

Going Deeper

SPIRITUAL WARFARE



Discipleship
Course

*I want to know Christ and the power
of his resurrection and share in
the fellowship of his sufferings*
~ Philippians 3:10

to know the Person, Power & Passion of Jesus Christ

Contents

1 BORN FOR BATTLE

The Reality Of The Battle: *A World In Chaos*

The Supernatural Nature Of Spiritual Warfare

Jesus' Mission: *To Bring In God's Rule & Destroy The Devil's Work*

Who Am I? *Born a Child of Man; Born Again a Child of God*

2 WARFARE, WARRIORS & WEAPONS

The Warfare, Warriors & Weapons Are Supernatural

Know Your Enemies: *The Flesh, The World System & The Devil*

Identifying the Enemies in My Life: *Body, Soul & Spirit*

3 INTO BATTLE

The Battle between The Old Fleshly Self vs New Life in the Spirit

The Law of Gravity vs The Law of Aerodynamics

Battle Strategy: *Submit to God & Resist the Devil*

Armed For Battle: *Putting On The Whole Armour Of God*

4 SETTING CAPTIVES FREE

Jesus Came To Set The Captives Free

Enforcing the Victory of Calvary

Doorways to Demonic Entry

Jesus' Strategy for The Fight

Removing the Legal Authority Given the Enemy

Binding the Strong Man: *Establishing the LORDship of Christ*

Locking the Doors & Filling the Vacuum

5 WINNING THE WAR EVERY DAY

Living In A War Zone

Being Alert To Enemy Attacks: *Identifying the Triggers*

Maintaining A Disciplined Walk with Jesus Day by Day

Forgetting the Past & Finding God's Plans for My Future

1. BORN FOR BATTLE: LIVING IN A WARZONE



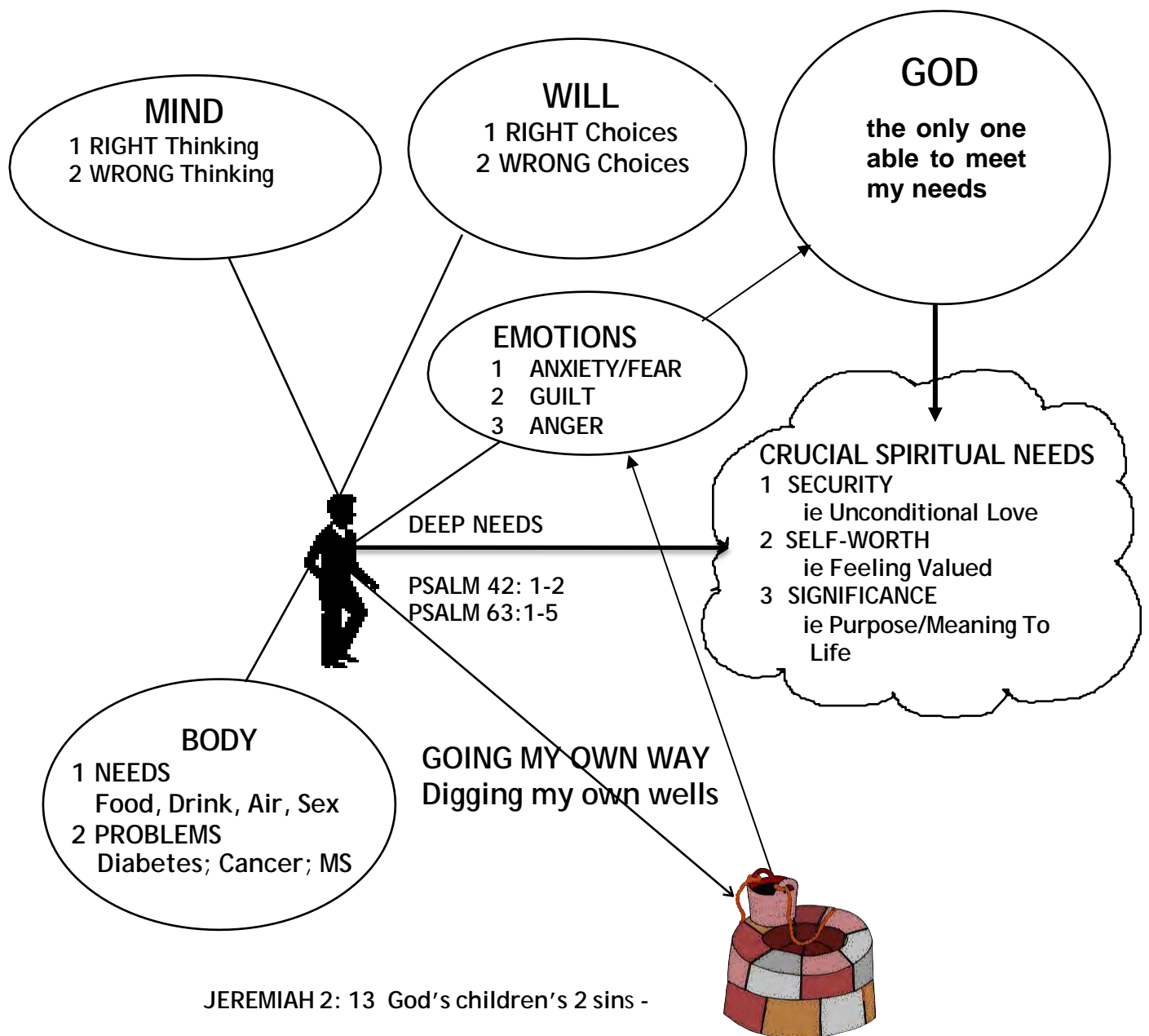
When we were born, we were born into a spiritual warzone and a war between two kingdoms: **The Kingdom of God vs The Domain of Satan.**



Satan is called *“The Ruler of This World”* (John 12:31) and *“The Prince of the Power of the Air”* (Ephesians 2:2). He gained control of this world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God’s instructions in The Garden of Eden (**Genesis 3**).

In Jesus’ Temptations in The Wilderness, Satan even tempted Jesus to bow down to him and worship him in return for Jesus gaining control of this world (**Luke 4:7**). Paul says he blinds the minds of people so they can’t understand that Jesus is the exact likeness of God (**2 Corinthians 4:4**). The result is that *“No one is truly wise; no one seeks God.”* (**Romans 3:10**).

THE TRIPARTITE STRUCTURE OF HUMAN BEINGS



1..... Diagram: CWR/
 2..... Selwyn Hughes 1994

A. BODY B. SOUL: Mind; Will; Emotions C. SPIRIT

NOTE: The Cognitive Triad in clinical depression consists of three lies of Satan:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. NO ONE LOVES ME | Not true! God loves me with an everlasting love |
| 2. I'M NO USE | Not true! God says I'm precious and honoured in his eyes |
| 3. THERE'S NO HOPE | Not true! God says he has plans for me to give me a hope and a future |

Q1 How did God design us to find satisfaction of our three crucial needs?

Q2 Why do we often find ourselves in trouble?

THE SUPERNATURAL NATURE OF THE WARFARE

The Bible says that we were made in the image of the Triune God: Three Persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit – in One God.

In **1 Thessalonians 5:23** Paul prays for the Thessalonian Christians:

*Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole **SPIRIT**, and **SOUL** and **BODY** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*



Q1 Why is it futile to try fighting the spiritual war with physical weapons and human effort, according to Paul?

Q2 What kind of weapons do we need to fight with? What are they able to do?

JESUS' MISSION: TO REVERSE THE RESULTS OF THE FALL

Jesus Came To Destroy The Works of Satan

1 John 3:8 *The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.*

When Jesus began his ministry, he announced that he had come to **bring in God's Kingdom-rule on earth**, restoring the disastrous results of Adam and Eve's rebellion in The Garden of Eden.

