

Run Devil Run!

TWO AREAS OF WARFARE WE FACE:

1. TEMPTATION - Satan does this by luring, enticing, persuading, and provoking us to sin. It looks good on the outside, but is poison to us. He knows how to take our desires and intertwine them into his twisted plans and if we do not STAND FIRM, we can fall into his snares.

TEMPTATION COMES FROM OUR OWN DESIRES, WHICH ENTICE US AND DRAG US AWAY. THESE DESIRES GIVE BIRTH TO SINFUL ACTIONS. AND WHEN SIN IS ALLOWED TO GROW, IT GIVES BIRTH TO DEATH. JAMES 1:14-15

WHEN TEMPTATION COMES AND OUR HEARTS ARE ALIGNED WITH HIS, WE WILL:

Be at peace

Depend on the Holy Spirit

Change our question from "Why me?" to "God, what are you trying to show me?"

Be an overcomer (Rev. 12:11)

WHEN TEMPTATION COMES AND OUR HEARTS ARE COLD OR DISOBEDIENT, WE SHOULD:

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas of sin.

Confess and repent

Ask for forgiveness

Command Satan to flee in the name of Jesus.

Be with God. Pray. Study His Word. **OBEY HIM.**

Still having trouble with a temptation?

Seek the counsel of another. (Ananias with Paul - Acts 9:10-17, Paul with Timothy - 1 Timothy 1)



2. DELUSION - He does this through lies, schemes, promises, fears, anxieties, etc (2 Cor. 11:14-15; Eph. 6:10-18; 1 Tim. 4:1-7; Rev. 12:9-12). We can also give way to Satan when we are indifferent, have disbelief, and are spiritually lazy. Delusion comes as we yield to sin. Sin always originates in the heart. Sin can lead us into deception and delusion, resulting in oppression, which then requires deliverance.

A Christian cannot be made subject to Satan unless he willingly agrees with Satan. He is looking for and must have a partner! Do not partner with Satan!

Satan cannot possess a believer but he can oppress a believer. Think of a tick on a dog. The tick does not possess the dog, but rather oppresses him by sucking his blood and being a nuisance for the dog. Frank and Ida Hammond, in their book Pigs in the Parlor, list the seven common symptoms of oppressing demons:

EMOTIONAL - recurring resentment, hatred, anger, fear, rejection, self-pity, jealousy, depression, worry, inferiority, and insecurity

MENTAL - mental torment, procrastination, indecision, compromise, confusion, doubt

SPEECH - outbursts, uncontrolled use of the tongue. Lying, cursing, mockery, gossip

SEX PROBLEMS - recurring unclean thoughts and acts regarding sex, homosexuality

ADDICTIONS - alcohol, drugs, food, caffeine, phones

PHYSICAL ILLNESS (Luke 13:10-13)

RELIGIOUS ERROR - involvement in false religions (eastern religions, yoga, Mormonism, Christian Science, etc.) This includes the occult.

OCCULTISM (Belief in the powers of darkness)

God condemns occultism. He hates it. "You shall have no other gods before Me." (Ex. 20:3) Anyone who has practiced this (innocently or not) or who has been involved with it has opened the door to oppression and may be a victim of demonic subjection.

OCCULT OFFENSES INCLUDE:

Divination - predicting future events, fortune telling, etc.

Observing times - superstition, horoscopes
Enchantments - casting spells, curses
Witchcraft - witches wizards, magic
Seeking knowledge about things not allowed
- ESP, mental telepathy, seeking to mentally influence other people's decisions

Sorcery - miraculous works, healing, etc.

Using charms - hypnosis, mind control

Consulting with familiar spirits - asking information from spirit or seeking a spirit guide

Necromancy - communicating with the dead

Astrology



WHAT IS A STRONGHOLD?

A stronghold is a mind-set that things will never change. "It is what it is." They are mighty walls built on agreements with the enemy. They are contrary to the will of God, but the good news is that "greater is He who is in you!" (1 John 4:4) Jesus Christ legally set you free. You are seated with Christ in Heaven. (Eph. 2:6) You have rights against Satan and he has to retreat in the name of Jesus.

Examples of strongholds: addictions (drugs, alcohol, etc.), abusive relationships, sexual addictions, anger, unforgiveness, bitterness, etc. They are things we have made agreements with over time. "It is just who I am."

