



INTOUCH - NOV 14

KARNATAKA CONGREGATION KUWAIT

PRINCIPLES FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE

In Ephesians 6, Paul the apostle gives us the weapons necessary for a victorious Christian life. I recognize that I am in a spiritual battle, so I use four biblical principles in the fight:

First, I acknowledge the adversary. Satan is real (1 Peter 5:8-9).

When you're being attacked, welcome to the club. It's proof that you're a believer. The fact is, the more you make an impact for God, the more the devil is going to fight you. You never outgrow it. It just gets more intense. If there were no devil, why would God send His Son to fight what does not exist? The Bible says God sent Jesus Christ to defeat the works of Satan. The Bible says that Satan is the prince of this world. Jesus said so. He never disputed Satan's right to work all across the world. The Bible says in 1 John 3:8, "The Son of God came for this purpose: to destroy the devil's work" (NCV).

Second, I accept God-given authority.

Most believers are very ignorant about the authority they have for use against the devil. Matthew 28:18-19 says we have all authority in heaven and earth. Then Jesus says, "Therefore go and make disciples...." He transfers the authority to you and me.

He does that because He's given us a specific mission (2 Corinthians 5:20). When you send an ambassador to another country, the ambassador has the full authority to represent that country. The Bible says that you -- as a believer in ministry -- are Christ's ambassador.

Third, I put on the full armor of God.

When the Apostle Paul wrote this, he was in prison. He was chained 24 hours a day to a Roman guard.

Sitting there chained to this centurion, Paul looked at him and saw a model for spiritual armor.

The Roman had on a breastplate -- a piece of metal to protect his chest from spear attack. He had a strong, leather girdle around his waist to protect him. He had on boots, a shield, a helmet and a sword. Paul says just as the Roman soldier goes out to do battle, when you're in ministry you'll need to be dressed for battle. You put it on -- before you teach that Bible study, before you teach that Sunday School class, before you play that note in worship. In all these things, you need to put on your armor of God.

I do this every time I speak. I mentally run through this list, putting on the full armor of God. I say, for instance, "Lord, I put on the helmet of [salvation](#) that will protect me from the thoughts the devil will try to give me...."

Fourth, I aim the weapons God gave me for warfare.

Not only do we have some armor, but also we have some weapons to use when we're involved in ministry. Remember, we're not fighting against physical people. We're fighting against spiritual forces. The battlefield for spiritual warfare is primarily in the thought life, in your mind (2 Corinthians 10:4-5). Notice what Paul says the weapons do:

They demolish arguments -- that's the way people think. They pull down pretension -- that's the way people think. We take every thought captive. In this battle for thoughts, you have four weapons: humility, faith, truth and praise. I use them every day, but especially as I'm preparing to teach God's Word. **By Rick Warren**

Spiritual Warfare Weapons by Ps. Shalom

“LOINS GIRT ABOUT WITH TRUTH”

In Ephesians, the apostle Paul says the first thing to do in spiritual warfare is to wear truth like a belt around your waist. Truth is the foundation for you to fight against the enemy. If you don't have a foundation of truth, you will fall apart when temptations and turmoil attack your life. God's Truth is what holds you together.

Your mind is the first place you have to protect with the Word of God: “Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness” (Ephesians 6:13-14).

Your loins deal with your mind. (“Wherefore gird up the

“THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS”

The second weapon that you must have is the breastplate of righteousness (Ephesians 6:14). The breastplate covers the vital organs and speaks of the heart. The breastplate of righteousness fortifies the heart against the attacks of the enemy. Allow the righteousness revealed in God's word to influence your mind and touch your heart.

On the other hand, when you wear the breastplate of righteousness, you are genuinely trying to keep your heart pure and keep your motives clean. Satan is afraid of anyone with a pure heart, which is also a brave heart. Be conscious of your righteousness. And when we walk in His righteousness, oppression will be far from us (Isaiah 54:14).

“FEET SHOD WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE”

Third, you must have “*your feet shod*” (Ephesians 6:15). As you shod your feet, you are protecting your life, and your behavior. Everyday the Word of God goes forth to touch and change the lives of people all around the world, make sure that you are one of them, and that you are a carrier of His good news. In a spiritual warfare, it is vital you put on your gospel of peace shoes.

The word of God must affect your walk or your life. This happens as the word fills your mind, touches your heart, and is manifest or seen in your walk. It all begins with your mind. You begin to read the word and hear the word; it begins to influence and fill your heart with truth. This affects your actions and in your daily life.

loins of your mind” 1 Pet. 1:13). Fill your mind with the word; the door to the Spirit comes through the mind. The Truth dispels darkness and set you Free. Don't fall for the devil's mind games. The more truths you receive, the more victory will manifest in your life. Once you know the truth, the devil cannot fool you anymore.

