to the next generation, and if so, why, or if not, why not.

   "If both father and mother attend regularly, 33 percent of their children will end up as regular churchgoers, and 41 percent will end up attending irregularly. Only a quarter of their children will end up not practicing at all. If the father is irregular and mother regular, only 3 percent of the children will subsequently become regulars themselves, while a further 59 percent will become irregulars. Thirty-eight percent will be lost.

   If the father is non-practicing and mother regular, only 2 percent of children will become regular worshippers, and 37 percent will attend irregularly. Over 60 percent of their children will be lost completely to the church… In short, if a father does not go to church, no matter how faithful his wife's devotions, only one child in 50 will become a regular worshipper. If a father does go regularly, regardless of the practice of the mother, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will become churchgoers (regular and irregular). If a father goes but irregularly to church, regardless of his wife's devotion,

[93] Risner, Steve. Fathers you are extremely important. (2014) https://worldviewwarriors.blogspot.com/2014/02/fathers-you-are-extremely-important.html

between a half and two-thirds of their offspring will find themselves coming to church regularly or occasionally."[94]

D. Statistics

63% of teen suicides come from fatherless homes. That's 5 times the national average.

SOURCE: U.S. Dept of Health

90% of all runaways and homeless children are from fatherless homes. That's 32 times the national average.

80% of rapists with anger problems come from fatherless homes. 14 times the national average.

SOURCE: Justice and Behavior

85% of children with behavioral problems come from fatherless homes. 20 times the national average.

SOURCE: Center for Disease Control

71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes. 9 times the national average.

SOURCE: National Principals Association Report

75% of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers come from fatherless homes. 10 times the national average.

SOURCE: Rainbow's for all God's Children

85% of all youths in prison come from fatherless homes. 20 times the national average.

SOURCE: U.S. Dept. of Justice

Daughters of single parents without a Father involved are 53% more likely to marry as teenagers, 711% more likely to have children as teenagers, 164% more likely to have a pre-marital birth and 92% more likely to get divorced themselves.

91% of 701 fathers surveyed by the University of Texas at Austin agreed that there is a "father-absence crisis in America." What were the 4 major obstacles for fathers to overcome? 1) Work demands 2) The media 3) Pop Culture 4) Finances

[94] Lowe, Robbie. The Truth About Men & Church: On the Importance of Fathers to Churchgoing. (retrieved 7/19) https://www.fisheaters.com/menandchurch.html

Researchers of Columbia University found that children living in two-parent households with a poor relationship with their father are 68% more likely to smoke, drink or use drugs compared to all teens in two-parent households. Moreover, teens in single-mother households fared much worse. They had a 30% higher risk than those in all two-parent households.

“Without two parents, working together as a team, the child has more difficulty learning the combination of empathy, reciprocity, fairness and self-command that people ordinarily take for granted. If the child does not learn this at home, society will have to manage his behavior in some other way. He may have to be rehabilitated, incarcerated, or otherwise restrained. In this case, prisons will substitute for parents.”

SOURCE: Morse, Jennifer Roback. “Parents or Prisons.” Policy Review, 2003

Children with Fathers who are involved are 40% less likely to repeat a grade in school.

SOURCE: National Household Education Survey

Children with Fathers who are involved are 70% less likely to drop out of school.

Children with Fathers who are involved are more likely to get A’s in school.

Children with Fathers who are involved are more likely to enjoy school and engage in extracurricular activities.

Even in high crime neighborhoods, 90% of children from stable 2 parent homes where the Father is involved do not become delinquents.

SOURCE: Development and Psychopathology 1993

Adolescent girls raised in a 2 parent home with involved Fathers are significantly less likely to be sexually active than girls raised without involved Fathers.

SOURCE: Journal of Marriage and Family, 1994

Father involvement leads to healthy psychological development. Children with involved fathers are:

· More confident and less anxious in unfamiliar settings.
· Better able to deal with frustration.
· Better able to gain a sense of independence and identity.
· More likely to mature into compassionate adults.
· More likely to have high self-esteem.
· More sociable.
· More securely attached as infants.
· Less likely to show signs of depression.