How do we tear down agreements we have made with the enemy, or strongholds?

LIVE ALERT - Be mindful each and every day of the battle we are in. Be honest and confess your sins. "God is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" no matter what the sin is! (1 John 1:9) It is not too big or too awful for God's grace, mercy, and love. He still loves us despite our failures. Ask God to help you see yourself as He sees you and to bring to light anything that is not of Him. (Psalm 32:5) Admitting our sins means we are taking personal responsibility for them.

BE HUMBLE - Recognize your dependence upon God and HIS provisions for your freedom. It takes humility to admit our sins.

GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE. JAMES 4:6 (HCSB)

REPENT AND TURN - We have to come to the point where we hate the evil in our lives and are determined to turn away from it. Turning away from sin shuts the door on the devil. Deliverance is only successful when we desire to be more like Jesus through obedience! Our repentance must lead us to make a clean break with Satan and all his works. (Acts 19:18-19)

FORGIVE OTHERS - If we do not forgive, we leave an opening for the enemy's influence. "FOR IF YOU FORGIVE PEOPLE OF THEIR WRONGDOING, YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER WILL FORGIVE YOU AS WELL. BUT IF YOU DON'T FORGIVE PEOPLE, YOUR FATHER WILL NOT FORGIVE YOUR WRONGDOING." MATTHEW 6:14-15 (HCSB)

PRAY AND ASK GOD TO DELIVER YOU AND SET YOU FREE IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

RESIST THE DEVIL! Use your tools God has equipped you with- submission to God, the blood of Jesus, the name of Jesus, Praise, the Word of God, our testimony (Rev. 12:11), and the armor of God (see below for more detail...).

RENEW YOUR MIND - Fill up your mind with what is true! Turn on praise music, read the Scripture, listen to podcasts, etc. **THINK LIKE CHRIST!**

WHAT THE WORD SAYS ABOUT VICTORY....

BUT THANKS BE TO GOD, WHO GIVES US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST! 1 CORINTHIAN 15:57 (HCSB)

FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD IS THE ONE WHO GOES WITH YOU TO FIGHT FOR YOU AGAINST YOUR ENEMIES TO GIVE YOU VICTORY. DEUTERONOMY 20:4 (HCSB)

Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the splendor and the majesty, for everything in the heavens and on earth belongs to You. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom, and You are exalted as head over all.1 Chronicles 29:11 (HCSB)

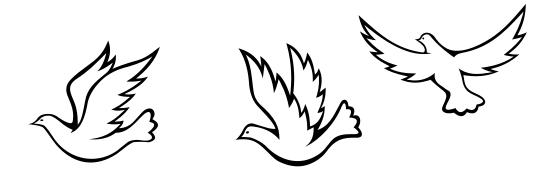
HE DISARMED THE RULERS AND AUTHORITIES AND DISGRACED THEM PUBLICLY; HE TRIUMPHED OVER THEM BY HIM. COLOSSIANS 2:15 (HCSB)

BUT THE LORD IS FAITHFUL; HE WILL STRENGTHEN YOU AND GUARD YOU FROM THE EVIL ONE. 2 THESSALONIANS 3:3 (HCSB)

... Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4 (HCSB)

"COME TO ME, ALL OF YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. ALL OF YOU, TAKE UP MY YOKE AND LEARN FROM ME, BECAUSE I AM GENTLE AND HUMBLE IN HEART, AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOURSELVES. FOR MY YOKE IS EASY AND MY BURDEN IS LIGHT." MATTHEW 11:28-30 (HCSB)

BECAUSE WHATEVER HAS BEEN BORN OF GOD CONQUERS THE WORLD. THIS IS THE VICTORY THAT HAS CONQUERED THE WORLD: OUR FAITH. 1 JOHN 5:4 (HCSB)



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TOOLS FOR VICTORY

NAME OF JESUS

Over and over in Scripture we read, "In Jesus' name," or "In my name."

LORD, EVEN THE DEMONS OBEY US WHEN WE USE YOUR NAME! LUKE 10:17 (NLT)

The name of Jesus carries the power and authority and all the victory of the Cross and the Resurrection. Jesus says,

"THEY WILL CAST OUT DEMONS IN MY NAME." MARK 16:17 (NLT)

There is power in His name! His name alone dismantles the powers of darkness.

