

“OVERCOMING SATANIC ATTACK”

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

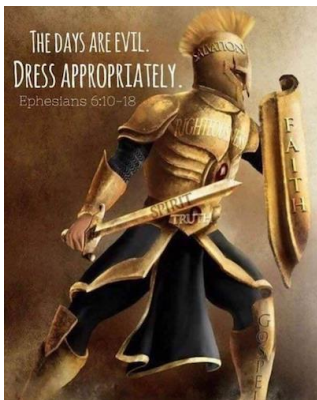
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Monthly Newsletter

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EPHESIANS 6:10-17

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having **GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH**, and having **PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**, and having **SHOD YOUR FEET WITH THE**



PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; in addition to all, taking up **THE SHIELD OF FAITH** with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take **THE HELMET OF SALVATION**, and the **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**, which is the **WORD OF GOD**.

HOW CAN WE AS CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS OVERCOME THE DEVIL'S ATTACKS?

#1. IDENTIFY THE ENEMY

Satan is our enemy and he is a fallen angel that has limited supernatural powers (Verse 12). He was cast down from heaven with one third of angels that rebel with him against God. He is the god of this world that has blinded the minds

of the lost souls and he has a host of demons under his chain of command.

“The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God” (2 Cor. 4:4 NIV).

We are fighting an invisible enemy that we cannot see with the natural eye. He operates in the ‘Domain of Darkness’ in the spirit realm.

“He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son” (Col. 1:13).

#2 STAND FIRM

How do I stand firm when the devil comes against me with temptations, trials, storms, hits on my marriage?

Put on the full armor of God and you will stand. You must be ready for battle daily (Verses 10 & 13).

You cannot win in spiritual warfare unless you are ready to fight. You are ready for battle before the battle begins. You are a man of prayer and a man who studies, reads and puts to practice the Word of God. You are a Christian Soldier that stays ready for spiritual warfare. The closer you walk with God, serve Him with all your heart and attack the devil’s kingdom, the more intense he will attack you. His tactics will be constant **“Guerilla Warfare”** against you. He attacks in this manner in order to wear you down, but you must

JESUS

“...be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes (Eph. 6:10-11).

WE OVERCOME SATAN'S ATTACKS BY PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD.

FORTIFY YOUR MIND WITH GOD'S TRUTH

“Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth” (Verse 14 KJV).

The NASB says, ‘Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth,’ which means the first piece of armor protects your mind.

According to 1 Peter 1:13 – “Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ”.



You must allow God's Word to invade your mind so that your mind can be renewed! When we have the mind of Christ, we will make

the sincere ‘Commitment’ to go all the way with Jesus. You will make a commitment to live a godly life by walking in obedience to God's Word and doing His perfect will. You cannot have victory in ‘Spiritual Warfare’ without first making a commitment to obey God and His Word. You make a commitment to give your heart to God and to walk with Him. The devil will throw thousands of evil missiles (evil thoughts) to your mind daily.

Why? So that you will give in to temptation.

The Truth of God will protect you and defend you if you practice His Word. You will ‘Stand Firm’ (‘Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth’ Verse 14).

When You Have A Renewed Mind:

You Don't Give In!

You Don't Give Up!

You Don't Walk Away from the Battlefield!

You Don't Throw in the Towel!

You Don't Compromise!

You will stand firm and fight the good fight of faith! If you are not committed in walking a godly life with a Holy God, the devil will defeat you in spiritual warfare and you will be in danger of being destroyed by him.

Fortify your mind with God's Word!

GUARD YOUR HEART WITH RIGHTEOUS LIVING

“having put on the breastplate of righteousness,” Verse 14b.

The ‘Breastplate of Righteousness’ is walking right before God. As true soldiers of Jesus Christ we walk and live in obedience to God's Word. We must practice the Word of God in our lives. We must guard our hearts and our relationship with God.

1 Peter 2:24 says, “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness,”

Don't just hear the Word of God...

Put it to practice! Live it! Walk it!

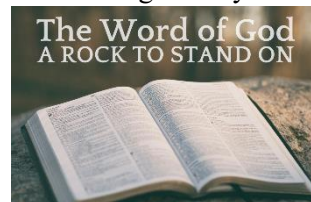
God is a Holy God and if we are going to walk with Him our hearts must be clean. If we are to have victory in spiritual warfare, we must fight with clean hearts so that the power of God might flow through us. Willful playing with sin will give the devil a foothold to defeat you in the battlefield. Samson played with sin and was defeated by Satan and he was almost lost in the fires of hell. He never fulfilled God's perfect will for his life. The devil knows that sin separates you from God and when he can get you to sin he will be able to remove the ‘Breastplate of Righteousness’ from you and then take you down like Samson, King David, King Saul and many others as recorded in the Bible. If you are going to stand firm against the devil you cannot be playing with sin.

The ‘Breastplate of Righteousness’ is living a godly life before a Holy God.

God's Word says, “Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,” (Verse 14).

STAND ON A SOLID FOUNDATION

“and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace” (V. 15).



The Bible says, “There is no peace,” says the Lord, “for the wicked” (Isa. 48:22).

When we accepted Jesus as our personal Savior the power of the Holy Ghost entered our hearts and imparted God's peace in our spirit.

‘and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus’ (Phil. 4:7).