· Less likely to commit suicide.
· More empathetic.

Additionally, boys have been shown to be less aggressive and less likely to form sex role and gender identification disorders. Furthermore, girls show better emotional well-being and are less likely to engage in premarital sex before the age of 20 when there is a positive relationship with their father.

Children from fatherless homes account for:

63% of youth suicides. (Source: US Dept. of Health & Human Services, Bureau of the Census)
71% of pregnant teenagers. (Source: US Dept. of Health & Human Services)
90% of all homeless and runaway children.
70% of juveniles in state-operated institutions come from fatherless homes (Source: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Special Report, Sept 1988)
85% of all children that exhibit behavioral disorders. (Source: Center for Disease Control).
80% of rapists motivated with displaced anger. (Source: Criminal Justice & Behavior, Vol. 14, p. 403-26, 1978).
71% of all high school dropouts. (Source: National Principals Association Report on the State of High Schools).
75% of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers. (Source: Rainbows for all God's Children).
85% of all youths sitting in prisons. (Source: Fulton Co. Georgia jail populations, Texas Dept. of Corrections 1992). [95]

IV. Signpost-

Signs to tell if your house is out of order:

1. No headship
2. Wife or mother filled with stress
3. The children are unruly or in rebellion
4. Home messy and unorganized
5. Little or no communication with family members
6. Family in perpetual crisis- financial
7. Disharmony in the ranks
8. Lots of noise in the home
9. No reading of Scripture and prayer which brings peace and order

5 Ways to get your house in order:

[95] Taken From: http://www.boonecountyfathers.org/home/statistics.html

1. Have right attitude
2. Speak words of blessing- Ephesians 4:29
3. Action- activities with everyone involved
4. Maintain an environment of peace- calm music
5. Quality time together- Love notes

I ask my son Joshua at 15, what would be his advice to fathers on one father's day- He said, "chill out, don't holler so much." I ask him what would he change in *our* father son relationship if he could?- "More time together."

V. Conclusion- The goal of youth ministry: raising up a Godly seed. Good parenting creates weapons of war against Satan in this earth. This is why he fights so hard to hinder the parent's role today.

If we do not train our children then the world will. They will grow up to not having a Biblical world view.

Acts 2:17
And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:
18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

The goal in this verse: Our sons and daughters will declare "thus says the Lord," And will be bold for God.

Joel 2:17-30
Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and <u>give not thine heritage to reproach</u>, that the heathen should rule over them: <u>wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?</u>
18 ¶ Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.
19 Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:
…. 27 And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.
28 ¶ And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and <u>your sons and your daughters shall prophesy</u>, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:
29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.
30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

When the father is out of place, the wife becomes displaced, children become misplaced, God becomes replaced.

John 17:21
That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me

Husband is a “house band”. Wife is a help meet. Man surrounds the house, wife surrounds the man.

FINAL THOUGHT:
Mohamed Ali once said he was hit so hard it knocked him out standing up- he was near the ropes, he felt that if the fellow wouldn’t have hit him again the fight would be over, but then he was hit again and it woke him up. He went on to win the fight. Satan’s next blow might just wake you up! Don’t be lukewarm but wake up to the warfare that is going on around you and win because God has already made you the winner through Christ!

Larry & Joy Booth

The Weapons of Our Warfare Study Guide

2 Corinthians 10:4-6 In the Amplified Bible it says "For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ" It is when the church finally submits and obeys the Lord fully, that it finds itself in full battle with Satan. There are mighty weapons available to us to fight the good fight. Join with Pastor Larry in this study of the weapons of warfare that have been given to the church for the "overthrow and destruction of strongholds."

Lessons Include

- Basic Training
- The Enemy's Tactics
- Satan's Place
- How to Cast out Demons
- The Weapon of the Sword
- The Weapon of the Blood
- The Weapon of the Name of Jesus
- Three Spiritual Launching Rockets

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