WORD OF GOD

Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:17 (NLT)

The sword Paul mentioned here is not a long sword but a short dagger about 10 inches long called a "gladius." Roman soldiers were highly trained with this dagger, as it was sharp on both sides and was deadly when in close combat. Its needlepoint could even pierce through armor. This weapon was the only armor listed that could be used both offensively and defensively. It could cut an enemy both coming and going.

FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS ALIVE AND POWERFUL. IT IS SHARPER THAN THE SHARPEST TWO-EDGED SWORD, CUTTING BETWEEN SOUL AND SPIRIT, BETWEEN JOINT AND MARROW. IT EXPOSES OUR INNERMOST THOUGHTS AND DESIRES. HEBREWS 4:12 (NLT)

Jesus used the Scripture in the wilderness when He was dealing with Satan. As Satan tempted Jesus, His response was "It is written..." He quoted scripture and defeated Satan with the Word. He did not argue with the devil, He spoke the Word of God, and the battle was over.

BLOOD OF JESUS

And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. Revelation 12:11 (NLT)

The blood of the Lamb references Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection. It renders Satan powerless when we are walking in the power of the Holy Spirit. We remind Satan that he was defeated at the cross when the precious blood of our Savior was poured out for us. There is power in the blood!

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PRAISE

Satan knows the power of praise, which is why he works to stop us from worshipping our King. Worship God and watch God do the rest. Praise silences the enemy. It gets our eyes off of our situation and onto The One who is worthy and deserving of our praise. 2 Chronicles 20:2-22 tells an amazing testimony of the power of praise before the battle was won in the physical. A huge army was approaching the people of Judah and Jerusalem. King Jehosphat was "terrified and begged the Lord for guidance." A man in the crowd got a word from the Lord that said "'Do not be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God's.....But you will not even need to fight. ...' After consulting the people, the king appointed singers to walk ahead of the army, singing to the Lord and praising Him for His holy splendor." As they praised, their enemies turned against one another and Judah was able to watch their enemy fall before their eyes.

We praise Him for who He is - He is 6000! All the time! Praise Him by singing, shouting, clapping, dancing, leaping, play instruments, etc. Praise for Him how the Holy Spirit is leading you and watch your giants fall!

PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

Have you ever known a little boy who loved to get in his full Superman gear or some sort of superhero? Or what about a little girl who wanted to wear her princess dress and high heels all around the house?

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

This means the battle is the Lord's, not yours! Scriptures says GOD supplies us with the strength, not ourselves! Just like the kids who dress up, we are called to "dress up" in Jesus every single day. By putting on our armor each day, the devil will not be able to be around you!

STAND YOUR GROUND, PUTTING ON THE BELT OF TRUTH AND THE BODY ARMOR OF GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS. FOR SHOES, PUT ON THE PEACE THAT COMES FROM THE GOOD NEWS SO THAT YOU WILL BE FULLY PREPARED. IN ADDITION TO ALL OF THESE, HOLD UP YOUR SHIELD OF FAITH TO STOP THE FIERY ARROWS OF THE DEVIL. PUT ON SALVATION AS YOUR HELMET, AND TAKE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD. EPHESIANS 6:14-17 (NLT)

Three different times in Ephesians 6 Paul says to "Stand firm." Why? Our job is to hold the ground that Jesus has already won! Let's look at each armor piece:



BELT OF TRUTH - This belt holds every piece of armor together. It holds the sword and the breastplate. Without it, the armor would not stay on. The truth of God holds us together in all things. The devil is a liar so we need to KNOW God's truth. For us, the belt of truth means Jesus has the final say in all things in our life.

BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS - This piece of armor protected the Roman soldier's most vital organs to live- his heart, his lungs, and other important organs to sustain life. When we put on the breastplate of righteousness, we are declaring that we are not just forgiven as a sinner, but that because Jesus' righteousness is wrapped around us, we are in right standing with God. It is not something we strive to be. It is our identity. We are righteous in Jesus Christ. By putting on our breastplate of righteousness, we are declaring we know WHO we are and WHOSE we are!

SHOES OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE - Our feet are what lead us along our journey in life. Roman soldiers did not wear fashionable sandals that looked good. No, they often had nails or spikes on the bottom so that they could withstand the tough terrain. These killer shoes were also used in battle to kick an enemy and destroy them. The spikes held the Roman soldier in place when the enemy was coming against them. The shoes were not some afterthought to the Roman gear. They were vital for battle. When our feet are covered in the good news of the peace of Jesus, it allows us to walk obediently through painful trials, knocking the enemy out of the way, and protects us from dangerous paths. It encourages us to walk WITH HIM and to live every day FOR Him!