Now we have the peace of God in our hearts and no matter what the devil throws at us we can stand on the Rock Jesus Christ and not be moved! We have peace in our hearts because we are right with God and know that He will fight for us and protect us from all satanic opposition. We can walk the walk and fight the devil with assurance that Jesus will give us the victory. You cannot fight with fear in your heart and expect to be victorious in the battlefield because you are fighting with sin in your heart. When you are right with God there is no fear when you engage in spiritual warfare. You fight with confidence and assurance that God is with you. We are standing firm on a solid foundation because the Prince of Peace lives in our hearts by faith.

“These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

The devil can attack you with storms, trials, and every weapon in his arsenal but we have the peace of God to stand firm in the midst of intense spiritual warfare.

PROTECT YOURSELF WITH THE SHIELD OF FAITH

“above all, taking the shield of faith with which, you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one” (V. 16).

Our faith in what Jesus did at the Cross of Calvary! There Jesus defeated the devil and crushed his head.

“And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross” (Col. 2:15).

The most powerful piece of armor you have besides the Word of God (Sword of the Spirit) is your ‘FAITH’ in God.

By faith David the shepherd boy killed Goliath.

By faith Moses extended his staff and God parted the Red Sea.

By faith the Three Hebrews were protected from the Blazing Furnace.

By faith Daniel was rescued from hungry lions.

By faith Peter walked on water twice. Peter put his faith back on Jesus after the devil tricked him to put his eyes on the waves and storm.

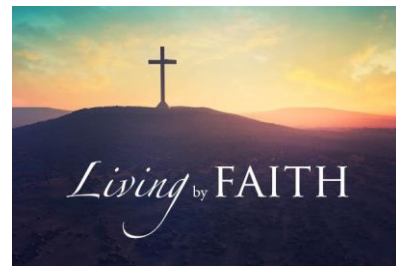
By faith the woman with the issue of blood was healed by Jesus.

By faith the lepers were healed by Jesus.

By faith God will give us the victory in our spiritual battles against the devil.

“for we walk by faith, not by sight” 2 Cor. 5:7

God responds to your faith! Your faith moves His hand! The shield of faith deflects all the fiery darts of the devil. Satan is always hurling his fiery darts of fear, doubt and



worry in our direction, but the only time they can hit us is when we let our shield of faith down—when we stop believing that God is in control. Our faith in God will quench every missile that

satan throws at us daily. Use your ‘Shield of Faith’ daily throughout the day. Peter put down his shield of faith when he was walking on water towards Jesus and the devil managed to get him to put his eyes on the waves and he began to sink. The devil injected ‘Doubt’ and ‘Unbelief’ and Peter almost drowned.

PUT ON THE HELMET OF SALVATION DAILY

“And take the helmet of salvation,” V.17

The helmet of salvation is to know without a doubt that you are saved. You believe and have faith in Jesus Christ that you are a Born-Again Christian saved from the penalty of sin.

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life” (Rom. 5:8-10).

You are a saved Christian Soldier fighting in spiritual warfare against the devil and his evil army of demons. Putting on the ‘Helmet of Salvation’ simply means you are saved, a soldier in God’s army and must fight, but also fight carefully that you fight to win. Take care of your salvation! The Bible calls it a **“Great Salvation”** because it cost the life of Jesus for us to now have salvation.

“how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him” Heb. 2:3

Today we have many soldiers that did not take care of their **‘Great Salvation’** by playing with sin and died without Jesus in their hearts and went straight to hell. They lost their salvation.

“But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ” 1Thess. 5:8-9

Fight the good fight of faith but with the ‘helmet of salvation’ on every day.

USE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT BY FAITH

“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” V.17



No Roman soldier would go to battle without his sword. Our weapon as Christian soldiers is the Word of God, ‘the Sword of the Spirit.’ God’s Word is the most powerful weapon in the

world and has the power to change people, save people and judge people. The soldier of Jesus has at his disposal:

An ‘Offensive’ weapon and a ‘Defensive weapon.’

Jesus used the sword as a defensive weapon against the devil when He said, ‘It is written.’ We fight the devil with the Word of God. You need to know the Word of God so read your Bible and study it and attend Bible Studies. The Word of God is ‘Offensive’ so that we can attack the devil’s kingdom of darkness as we proclaim the Gospel to a lost world.

- Street rallies
- Street Evangelism
- Praying for lost souls in the streets

The Word of God is ‘Defensive’ so that we can stand and resist the satanic attacks in fierce spiritual warfare against the devil. Paul only lists one weapon because we only need one weapon: There is no enemy the Word of God, with the power of His Spirit, cannot defeat. And so, armed only with our sword, we step out to fight our enemies head-on. The struggle is real. It is immediate, and it is in front of us.

As soldiers in God's army, it is our responsibility and duty to use His Word to discern the truth and then follow it. When God's Word shows us something wrong in ourselves, we can use this spiritual weapon to "surgically" remove the offending thoughts and actions. Then can we fight with confidence and have victory in spiritual warfare. Don't forget that we are dealing with a spiritual powerful system of darkness run by satan himself.

For a Christian Soldier to be victorious in spiritual warfare against a fallen angel and his demon army, we must put on the full armor of God.

Eph. 6:13, says, “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.”