As long as you are in the dark or ignorant about something, you will be fearful and you will be vulnerable to the devil's deceit. The devil plays mind games with us and we have got to watch out for his tricks.

When the truth of God's word touches your mind and heart, it brings transformation and renewal: “*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, an acceptable, and perfect, will of God*” (Romans 12:2).

David, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, told us that we protect the heart by filling it with God's Word. “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Psalm 119:1).

Be convicted of Righteousness, not sin

When you walk in peace, you are unconsciously allowing God to lead you. The peace that Jesus bequeathed to us includes well-being, health and prosperity. God wants you in a perpetual state of shalom i.e. a state of health, a state of untroubled, undisturbed well being. But always remember that the devil will try to disturb that sense of peace.

The peace of Jesus is strong, abiding and unaffected by outward circumstances. The apostle Paul says if you are going to stand in a battle and not stumble, you need shoes with the gospel of peace. You're to have peace with God, peace with yourself, and peace with other people. Peace is always relational.

“THE SHIELD OF FAITH”

The fourth weapon is faith: *“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked”* (Ephesians 6:16). “Above all” means the “shield of faith” is of paramount importance.

The Word in your mouth is faith. God's Word will pour fourth out of your spirit and touch your speech, enabling you to stand strong against the enemy. Paul says, “Hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil” (Ephesians 6:16).

What are the devil's fiery arrows?

- o Doubt Depression Discouragement

“THE HELMET OF SALVATION”

Fifth, the helmet of salvation will guard your life: *“And take the helmet of salvation”* (Ephesians 6:17). In the natural the helmet protects the head from injury in battle. Some mistakenly believe that the helmet deals with the mind. However, the helmet of salvation deals with doctrine. That does not mean you wear a helmet like a soldier and protect your skull from a bullet; it means you protect your life from error.

Once the truth enters your mind, touches your heart, affects your life and walk, and is manifest in your actions, it becomes your nature. The helmet of salvation deals with your nature, your character, your doctrine; what you believe is who you are. The doctrine of the

“THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT”

The sixth weapon or piece of armor is *“the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”* (Ephesians 6:17). The Word of God in you becomes a weapon out of you against the devil. No enemy can bring you down when you are full of God's Word.

All the armor up to this point has served a defensive purpose, intended for use in facing the enemy. Each piece of armor provided protection from an attack. And although the word of God is connected to each element of God's armor, the sword of the Spirit is the word of God, for it used as an offensive weapon against the enemy.

The Word of God is an eternally potent weapon. The apostle Paul even uses weaponry terminology con-

- o Delay Dead ends Despair

You've got to believe in God's promises, even if they don't appear to be true at the time. Lean on God's promises and lift up the shield of faith when Satan sends his fiery darts of doubt.

It is not about having faith in your faith, it is about having faith in His faith. So just rest in His Faith. Just believe that He has the faith for your miracle. Just believe that He can and that He is willing to bring your miracle to pass because He loves you.

word makes you balanced, stable. You are not moved by error or taken by false teaching. The helmet of salvation is the doctrine of the word that brings balance to your life, and keeps you walking steady and balanced with the Spirit and in the Spirit.

The Word of God will keep you on solid footing: “That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive” (Ephesians 4:15).

cerning the Bible: *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* (2 Timothy 2:15).

The Word of God protects you against the enemy, affecting your mind, your heart, your walk, your actions, and your nature, character and life. As your life becomes strong and established, the sword of the Spirit becomes an offensive weapon against the enemy. Unmovable, unshakable, and because of the truth within, you are able to stand against the enemy. When you become a masterful “swordsmen,” God can use you more than ever before in any total recovery battle!

“Prayer and supplication”

The seventh weapon, and most important of all weapons is prayer. It is what keeps you. Over and above in *Total Recovery*, I have referred to the absolute need for prayer, the prayer that covers and clothes you like a mantle. **Pray In the Spirit At All Times**

The Spirit helps by praying through you, so praying through the Spirit is His way of helping us overcome our weakness of not knowing how or what to pray for during a trial and manifest what has been prayed for.

Learn to constantly pray in the spirit i.e. pray in tongues. If you are going through a tough time, pray in tongues whenever you can and wherever you go.

The bible says praying in tongues provides rest and it refreshes you (Isaiah 28:11-12), will keep you flowing with God (1 Corinthians 14:2) and will help in emotionally (1 Corinthians 14:4).

It is impossible to effectively use the Word without prayer. Ephesians 6:18 encourages you to be a mighty person of prayer: “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.”