SHIELD OF FAITH - The Roman's shields were massive in size, almost the size of a door on a house. Because it was long and wide, it covered the soldier completely. The shield of faith will cover us and protect us from the enemy. Our faith in Jesus' faithfulness is what puts out the arrows the enemy hurls at us. It is obeying God when it seems foolish or hard. It is trusting Him when it does not make sense to us. It is acting on the truth that we declare we believe.

HELMET OF SALVATION - In Roman days, the helmet was vital for survival as it protected the brain. Paul uses the helmet to demonstrate that God's salvation is not just a one-time thing, but eternal protection and deliverance from Satan. The enemy no longer has a hold on us because of the power of the cross. As we fasten our helmet, we are to renew our minds to the things of Christ. How? By allowing the truth of God to exchange the lies for the truth.

SWORD OF THE SPIRIT - This is an offensive and defensive weapon. The sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. As we speak the Word of God, it has the power to slay the powers of darkness. Speaking Scripture silences the enemy! What about the lies we hear between our ears? Speak His Word out loud and watch the devil flee!

Toaring

HUMILITY

BUT HE GIVES US MORE GRACE. THAT IS WHY SCRIPTURES SAYS: "GOD OPPOSES THE PROUD BUT SHOWS FAVOR TO THE HUMBLE." JAMES 4:6 (NIV)

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up. James 4:10 (NIV)

FOR THE LORD DELIGHTS IN HIS PEOPLE, HE CROWNS THE HUMBLE WITH VICTORY. PSALM 149:4 (NLT)

CONCLUSION

If we remember anything from this lesson, remember JESUS HAS ALREADY WON!! The war is over. Our perspective is that we fight FROM victory not for victory! Yes, the devil will try to throw his fiery darts at us but Jesus has given us tools to put out the arrows. His perfect love casts out all fear. So no matter what battle we are facing, know that Jesus has already won!

FOR GOD HAS NOT GIVEN US A SPIRIT OF FEAR AND TIMIDITY, BUT OF LOVE, POWER, AND A SOUND MIND. 2 TIMOTHY 1:7 (NLT)

Sister in Christ, go take back what the enemy has tried to steal! You are a mighty soldier!



Prayer of Renunciation of Occult Sins and Forgiveness

(Copied Using Your Spiritual Authority by Pat Brooks)

Thank you, Lord, for dying for my sins, for your glorious resurrection, and for making me a new creature in Christ by faith in your blood. Dear Lord, I have a confession to make: I have sought supernatural experience apart from You. I have disobeyed your Word. I want you to help me renounce all things and cleanse me in body, soul and spirit in Jesus' name.

I renounce witchcraft and magic, both black and white. I renounce Ouija boards and all other occult games. I renounce seances, clairvoyance, and mediums; ESP, second sight, and mind reading. I renounce all fortune telling, palm reading, teal-leaf reading, crystal balls, Tarot, and other card laying. I renounce all astrology and interest in horoscopes. I Renounce the heresy of reincarnation and all healing groups involved in metaphysics. I renounce all hypnosis under any excuse or authority. I break any curse placed on me from any occult source, in Jesus' name. I renounce water witching or dowsing, levitation, body lifting, table tipping, psychometry, and automatic writing. I renounce astral projection and other demonic skills. I renounce all literature I have ever read in any of these fields, and vow that I will destroy such literature in my own possession. I now break, in the Name of Jesus Christ, all psychic heredity, and any demonic hold upon my family line as a result of the disobedience of any bonds of physical or mental illness, in Jesus' name. I also break all demonic subjection to mother, father, grandparents, or any other human being. In the name of Jesus Christ, I renounce everything psychic and occult.

I renounce every cult that denies the blood of Christ. I renounce every philosophy that denies the divinity of Christ. I call upon the Lord to set me free.

Lord, I have another confession to make, I have not loved, but have resented certain people. I call upon You, to help me forgive them. I do now forgive ______ (speak or list the names which the Lord brings to mind, either of persons living and dead). I do now forgive myself.

I renounce every evil spirit that binds or torments me, and I call upon the Lord to set me free.

In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen