

Warfare Strategies

Part 2

“Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer.”
(2 Timothy 2:3-4)

In the beginning God created heaven and earth and all the things that we see in the universe. He created man on His own image and He placed him in the garden east of Eden, and he placed under his authority the garden to tend it and care for it. But the serpent, Satan, entered the scene and man was tempted with his own evil motive and desire and disobeyed God. Devil is against man and want man to disobey God, so we need to be careful how to obey God, submit to His will and resist Satan and so he will flee far from us.

God is with us, and will stand beside us to help us to resist Satan work and to deliver us. For this reason God sent His son the Lord Jesus Christ to save us from sin and death. Jesus died on the cross for our sins; He was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give us eternal life. ***“The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.”*** (1 John 3:8) So we need to be a good soldier of Christ. Jesus came to help us in our fight and struggle against the devil, so we ought to cooperate with God and walk faithfully with Him and carry the responsibilities that He entrusted to us to go and spread His Word and care for His church.

We will continue in this message the principles of spiritual warfare:

5- We need to bind the Strongman: Luke 11:21-22 teaches us that ***“When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils.”*** As David brought victory to Israel, so Jesus brings victory to the church. In the Name of Jesus we can bind the strongman; ***Matthew 16:19*** tells us that: ***“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”*** ***“Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house.”*** (Matthew 12:29) When insecurity, fear, unbelief, rejection, inferiority, discouragement, etc. are bound, they need to be replaced by the new: security, faith, acceptance, comfort, etc. ***Luke 11:24-26*** says ***“When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, ‘I will return to the house I left.’ When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first.”*** When old enemies come against us we need to bind them and push through to establish the positive opposite of those. When the old enemies come back, we must stand against them, resist and not allow them to enter our lives.

6- We need to go through! And not give up: Isaiah 57:14 tells us to ***“Build up, build up, prepare the road! Remove the obstacles out of the way of my people.”*** Acts 20:24 tells, ***“However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and***

complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.” Paul encourages us to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given us—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. If a soldier gives up he dies. We have to continue to fight tiredness, diseases, fear, and all other things that hinder us in the Christian walk.

7- There is a cost involved: A soldier has to leave home, family, comfort and security. He faces loneliness, discomfort, fear and death. As Christians we are told in ***Luke 9:23-24***, ***“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it.”*** To press through in warfare means sacrifice in time, attitudes, desires and prayer. But don't forget there is also a reward for your work and labour for the Lord. Jesus promised us the following: ***“I tell you the truth, Jesus said to them, ‘no one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life.’”*** (Luke 18:29-30)

8- Walk in victory: Jesus has already won the victory. ***Hebrews 2:14*** says ***“Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.”*** Through Jesus we have the victory. ***1 Cor.15:57*** say ***“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*** Jesus gives us authority over the enemy. ***1 John 4:4*** say, ***“the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”*** To continue walk in victory we have responsibilities to keep and requirements to achieve as we read below:

A- To confess our sins, and to not let unconfessed sin make us unable to fight: ***1 John 1:10*** say, ***“If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.”*** ***Ephesians 4:27*** reminds us to ***“not give the devil a foothold.”***

B- Keep our faith in God: ***1 John 5:4-5*** say, ***“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.”*** It is our faith that overcomes the world.

C- Submit to God and resist the Devil: ***James 4:7*** It says, ***“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”*** When the enemy comes against us, we need to submit ourselves fully to God, then we can be able to resist the devil and sure he will go away from us.

My dear and beloved: Though we are in a battle, we can be encouraged because the victory is already ours through Christ Jesus and He has given us all that we need to stand and to defeat the enemy. We have the privilege of being a part in possessing the land for our Commander in Chief, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as we agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to live a life as soldier for Christ Jesus my Lord. Help me Lord and equip me with patience, endurance and self-control to go on and serve you and not to give up, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.*