

Introduction to Spiritual Warfare

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. May Our Lord richly bless you, your families and your Church. May Our Lord richly bless your Pastors, leaders and their families.

The Bible tells us what the disciples asked from Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 17:5 And the apostles said unto the Lord, "Increase our faith".

We all need more faith in these hard times. The best way is found in the Bible.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

They had another request.

Luke 11:1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

Praying is important for believers. This allows us to communicate with Our Heavenly Father, in Jesus' Name, with the indwelling Holy Spirit. We are familiar with the Lord's Prayer. There are many other prayers in the Bible.

There is one kind of important prayer for us to-day.

1 Timothy 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

These are the kinds of prayer to use.

1 Timothy 2:2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Here, we are told to pray for those ruling over us.

1 Timothy 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;

When we pray like this, we please Our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Timothy 2:4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Our Lord wants as many people saved as possible. And we have a big job to do.

Would you believe that not everyone wants people to be saved? The Bible tells us who they are.

Zechariah 3:1 And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him.

And Our Lord intercedes for us, and shows us what to do.

Zechariah 3:2 And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke you, O Satan; even the LORD that has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

But Satan is not the only one we have to watch out for.

Ephesians 6:12 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.

These are the various ranks of the demons or evil spirits that are against us. Our Lord does not send us out defenseless.

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.

Here is what He has for us to use in the spiritual battles.

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

This Gospel Armour is put on over our robe of righteousness. And if we do not use it, our battles will be much harder.

Ephesians 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

Most of the pieces are defensive, to protect us from the devil's attacks on us.

The only offensive weapon is the sword, the Word of God.

Hebrews 4:12 For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

This is how Our Lord Jesus Christ fought the devil in the wilderness.

Luke 4:8 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

And we have to look out for our brothers and sisters, who need help.

Ephesians 6:18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints--

This is a big task that we have been given. Was it any easier for Gideon and his unarmed band of 300 men? Was it any easier for the little shepherd, taking on the biggest enemy?

1 Samuel 17:45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

David was not afraid of Goliath, and even challenged him.

1 Samuel 17:46 "This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

David knew it was the Lord who was winning the victory.

1 Samuel 17:47 "Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD'S, and He will give you into our hands."

Our Lord Jesus sent out His Disciples on a similar mission.

Luke 10:17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

Satan, like Goliath goes down.

Luke 10:18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

What was their secret weapon?

Luke 10:19 "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Our Lord, also warned them.

Luke 10:20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Yes, in Jesus' Name, we have the authority over the devil and his demons. And it takes a different strategy to beat him.

2 Corinthians 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.

How effective are our weapons for this work?

2 Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

Even evil thoughts are bound up, in Jesus' Name.

2 Corinthians 10:5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

How does this work?

Matthew 16:19 "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

In Jesus' Name, we bind the evil spirits, and cast them out. And we loose into the people, the good spirits of God.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

We bind the spirits of fear, in Jesus's Name, and cast them out. We loose into

people the spirits of power, love, and a sound mind.

There is one main demon over people and places etc. that we have to bind up first.

Matthew 12:29 "Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.

When we bind the strong man, we are limiting his interference in the deliverances.

Pastor Win Worley started in deliverances many years ago. He did not know about binding the strong man. And so he spent up to five hours in praying for each person, to get them free. When Our Lord showed him about binding and loosing, deliverances became a lot quicker, and not as violent. Sometimes when praying, it took ten men to hold down the person.

Our Lord Jesus Christ had help in His Work.

Matthew 12:28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Thankfully, we of the New Covenant have God's Holy Spirit in us.

Ephesians 1:13 In Him you also trusted , after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

And as at Pentecost, we can have the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

We need this to help us fulfill Our Lord's Command.

Mark 16:15-18 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.

Casting out demons is still needed. But before deliverance, we need repentance. Unconfessed sin can protect demons, so they do not have to leave.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Then the curses can be broken off, and the demons cast out. The sins of the fathers can also stop deliverances.

Exodus 20:5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

We do not pray for forgiveness of the dead ancestors. We ask that the sins be forgiven, and the curses be broken off. There are some other things to use in spiritual warfare.

Not everyone wants you to get set free. They are using various forms of the occult to cause trouble. There are those who are fasting and praying for the death and destruction of Christians. These occult devices can be broken off and cancelled, in Jesus' Name, and sent back to the original sending demons.

Psalms 109:17 As he loved cursing, so let it come to him; As he did not delight in blessing, so let it be far from him.

And there are probably curses etc. coming down the family line, that need to be broken off. Another area causing problems is ungodly soul ties with anyone or anything. Relationships make soul ties. Some, like marriage, are good. Some are bad, and can have terrible results.

Judges 16:16 And it came to pass, when she (Delilah) pressed him (Samson) daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death;

These ungodly soul ties can be broken off in Jesus' Name, and the demons cast out.

A special note for fathers. The devil is trying hard to destroy marriages and families. Keep praying for them, and keep restoring any broken soul ties.

Ephesians 4:26 "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,

We have gone through the basics of spiritual warfare. These blessings are for the children of God. And you can have them, if your name is in the Lamb's Book of Life.

If not, why not?

Romans 14:12 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

God, Our Father, has sent His Son to redeem us.

1 John 2:23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

There is only one way.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Our Lord Jesus is still calling out for you.

Matthew 11:28-30 "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.

Do not delay to turn your life over to Jesus.

2 Corinthians 6:2 For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Call on Jesus Christ; confess your sins; and be cleansed by His Shed Blood.

Romans 10:13 For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Lord Jesus; if I have never asked You into my heart, I am asking You to come in now, and forgive my sins.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Name of Jesus!

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