If you don't see anything happening, don't worry. Just keep praying in the Spirit. Make your body a house of prayer, and you will eventually see the whole problem wither and die! So as Holy Spirit while waiting for the manifestation of your miracle, God is removing “thieves” from your temple, which are stealing health, vigor and life from your body.

Speaking in tongue helps you to repair your body, soul and mind!



Application of Spiritual Principles

Spiritual warfare is a reality for the believer, and the stakes involved in the conflict are eternal! The 7 pieces of armor that HS encourages us to put on were what the Lord Himself put on to deal vengeance on His adversaries, to enforce justice and to protect the righteous. So when you put on the armor of God, the Lord will repay the devil for what he has done to you.

According to scripture, this struggle is 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*” (Ephesians 6:12).

Preparation for spiritual warfare requires the application of spiritual principles revealed in the word of God. As a believer, we need never face the enemy in our own strength. David undoubtedly taught his own 3-D army these words:

It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect. He maketh my feet like hinds feet... He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms. Thou hast given me the shield of thy salvation... I have pursued mine enemies, and overtaken them... I have wounded them that they were not able to rise: they are fallen under my feet. For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle” (Psalm 18:32-39)

Regarding spiritual warfare, I have often cautioned, “Never rush onto the battlefield naked!” Don't trust in your own strength or abilities, for the flesh is powerless and without authority against the enemy: “*Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies*” (Psalm 60:12; Psalm 108:13).

All the armor and weaponry necessary to defeat your foe is available to you. Take time to identify your enemy, put on the whole armor of God, and clothe yourself with a mantle of prayer. When you are Spirit led and properly prepared in the realm of the Spirit, you will bring defeat to the enemy and victory to your life!

“Fight From Victory, Not For Victory ” by Joseph Prince

God does not need you to defeat the devil today. Jesus has already done it and given you the victory. (Colossians 2:15, Romans 8:37) Your part is to enforce the victory by simply standing your ground, which is victory ground. In other words, you “fight” from victory ground by standing. You don’t fight for victory.

In Ephesians 6:10–18, the passage on spiritual warfare, the word “wrestle” appears only once (verse 12), while the word “stand” appears four times — “stand against the wiles of the devil”, “withstand in the evil day”, “having done all, to stand”, “Stand therefore”. (Verses 11, 13–14) Four times the Holy Spirit tells us to stand. Yet, many Christians are focusing on wrestling their way to victory!

You are already on victory ground. You already have everything in Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:21, 23) You are already blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (Ephesians 1:3) The devil knows this. And that is why his tactic is to deceive you and make you think that you don’t have the victory.

So when he attacks you by saying, “Look at that small sum in your bank account! How are you going to pay the bills?” stand your ground. Declare, “I am not trying to be blessed, I am already blessed in Christ!” It doesn’t matter how much you have in the bank. You are richly supplied because you are in Christ. And as the need arises, the supply will be there if you believe it.

It is the same with healing. The devil will try to attack you with symptoms in your body. He will try to put pain in your body, and make you feel weak here and there, so that you think that you are still sick. He is trying to make you believe that you don’t have your healing. That is the time to be conscious of Jesus’ finished work and declare, “I am not trying to get healed, I am healed! I am standing on the victory ground which Jesus has given me!”

Beloved, it makes a world of difference when you fight from victory and not for victory!

The bible doesn’t teach us how to cope with our problems, it teaches us how to always walk in victory! God has blessed us with everything! In Christ, you have everything. You have eternal life, all the promises of God written in the bible, the Holy Spirit and all the fruits of the Spirit i.e. love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control. But because you are a believer, the devil pays extra attention on you. Welcome to Spiritual Warfare!

God tells us to put on His armor, which Jesus had left behind for us when He returned to heaven, and which had defeated the devil 2,000 years ago! When you are inside the armor, the devil sees you strong, you look like Jesus to him!

Thought For The Day

You are already on victory ground. You are already blessed with every blessing in Christ.

Birthday Bash... Promise Word (Ps 46:11)



Christmas Season

Christmas Carol—29th Nov Onwards...

Christmas Bash - 12th Dec 14

Wedding Anniversary

1. Godwin and Shreya - 13th Nov
2. Sheldon and Abigaill - 14th Nov



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KANNADA BIBLE STUDY
Dr. Suchitra - Mangaf

15th Nov @ 6:30pm

Hebrews
Coffee House

Hebrews 10:24-25a "Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another."

Keep in touch: Sis. Prabha Newton



CELL GROUPS

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

4th Nov @ 7pm @ Fahaheel

Contact: Bro. David Salins

10th & 24th Nov @ 7pm

Salmiya

Contact: Dr. Suchitra