After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."* (Mark 1:14)

Jesus Announces The Purpose Of His Mission Luke 4:16-19

- A. PROCLAMATION of The Good News *"Your God Reigns"* Isaiah 52:7
Calling people to repent of their sins & turn to God
- B. DEMONSTRATION Of The Good News
Binding Up The Broken-hearted
Healing the Sick & Suffering
Setting Captives Free

He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*

The Results of the Fall & The Results of Jesus' Death & Resurrection

RESULTS OF THE FALL	RESULTS OF THE CROSS
SIN & DEATH	FORGIVENESS & ETERNAL LIFE
SICKNESS & SUFFERING	HEALING & SHALOM
SEPARATION FROM GOD & OTHERS	RECONCILIATION WITH GOD & OTHERS

Q1 What was the purpose of Jesus coming into the world?

Q2 What were the two parts of his mission?

Q3 Read Luke 9:1-2 and 10:1-20

What did Jesus commission his followers to do?

WHO AM I?

My Identity As A Human Being: Born A Child Of Man

My Family History: Previous Generations; Parents; Siblings; Life experiences

Before I Was Born *Anothen*: I Was God's Enemy Ephesians 2:1-3

Previously you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

My Identity In Christ After Being Born *Anothen*:

A. My Security: Knowing God's Unconditional Love

JOHN 1:12-13	I have been born again as a child of God
EPHESIANS 1:5	I have been adopted as a child of God
ISAIAH 43:1	God has redeemed & called me by name
JOHN 15:16	God took the initiative in choosing me
1 JOHN 4:19	God took the initiative in loving me
EPHESIANS 1:7	God has forgiven my sin through Jesus' blood
COLOSSIANS 1:14	I have been redeemed & all my sins forgiven
EPHESIANS 2:8-10	I have been saved by God's gift of faith
ROMANS 5:1	I have been acquitted from guilt in God's eyes
ROMANS 8:1-2	I am free from all condemnation and guilt
EPHESIANS 1:4	God has chosen me to be holy and blameless
GALATIANS 4:6/ ROMANS 8:15	I can call God "Abba! Father!"
JOHN 10:27	I can expect to hear God speaking to me
JOHN 10:28-29	No one can snatch me out of God's hands
HEBREWS 13:5	God has promised never to abandon me
EPHESIANS 1:13-14	The Holy Spirit is my guarantee of eternal life
ROMANS 8:38-39	Nothing can separate me from God's love

B. My Self Worth In Christ: Valued & Precious In God's Sight

ISAIAH 43:1	God says I am precious & honoured in his eyes
1 PETER 1:18-19	I have been bought with the priceless Blood of Jesus
JOHN 3:16	God loves us so much he sent Jesus to die in our place
ROMANS 5:6-8	God loves us because Christ died in our place.
HEBREWS 10:19	We can come into God's presence confidently through Jesus' blood
PSALM 91:14-16	God promises to honour those who love him
2 TIMOTHY 1:7	The Holy Spirit gives me faith not fear
PHILIPPIANS 4:13	I can do all things through Christ
EPHESIANS 2:6	I am seated with Christ in heavenly realms
1 JOHN 1:8-9	If I confess my sin, God promises to forgive me
EPHESIANS 1:3	I have been blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ

C. My Significance: Purpose & Meaning To My Life

JEREMIAH 29:11	God has a plan for my life
JOHN 15:16	God chose me to be fruitful for Him
ROMANS 8:28	Everything - even disasters – can work for good
PROVERBS 3:5-6	God will guide me if I surrender my will to Him
JOHN 10:27	God has promised to speak to me and guide me
JOHN 16:13-15	The Holy Spirit will guide me into all truth
PHILIPPIANS 1:6	God will fulfill His plans for my life

Read the Scripture verses about our Security, Self-worth and Significance in Christ.

Q Which of the Scripture truths about our identity when we become Christians can you identify with?

2. WARFARE, WARRIORS & WEAPONS

The Warfare Is Supernatural 2 Corinthians 10:3



Though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh.

The Warriors Are Supernatural Ephesians 6:12

KINGDOM OF GOD	KINGDOM OF SATAN
ARCHANGELS	PRINCIPALITIES & POWERS
ANGELS	DEMONIC SPIRITS
SPIRIT-FILLED CHRISTIANS	DEMONIZED INDIVIDUALS

God's Forces

God's forces consist of -

- **ARCHANGELS** eg Michael
- **ANGELS** eg Gabriel
- **BORN AGAIN SPIRIT-FILLED CHRISTIANS**

Angels are mentioned in several Bible passages, including the following :
GENESIS 19:1-15; JOB 1:6; PSALM 148:2; DANIEL 9:21; DANIEL 10:5,12-21; MATTHEW 4:11; LUKE 1:19-26; JOHN 20:12; JUDE 1:9

Satan's Forces

Two types of satanic agents are mentioned in the Bible.

A. FALLEN ANGELS

who rebelled with satan and were expelled from heaven; these seem to be higher order agents than demons and are territorial

eg the Prince of Greece and the Prince of Persia mentioned in **DANIEL 10:13, 20**

B. DEMONIC SPIRITS variously called demons, evil spirits and unclean spirits.

The most common enemy forces to be encountered by Christians are demonic spirits.

The Weapons Are Supernatural

The weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Ephesians 6:13

The Warfare Is Not A War Between Equals

It needs to be emphasised that it is not a war between equals. Satan is a created being, like the other angels, and is no match for God! He is also a defeated foe, although his final demise is yet to come.

Warfare At Three Levels: Body, Soul & Spirit

The warfare is at three levels, as can be seen in **Jesus' Temptations in The Wilderness**. Jesus had to defeat satan at all three levels - **physical, soulish and spiritual** - in order to reverse the consequences of Adam and Eve's disobedience in the Garden of Eden.

LEVEL OF WARFARE	SATAN'S CHALLENGE	JESUS' RESPONSE
PHYSICAL <i>lusts of the flesh</i>	PROVISION <i>turn stones into bread</i>	DEUTERONOMY 8:3
SOULISH Mind Will Emotions <i>lust of the eyes</i>	PROTECTION <i>throw yourself down</i>	DEUTERONOMY 6:16
SPIRITUAL <i>pride</i>	POWER <i>worship satan</i>	DEUTERONOMY 6:14-15

Satan Will Attack Us At Three Levels




- **BODY** - Genetic disorders; diseases; accidents; addictions
- **SOUL**
 - Mind:** thought-life, mental illness,
 - Will:** bad choices
 - Emotions:** depression, low self-esteem, anger, shame, guilt
- **SPIRIT** False religions, idolatry, occultism (witchcraft, sorcery & divination)

Q What does the fact the warfare, warriors and weapons are supernatural mean for us in our daily battle as Christians?

KNOW YOUR ENEMIES

The Bible describes three kinds of enemies we face as Christians:

The Flesh, The World and The Devil



THE FLESH	THE WORLD	THE DEVIL
BODY Lusts of the Flesh Addictions Lusts of the Eyes	ATHEISM secular worldviews	A. SORCERY Drugs Curses Magic
SOUL	SCIENTIFIC RATIONALISM	B. WITCHCRAFT Wicca Satanism
Mind Pride Unbelief Hostility to God	MATERIALISM	C. DIVINATION Horoscopes Fortune-telling Tarot cards Ouija
Will Wanting to go my way	HUMANISM	D. IDOLATRY False religions Freemasonry New Age beliefs Paganism
Emotions Anger Fear Guilt	HEDONISM	
	TECHNO-HUMANISM	
	ANTI-GOD SYSTEMS	

The Flesh includes *both* **Body and Soul: Mind, Will & Emotions**

Paul's Description of The Works of The Flesh Galatians 5:16-21

I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Paul's Description of The Fruit of The Spirit Galatians 5:22-24

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Q1 What does the Bible mean by *The Flesh*?

Q2 What are the works of the Flesh? Why are they such a problem?

Q3 Is the fruit of the Spirit produced by our efforts? If not, how is it produced?

MY SPIRITUAL INVENTORY

Spend some time asking the Holy Spirit to highlight the areas in your life where you are most vulnerable to enemy attack using the checklist below.

PHYSICAL

- Lusts of *the flesh* and *the eyes*** (sexual immorality, greed, covetousness)
- Addictions** (alcohol, drugs, exercise, food, relationships)
- Chronic illness**
- Accidents**

SOULISH

Mind

- Wrong thinking**
- Unbelief**
- Evil thoughts**
- Covetousness**
- Materialism**

Will

- Bad choices**
- Weak will-power**
- Evil plans**

Emotions

- Anxiety, fears, phobias**
- Shame, guilt at sin**
- Anger, bitterness, unforgiveness**

SPIRITUAL

- Rebellion against God**
- Unbelief**
- Idolatry**
- False religion (including Freemasonry)**
- New Age beliefs**

Q In which of the three areas - Body, Soul and Spirit - do you experience the fiercest spiritual attack?

For example: **Physical** *lusts*; Addictions; **Thought** *life*; Mental health issues; **Emotions** (anxiety, fear, guilt, unforgiveness, anger); **Spiritual** (demonic attacks - enemy lies, deceit & intimidation)

3. INTO BATTLE



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The Battle between The Old Fleshly Nature vs New Life In The Spirit

OLD SINFUL SELF

- | SIN ISSUES | MY IDENTITY |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| • Addictions | • Distorted ideas re |
| • Attitudes | God, self & others |
| • Bad choices | • Low self esteem |
| • Rebellion vs God | • No hope in life |

NEW SELF IN CHRIST

- | SIN ISSUES | MY IDENTITY |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Hate sinning now | • Loved By God |
| • Changed desires | • Valued as me |
| • Confession & repent of my sins | • Purpose in life |
| | • Joyful life |

In **Romans Chapter 6:19** Paul describes the spiritual battle that takes place when we become Christians. *For just as you used to present the parts of your body as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your body's parts as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.*

In **Galatians 5:17** he writes: *For the desire of the flesh is against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, to keep you from doing whatever you want.*

The Law of Sin & Death vs The Law of Life in the Spirit

In **Romans 7:21-25** Paul continues to describe the battle of **our old fleshly lifestyle** and contrasts it with **our new life in the power of the Holy Spirit**.

I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my body another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Q How does the battle between the two natures affect your daily life at the levels of Body, Soul and Spirit?

THE LAW OF GRAVITY VS THE LAW OF AERODYNAMICS



An Airbus 320 at the rotation point before lift-off

The Law of Sin & Death vs The Law of Life in the Spirit

The battle between the **Law of the Old Sinful Nature** and **The Law of Life in the Power of the Holy Spirit** has been likened to how an airplane gets lift-off from the runway and keeps flying.

As the plane gathers speed along the runway for take-off, at a certain point called the **rotation point** the pilot says to the co-pilot “*rotate*,” and he pulls back on the stick lifting the nose of the plane and it begins to get lift-off.

The reason is that **The Law of Gravity** which has kept the plane firmly rooted to the runway has just been superseded by **The Law of Aerodynamics**, when the air flowing over the plane’s wings is moving faster than the air below. The result is it literally lifts the plane off the ground.

Getting Lift-Off In The Christian Life

In **John 3:3-7** Jesus tells Nicodemus that in order to get into heaven, we need to be **born *anōthen***. That little Greek word means *both “again” and “from above”* - ie ***supernaturally by the Holy Spirit***.

The plane will only get lift-off and keep airborne as long as the engines are still running. The moment the engines stop, the Law of Gravity takes over again and it will plummet to earth like a stone.

Q1 In what ways are the Law of Gravity and The Law of Aerodynamics like the battle between Our Old Sinful Nature and Our New Life in the Spirit?

Q2 How do we get lift-off and maintain our new life in the Spirit?

BATTLE STRATEGY



The Rider On The White Horse in **Revelation 19:11-16** Jesus at the Head of Heaven's Army

In the battle against the devil, the apostle James says in **James 4:7** the first step is to **SURRENDER TO GOD** as LORD. He gives the orders; we need to obey.

This is because Jesus said in **John 15:5** *Apart from Me you can do nothing.*

A. SURRENDERING TO GOD

Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

This involves **KNOWING I HAVE BEEN BORN ANOTHER & AM A CHILD OF GOD** through confessing my sin and asking God to forgive my sins because I have placed my faith in Jesus' blood shed for my sins on the Cross and have received the Holy Spirit God promised to all who put their trust in Jesus as Saviour and LORD.

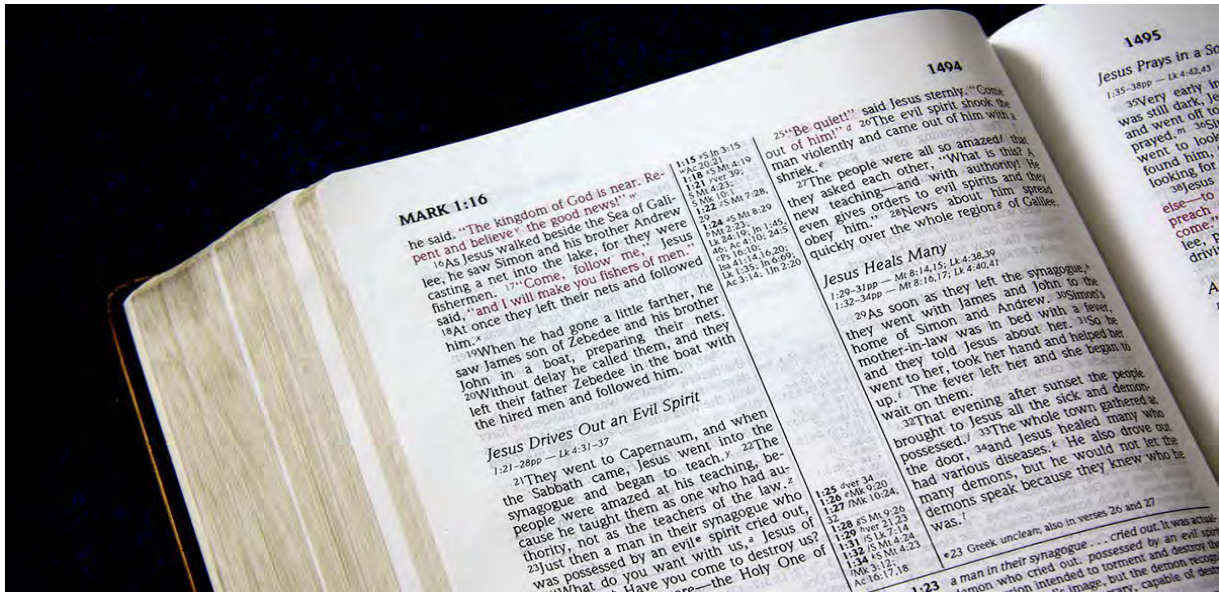
The second stage James says is

B. RESISTING THE DEVIL using the spiritual Armour and Weapons God supplies

These include:

- **The Word of God** - The Bible
- **The Whole Armour of God**
- **The Name of the LORD Jesus Christ** – containing His *authority* and *power*
- **The Blood of Jesus** that has cleansed us from sin and sealed Satan's downfall
- **The Power of the Holy Spirit**
- **Warfare Prayer** in words and in tongues
- **Praise & Worship** celebrating the victory Christ won for us at Calvary

THE WORD OF GOD



The Word of God Is Powerful

Hebrews 4:12 says: *For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.* (ESVUK)

2 Timothy 3:15-16 says: *The Holy Scriptures.... are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.*

SPIRITUAL WARFARE AS A TRUTH ENCOUNTER

Jesus used the Word of God when he was tested by Satan in the Wilderness in his temptations. Satan tried to tempt him by misusing Scripture. Jesus replied by accurately quoting Scripture and saying: *It is written.*

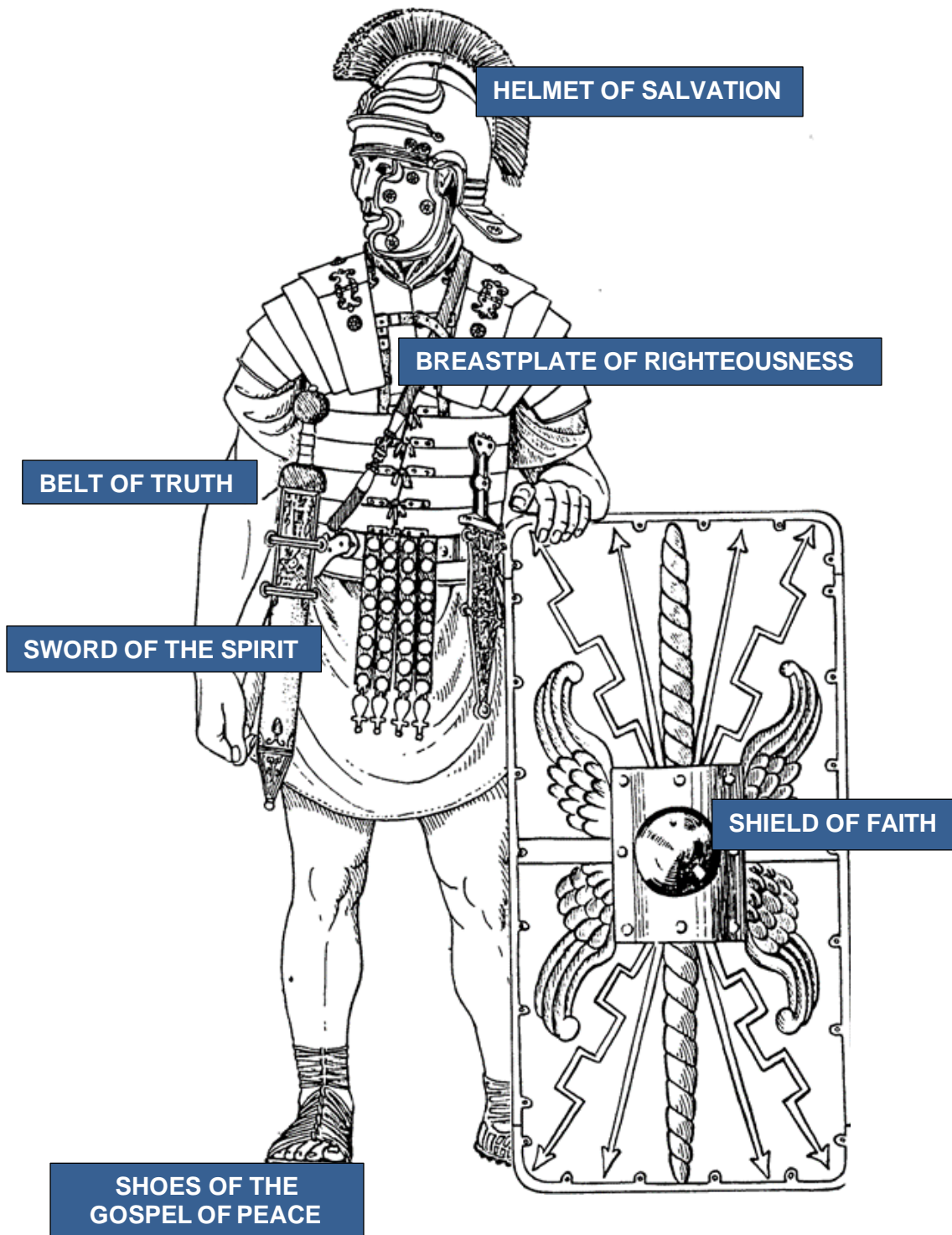
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Q1 What tactic did Satan try to use against Jesus in the Wilderness?

Q2 How did Jesus respond?

THE WHOLE ARMOUR (*panoplia*) OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18



Q What do you notice about the spiritual armour God has provided?

THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST



A Soldier Under Orders

In **John 5:19-20** Jesus says: *“I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing. In fact, the Father will show him how to do even greater works than healing this man. Then you will truly be astonished.”*

Jesus’ Commission To His Followers

In **Luke 9:1-2** Jesus gave his disciples the following instructions:

One day Jesus called together his twelve disciples and gave them power and authority to cast out all demons and to heal all diseases. Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

In **Luke 10:1-20** Jesus sent out another seventy-two followers to **proclaim** the Good News that God’s kingdom-rule had appeared in his person and to **demonstrate the reality** by binding up the broken-hearted, healing the sick and setting people free from demonic spirits.

The Christian’s Dependence On Jesus’ Authority & Power

In **Luke 10:19** Jesus says to his followers: *“I have given you authority to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.”*

Philippians 2:9-11 *When Jesus appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross. Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honour and gave him the name above all other names, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is LORD, to the glory of God the Father.*

Q1 How can we fight the spiritual battle?

Q2 Why is the Name of the LORD Jesus essential?

THE POWER OF THE BLOOD OF JESUS

The Blood of Jesus is the most powerful blood in the universe and confers the benefits outlined by the Scriptures below to all born again believers in Christ.

1 FORGIVENESS OF SINS

HEBREWS 9:22 *The Law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness (of sins).*

MATTHEW 26:28 *Jesus said. This is My Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins.*

2 REDEMPTION / BOUGHT BACK FROM SATAN'S OWNERSHIP

EPHESIANS 1: 7 *In Christ Jesus we have redemption through His Blood and forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace.*

1 PETER 1: 18-19 *For you were not redeemed with perishable things such as gold and silver but with precious blood like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb, the Blood of Christ.*

3 CLEANSING FROM THE STAIN OF SIN

1 PETER 1: 2 *You have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father by the sanctifying work of the Spirit so we may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled clean by His Blood.*

1 JOHN 1: 8-9 *If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the Blood of Jesus cleanses us from every sin.*

4 ACCESS TO GOD

HEBREWS 9: 12 & 14 *He (Jesus) did not enter (the Holy of Holies) by means of the blood of goats and calves: but He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own Blood, having obtained eternal redemption. How much more then will the Blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death so we may serve the living God*

HEBREWS 10: 19 & 22 *Therefore since we have confidence to enter the Holy of Holies by the Blood of Jesus, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.*

5 SANCTIFICATION

HEBREWS 13:12 *So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order that He might sanctify the people with His own Blood.*

6 SUBSTITUTIONARY SACRIFICE FOR SIN

ROMANS 3:25 *God publicly demonstrated a propitiation in His Blood through faith to demonstrate His righteousness because in His forbearance He passed over the sins we had previously committed*

7 SAVED FROM GOD'S WRATH & ACQUITTAL FROM GOD'S JUDGMENT

ROMANS 5: 8-9 *God demonstrates His love for us by the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. So then having been justified by His Blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Jesus.*

8 RECONCILED TO GOD

COLOSSIANS 1: 19 *For it was God the Father's desire to reconcile all things to Himself 'through the Blood of Christ's cross.*

9 ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH THE BLOOD OF JESUS

JOHN 6: 53-54 *Jesus said to them: "I tell you the truth, unless you can eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My Blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."*

10 VICTORY OVER SATAN

REVELATION 12: 11 *And they (the children of God) overcame Satan by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony.*

Q Why is the Blood of Jesus so powerful in spiritual warfare?

THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



The Power of God seen in Creation, Scripture, Jesus' Birth, Ministry, Resurrection, Ascension & The Church
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The Holy Spirit Is The Third Person Of The Trinity

In **Luke 11:20** Jesus says *"If I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you."*

Before his return to heaven Jesus gave his disciples the instruction to wait in Jerusalem until they received the power of the Holy Spirit to be his witnesses **Acts 1:8**. And he promised to send the Holy Spirit to enable them to continue his ministry: to **proclaim the Good News** that God's kingdom-rule had been inaugurated by Jesus' ministry and victory at Calvary and to **demonstrate it by healing the sick and by setting captives free from spiritual bondage**.

Every Christian Born *Anothen* Is Filled With The Holy Spirit

The only way we can live the Christian life and fight the spiritual battles we face is by submitting to God and being filled with the power of the Holy Spirit every day to win the victory over the enemy's strategies. This may include a **truth encounter**, as the Holy Spirit demolishes Satan's lies, and a **power encounter** against demonic spirits to set people free from spiritual bondages of one kind or another.

The Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth, Jesus promised in **John 16:13**: *"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard (from the Father)."* And he will fill us with the power that raised Jesus from the dead as we surrender to him and he enables us to do what Jesus did.

Q1 How do we know how to fight the spiritual battles we face as Christians?

Q2 What does Paul say we need in Ephesians 5:18, 6:10-18 and 2 Corinthians 10:3-5?

WARFARE PRAYER



The Power of Prayer

The poet William Cowper, who suffered from deep depression and even attempted suicide, penned these famous words on prayer in one of his hymns:

“Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees.”

~ William Cowper (1779) *What Various Hindrances We Meet*

Isaiah 52:7 How lovely on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, *“Your God reigns!”*

2 Chronicles 20:15 *This is what the LORD says to you: ‘Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God’s.’*

Revelation 12:7-11 Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: *“Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They (God’s people) triumphed over him by the Blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.”*

Q What do these verses tell us about the power of prayer in spiritual warfare?

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT



Paul On Praying In The Spirit

In **Ephesians 6:17-18** Paul urges Christians to pray in the Spirit.

“Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.”

Romans 8:26 *“The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.”* (NLT)

Praying in the Spirit means asking God the Holy Spirit to guide our prayers. This may take one of two forms:

Praying With The Mind

Praying with our minds includes **Praying Scripture** inspired by the Holy Spirit, including **Praying God’s Truth & God’s Promises**, which remind us and the enemy of God’s sovereign rule and power. Jesus used it against the lies and deceit when Satan tried to tempt him in the wilderness with the words: *“It is written!”*

1 Chronicles 16:31 Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice! Tell all the nations, *“The LORD reigns!”*

Isaiah 54:17 *In that coming day no weapon forged against you will succeed. You will silence every voice raised up to accuse you. These benefits are enjoyed by the servants of the Lord; their vindication will come from me. I, the Lord, have spoken!*

Psalms 91:1-2 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, *“He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”*

Psalms 60:12 With God we will gain the victory, and he will trample down our enemies.

1 John 4:4 *“You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”*

Q What do these verses tell us about prayer in spiritual warfare?

THE POWER OF GOD'S *RHEMA*

John 15:7 Jesus says to his disciples: "If you remain in me and my *words* remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." The Greek for *words* here is *rhema* (plural *rhemata*). A *rhema* is a spoken word from God as opposed to the written Word of Scripture.

In **Luke 1:37** the Angel Gabriel tells Mary she is going to bear the Saviour of the world. When Mary asks how that can be, the angel replies: "*With God nothing is ever impossible and no rhema from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.*" (AMP)

In **Romans 10:17** Paul says: "*Now faith comes from hearing and hearing comes from a rhema of Christ.*" [Note: Most translations read "Word of God" or "Word about Christ," which is not what the Greek says! The point is that we become Christians when the Holy Spirit convicts us of our need to repent and admit we are sinners, saved only by Jesus' death for our sins on the Cross and his promise to fill us with the Holy Spirit to live the Christian life.]

Praying in the Spirit is especially powerful when it involves a *rhema* word of Scripture, because it is God revealing his will and strategy in a particular situation for a person. This is especially helpful in a **power encounter** with demonic spirits. An example of this can be seen in Paul's confrontation with the sorcerer Elymas in **Acts 13:9-12** which resulted in the Roman governor being saved.

Example: A 40-year old man who had been addicted to smoking 40--50 cigarettes a day for twenty years was delivered after hearing the Holy Spirit say to him: "*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit with whom you have been sealed (for the Day of Redemption Ephesians 4:30)* Result: He had no craving for cigarettes the next day.

Praying In Tongues

The other Spirit-led warfare praying is **praying in tongues**, using the private prayer language you received at your baptism. [This is not the same as the gift of *Tongues and Interpretation* as Paul explains in 1 Corinthians 14.]

Praying in Tongues in warfare involves praying using words given you by the Holy Spirit in a language unknown to you and directed *either* to God *or* against whatever demonic spirit(s) the LORD is directing you to pray against. It leads to victory over whatever the enemy has been doing to prevent the person from being set free to grow in Christ.

Q1 Have you experienced the Holy Spirit speaking a *rhema* to you?

Q2 Why is this kind of prayer so powerful?

Q3 In what situations is it particularly useful?

PRAISE & WORSHIP AS WARFARE



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A Psalm of Praise as Warfare - Psalm 149

Praise the Lord. Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people. Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion be glad in their King. Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with timbrel and harp. For the Lord takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with victory. Let his faithful people rejoice in this honour and sing for joy on their beds.

*May **the praise of God** be in their mouths and **a double-edged sword** in their hands, to inflict vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron, to carry out the sentence written against them — this is the glory of all his faithful people. Praise the Lord.*

Praise Affirms Our Position In Christ & Refutes The Enemy's Lies

Praise and worship remind us of the victory Christ won at Calvary when he *disarmed, disgraced and defeated all the powers of hell (Colossians 2:13-15)* When Satan reminds us of our past, we need to remind him of his future in the Lake of Fire (**Revelation 19:7-10**), and that Christ's victory has given his disciples his authority and power over all the powers of hell as we are seated with Christ far above all principalities (**Ephesians 1:18-23**)

Q1 Why are praise and worship so powerful in spiritual warfare?

Q2 What other part of the spiritual armour is mentioned?

PRAISE ON THE BATTLEFIELD



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The Praise Band In The Front Line 2 Chronicles 20:21,27-28

As they began to sing and praise, the LORD set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated. Then, led by Jehoshaphat, all the men of Judah and Jerusalem returned joyfully to Jerusalem, for the LORD had given them cause to rejoice over their enemies. They entered Jerusalem and went to the temple of the LORD with harps and lyres and trumpets.

Seated With Christ In The Heavenly Realms Ephesians 1:3,18-21

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the power he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Jesus' Empowerment Of The Seventy-Two Luke 10:17-20

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Q What effect do praise and worship have in the spiritual battle?

4. SETTING CAPTIVES FREE



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Jesus' Mission Statement Luke 4:18-19

At the beginning of his earthly ministry Jesus stood up in the synagogue in Nazareth and read **Isaiah 61:1-2** *"The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour."*

Jesus' Ministry Involved *both* Proclamation *and* Demonstration

Jesus' ministry was to **proclaim the Good News of Isaiah 52:7** How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, **"Your God reigns!"** He announced that the kingdom-rule of God had arrived in his person and called people to repent of their sins and turn to God.

Mark 1:15 *"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near.*

Repent

And almost immediately he **demonstrated** the fact that he was bringing in God's rule by delivering a demonized man in the synagogue in Capernaum! (**Mark 1:21-27**)

Q1 What was Jesus' mission in coming to earth?

Q2 What did it involve?

JESUS' COMMISSION TO HIS FOLLOWERS



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Jesus' Commission To His Followers Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, **go and make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **teaching** them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

The Commission To Proclaim & Demonstrate The Arrival Of God's Rule

In **Luke 9:1-2** and **Luke 10:1-20** we see Jesus' followers carrying out Jesus' commission before his death and resurrection. After his return to heaven, we see the apostles continuing his ministry after receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, as recorded in *The Acts of the Apostles*, which shows Peter and later Paul carrying out Jesus' instructions.

The Commission To Born Again Christians Today

In **Mark 16:17-20** we read: *“These signs will accompany those who believe: In my Name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.”.....* Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the LORD worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

Q1 What is the Good News Christians are commissioned to proclaim?

Q2 How did Jesus say the Good News would be confirmed?

ENFORCING THE VICTORY OF CALVARY



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Fighting *From Victory For Victory* Over Sin, Death & Satan

Colossians 2:13-15 *When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And after disarming the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*

1 John 4:4 *You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.*

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 *For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*

1 Corinthians 15:57 *Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our LORD Jesus Christ.*

Q What do these verses tell us about the way we should fight?

JESUS' STRATEGY FOR THE FIGHT



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Jesus' Strategy For Battle Luke 11:21-22

“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 armour (Gk: panoplia) in which the man trusted and divides up his plunder.”

In these verses Jesus talks about a strong man, the Devil, as being fully armed with armour. The Greek for “whole armour” is **panoplia**. In **Ephesians 6:11** Paul talks about our need as Christians to put on the full **panoplia** or “whole armour” of God. In the spiritual battle, Jesus says, we need to bind the strong man by removing his armour, which is the opposite of the whole armour of God, as shown below.

THE PANOPLY OF GOD	VS	THE PANOPLY OF SATAN
HELMET OF SALVATION/ LIGHT		HELMET OF DAMNATION/ DARKNESS
BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS		BREASTPLATE OF UN- RIGHTEOUSNESS
BELT OF TRUTH		BELT OF LIES, DECEIT & FEAR
SHOES OF THE GOOD NEWS OF PEACE with God		SHOES OF REBELLION VS GOD & OTHERS
SHIELD OF FAITH		SHIELD OF UNBELIEF
SWORD OF THE SPIRIT <i>Rhema Word of God</i>		FLAMING ARROWS OF LIES, DECEIT & FEAR

Q What does Jesus say we need to do if we want to defeat Satan?

THE STRONG MAN & HIS ARMOUR/WEAPONS (*panoplia*)



THE BATTLE FOR THE MIND

LIES

eg **GENESIS 3:4** *You will not die!*

DECEIT twisting the Word of God

eg **GENESIS 3:1** *Did God really say?*

REBELLION vs God and others

INCITEMENT TO BREAK GOD'S LAW

TEMPTATION TO SIN

PRIDE

FLAMING ARROWS & PHYSICAL ATTACKS

LUST OF THE FLESH

LUST OF THE EYES

INTIMIDATION using displays of demonic power to intimidate believers to fear him

SATAN'S FORCES: LEVELS OF COMMAND **EPHESIANS 6:12**

RULERS over countries, territorial control of whole nations or regions
eg The Prince of Persia; The Prince of Greece vs
Archangel Michael and Angel Gabriel [**DANIEL 10:13, 20**]

AUTHORITIES governors of specific areas

DARK POWERS sinister powers responsible for specific forms of evil
eg Murder; Abortion; Alcoholism; Child abuse; Drug addiction;
Prostitution; etc

EVIL FORCES IN THE HEAVENLY REALMS

suggests strongmen with demonic minions under them
eg **Three Strongmen** - Jezebel; Anti-Christ; Death & Hades

Q1 How do we fight the battle for the mind?

Q2 How do we fight the enemy's physical and spiritual attacks?

THE CHRISTIAN & HIS ARMOUR/WEAPONS (*panoplia*)

all found in Jesus (**Ephesians 6:10-18**)



PRAYER AT ALL TIMES & IN ALL WAYS in tongues and with your mind

ISAIAH 49: 24-25 Reclaiming The Captives The Enemy Has Stolen

Q Can plunder be taken from warriors, or captives be rescued from the fierce?
This is what the LORD says:

A *“Yes, captives will be taken from warriors, and plunder retrieved from the fierce. I will contend with those who contend with you, and your children I will save. I will make your oppressors eat their own flesh; they will be drunk on their own blood, as with wine. Then all mankind will know that I, the LORD, am your Saviour, your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.”*

THE CHRISTIAN’S AUTHORITY (*exousia*) & POWER (*dunamis*) in Christ Jesus

*“I have given you **authority** [that you now possess] to tread on serpents and scorpions, and [the ability to exercise authority] over all the **power** of the enemy (Satan); nothing will [in any way] harm you.”* **Luke 10:19** (AMP)

Q How can we reclaim the captives the enemy has stolen?

SATAN'S LEGAL AUTHORITY



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Satan the Legalistic Accuser

When Adam and Eve rebelled against God in The Garden of Eden, they handed the authority over this world to Satan (**Luke 4:7**). To bind the strongman, we need to remove the legal authority given him through sin and remove his armour and weapons.

Paul On Removing The Enemy's Legal Authority Romans 13:12-14

In these verses Paul talks of **TAKING OFF** the sinful clothes of the fleshly nature and **PUTTING ON** the new spiritual nature to be found in Jesus Christ, when we were born *anōthen* by the Holy Spirit.

“The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So, remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armour of right living. Because we belong to the day, we must live decent lives for all to see. Don't participate in the darkness of wild parties and drunkenness, or in sexual promiscuity and immoral living, or in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.”

The Old Fleshly Nature: The Works of the Flesh Galatians 5:19-21

“When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarrelling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these.”

Q Paul lists the works of the Fleshly Nature in terms of Body, Soul & Spirit. Can you identify with any of them?

BINDING THE STRONG MAN



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A. TAKING OFF THE STRONGMAN'S ARMOUR

To bind the strongman, Jesus said, we need to remove the armour (*panoplia*) on which he relies. It involves:

1 Confession Of & Repentance For Sin

a. **Body:** sins of the flesh (lusts of the flesh and eyes, adultery, pornography)

b. **Soul:** sins of the **mind; will & emotions** (including anger, bitterness, rage, unforgiveness)

c. **Spirit:** rebellion against God, false religions, freemasonry, idolatry; New Age; occultism, paganism, satanism, witchcraft

2 Renunciation Of The Works Of The Enemy

including renouncing curses of freemasonry and occultism, satanic dedications

3 Forgiveness Of All Those Who Have Hurt Us

4 Applying The Blood Of Jesus to remove all legal authority to satan

Read *The Blood Scriptures* aloud to declare the victory Jesus won at Calvary

Pray asking the Holy Spirit to reveal the things the enemy has used as legal authority against you which you need to confess, repent of and renounce.

Forgiving those who have hurt us, Jesus says, is necessary if want to know God's forgiveness of our sins.

God's Promise

1 John 1:8-9 *If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and all unrighteousness*

B.PUTTING ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD



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1. Establishing The LORDship Of Jesus Christ

The first step to clothing oneself for battle is to establish the LORDship of Jesus Christ, using a prayer like the one below.

LORD Jesus Christ,

I acknowledge You are the Son of God, who came in the flesh as a man.

I acknowledge

- *You alone are the Way, the Truth and the Life*
- *Nobody comes to God the Father except through faith in You*
- *You died on the Cross in my place for my sins to satisfy the just demands of a holy God who loves sinners but hates sin, and to set the captives free from Satan's bondage by the power of Your redeeming Blood*
- *You rose from the grave and are alive, seated at the right hand of God the Father far above all principalities and powers and have conquered sin, death & Satan.*

I acknowledge, LORD Jesus, that I am a sinner in need of your forgiveness.

I confess that You alone can save me from the penalty my sins deserve in the eyes of a holy God.

I ask You, LORD Jesus, to be my Saviour now and forever because Your Blood was shed for me.

I invite You now to be LORD of every area of my life to give me freedom and victory over the power of the flesh, the world, and the devil.

I invite You, LORD Jesus, to be LORD of

- *my body & all my actions • my mind & all my thoughts • my emotions • my will & all my decisions • my spirit and all my spiritual life • my family • my home • my possessions*
- *my work • my leisure pursuits • my all my relationships*

Thank You that Your Blood was shed for me at Calvary to set this captive free.

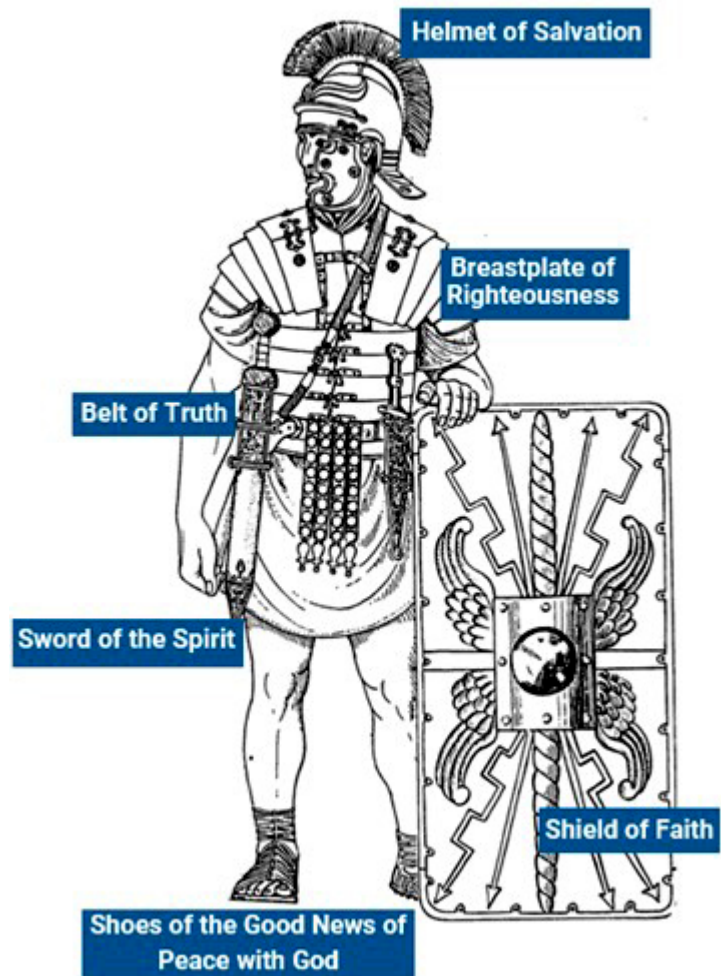
I ask You now, LORD Jesus Christ,

- *to forgive my sins • to cleanse me by Your Blood • to break all bondages*
- *to fill me with Your Holy Spirit because I ask it in Your Name, which is above every other name in heaven, or on earth, or under the earth. Amen*

2. Putting On The Armour Ephesians 6:10-20

Heavenly Father,

- I praise and worship You, the Almighty Creator God, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
- I praise You, LORD Jesus, that You are our **salvation** – that there is no other name by which we must be saved, and that no one comes to the Father except through You.
- I praise You, LORD Jesus, that You are our **righteousness** - that because of Your death on the cross there is now no condemnation for those who have been put right with God through faith in Your cleansing blood.
- I praise You LORD Jesus, You are **The Truth** - and when we come to know You, we come to know the truth and the truth will set us free.
- I praise You, LORD Jesus, that the Good News of the gospel brings us **peace** with God and that You have promised to keep those whose minds are fixed on You in perfect peace.
- I praise You, LORD Jesus, I have been saved by grace through which is a gift from God to those who put their trust in You. I praise You that You are the Author and Finisher of our **faith**.
- I praise You, LORD Jesus, that You are the **Word of God** made flesh.
- I praise You that every *rhema* word from You has life-giving power and can discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- Thank You, heavenly Father, that You have saved me and promised that nothing and no one can separate me from Your love in Christ Jesus, our Saviour and LORD. Amen.



DOORWAYS FOR DEMONIC ATTACK



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Enemy Agents: Demonic Spirits

Jesus gave his disciples his authority and power over demonic spirits, who are the agents the enemy uses to infiltrate our lives. They can gain entry through several entry access points:

- **Generational iniquity** involving sin down a family line
- **Idolatry** and the worship of people and things in place of God
- **Immorality** including abuse, adultery, pornography & breaking God's Law
- **Addictions** resulting from looking for love in the wrong direction to dull love-hunger
- **False religions** including Freemasonry
- **Occultism** including divination, witchcraft, sorcery, paganism
- **Curses & chronic illness**
- **Trauma & accidents**

Demonic Attacks At Physical, Soulsh & Spiritual Levels

Demonic attacks can be at the levels of **Body, Soul** and **Spirit**.

- **Body** through accidents, illness, addictions, lusts
- **Soul** especially **Mind** (thought life), **Will** (bad choices), and **Emotions** (anger, depression, mental illness, phobias, suicidal thoughts)
- **Spirit** through deliberate rebellion against God, idolatry, occultism and channelling demonic spirits

Read the following Bible passages and identify the demonic spirits involved.

Luke 4:31-37; 8:26-36; 9:37-43; 10:17-20; 11:14-22; 13:10-17; Acts 16:16-18

Q1 What kinds of demonic spirits are described?

Q2 How were people delivered?

LEVELS OF DEMONIZATION



Image: © Dusan Kostic - Fotolia.com

The Bible Does Not Talk Of Demon-Possession: Only Being Demonized

Many translations of the New Testament refer to "*demon possession*." In fact the New Testament never uses the term. The Greek refers to individuals *having an evil/unclean spirit* or ***being demonized***. This means that a born-again Christian cannot be '*demon-possessed*,' or completely taken over, by demonic spirits, because s/he is indwelt by the Holy Spirit. But Christians *can* be demonised to a greater or lesser degree - that is, afflicted by demonic spirits from *outside* them, and sometimes from *inside*, if satan has been given legal authority to harass them.

Levels Of Demonization: From Zero To Five Thousand

In the New Testament we see individuals suffering from **different degrees of demonization on a continuum from zero or mild demonic attack**, as in the case of Simon Peter (**Matthew 16:23**) to the Gadarene demoniac in **Mark 5:1-20**, who had been *infested* with five thousand demons and was completely under demonic control.

Peter experienced a demonic attack from *outside* immediately after declaring Jesus was the Messiah (**Matthew 16:16**), which Jesus attributed to the anointing of the Holy Spirit. But minutes later he was saying he would not allow Jesus to go to the Cross, thereby aborting Jesus' mission to be the Saviour of the world. This drew the rebuke from Jesus "*Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.*"

Q Why is it wrong to talk about '*demon possession*'?

Q Can a Christian be demonized? If so, why might that happen?

AFFLICTION, INFILTRATION & INFESTATION



Album cover of a satanic rock group

Levels Of Demonization

There are three levels of demonic attack and demonization, each requiring a different response.

A. Demonic Attack From *Outside*: Affliction

If we are under demonic attack from *outside*, the answer is to **submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee James 4:7**. We need to submit to God first and receive the empowering of the Holy Spirit. Then we are to fight the enemy with all the resources Paul lists in **Ephesians 6:10-18**.

B. Demonic Attack From *Inside*: Infiltration

If for some reason we find ourselves under demonic attack from *inside* us, we need to be set free from whatever spirit(s) have **infiltrated** us. This often results from generational sin, childhood abuse or trauma, or deliberate rebellion against God by involvement in the occult.

C. Total Demonic Control (*internal*): Infestation

The classic example of total demonic control in the New Testament is the Gadarene demoniac in **Mark 5:1-20**, He was naked, violent and living in a graveyard - a place of physical and spiritual death and destruction that is typical of satan's activity.

Total demonic infestation is to be seen in individuals who have invited demons into themselves through channelling of spirits, in New Age rituals, Reiki, Yoga, Witchcraft, and Satanism. Satanic rock music and the internet are also sources of demonic infestation.

Q1 Can a Christian come under attack from demonic spirits?

Q2 What is the difference between demonic affliction, *infiltration* and *infestation*?

KEEP YOUR SPIRITUAL RADAR ALERT



Photo: Bernt Dietrich, Unsplash

In **1 Peter 5:8-9** Peter warns believers to be on their guard, alert to the fact that the enemy is always on the prowl. *“Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him and be strong in your faith.*

Possible Symptoms of Demonic Infiltration

The following symptoms are commonly associated with demonic infiltration.

- Difficulty in reading the Word of God, praying or praising God during worship times
- A paradoxical attraction & repulsion to listening to the Word of God in church
- A sudden desire to shout out or run out of a service at the mention of the Blood of Jesus [NOTE: This should NOT be confused with Tourette's syndrome]
- A feeling something inside us is stopping us from moving deeper in our Christian walk
- A feeling that the whole family is under a curse because of a history of unexplained illnesses or tragedies down a family bloodline
- Prior involvement in the occult before conversion is also a common source of problems. [NOTE: They should not be confused with psychiatric conditions such as psychotic episodes or delusional states or with drug-, alcohol-induced or other trance-like states associated with transcendental meditation, New Age techniques or hypnosis.]

The Importance of Distinguishing Between The Psychiatric & The Demonic

It is important to eliminate all other possible explanations for a person's behaviour before concluding s/he may be demonically afflicted. This is because some psychiatric conditions have symptoms that are like those seen in a demonised person. The major distinction between genuine demonic activity and psychiatric conditions is the reaction of the person to the **Word of God**, to **Prayer in the Name of Jesus Christ**, mention of **The Blood of Jesus** and the presence of the **Holy Spirit in a Spirit-filled Christian**.

Q What symptoms of demonic attacks in Scripture are to be seen today?

Q Why is it important to exclude all other possible behaviours?

JESUS CAME TO SET THE CAPTIVES FREE



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Enemy Strategies For Attack

The enemy will attack at all three levels of **Body, Soul** (*Mind, Will, Emotions*) and **Spiritual**. These attacks will most frequently come from *outside* the believer.

- **BODY** - accidents; addictions; illness; lusts
- **SOUL**
 - Mind*: deceit, lies, mental illness, thought-life
 - Will*: bad choices, temptation to rebel against God's Law
 - Emotions*: depression, low self-esteem, anger, shame, guilt
- **SPIRIT** False religions, idolatry, occultism (witchcraft, sorcery & divination)

The Process Of Deliverance

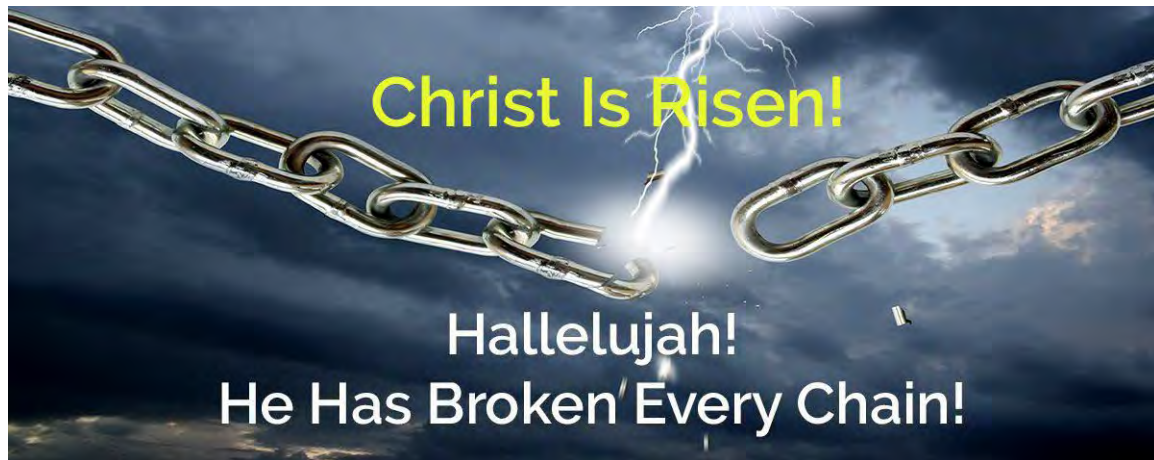
Jesus and the disciples demonstrated the process of delivering individuals from the demonic spirits that had afflicted, infiltrated and infested them. He gave the disciples his authority and power to continue his work after his ascension.

Look at the examples below of how Jesus and the apostles dealt with demons.

- Simon Peter **Matthew 16:16-23**
- Man in the Synagogue in Capernaum **Mark 1:21-25**
- Boy with a Deaf and Dumb Spirit from Childhood **Mark 9:14-29**
- The Gadarene Demoniac **Mark 5:1-20**
- A Sorcerer In Cyprus **Acts 13:4-12**
- Demonized Slave-Girl in Philippi **Acts 16:16-18**

Q How did Jesus and the apostles deal with demons?

THE PROCESS OF DELIVERANCE



The Key To All Ministry

James 4:7 The key to all ministry is to **SUBMIT TO GOD & RESIST THE DEVIL.**

John 15:5 Jesus said: *“Remain in me and I in you, for apart from me you can do nothing.”*

1. IDENTIFY THE ILLEGAL ACCESS GIVEN THE ENEMY

Listen to what the person and the Holy Spirit are saying about the legal authority given to demonic spirits to enter the person from the list below

- **Generational iniquity** involving sin down a family line
- **Idolatry** and the worship of people and things in place of God
- **Immorality** including abuse, adultery, pornography & breaking God’s Law
- **Addictions** resulting from looking for love in the wrong direction to dull the pain
- **False religions** including Freemasonry
- **Occultism** including divination, witchcraft, sorcery, paganism
- **Curses & chronic illness**
- **Trauma & accidents**

2. REMOVE THE LEGAL AUTHORITY GIVEN THE ENEMY by

- Confession, repentance and renunciation of sin
- Forgiveness of all who have hurt me
- Seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit how to proceed

3. SUBMIT TO GOD & RESIST THE ENEMY

- Establish the LORDship of Christ in every area of the person’s life
- Put on the Whole Armour and Weapons of God on the person
- Pray in the Spirit as He directs *to* God and *against* the enemy spirits using Scripture and Tongues as Your Private Prayer Language
- Enforce the victory Christ won at the Cross & Resurrection

4. FILL THE VACUUM LEFT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Praise the LORD and anoint the person with the Holy Spirit to fill the vacuum

5. LIVING IN A SPIRITUAL WARZONE



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Living In A World Of Chaos

We live in a world where traditional Judaeo-Christian faith and values are under increasing attack from societies that have abandoned their belief in the one true Living God.

These attacks include -

- Atheist denials of the existence of God or life after death
- Humanist, secular society arguments that man is the measure of all things
- Scientific claims to have the answers to society's problems
- The scientific quest for omniscience and immortality
- Darwinian evolutionary theories about the origins of life - "man is the hairless ape"
- The rise of moral relativism and the denial of good and evil
- Materialist, reductionist worldviews that treat human beings as machines
- Denial of the divine inspiration and authority of Scripture
- Religious pluralism and the New Age that claims all religions lead to heaven
- An increase in occult practices, paganism, witchcraft and satanism
- The rise of militant Islam and the use of terror
- The emergence of the 'Post-Truth' society and strategies of disinformation
- The satanic reversal of good and evil, right and wrong, black and white
- Increasing mockery of religious beliefs in the media
- The despair resulting from idolatry, humanism, materialism, and pleasure-seeking hedonism
- The rise of the New Age movement for One World Government, One World Economy and One World Religion as a prelude to the arrival of the Anti-Christ.

"If God does not exist, everything is permitted." Fyodor Dostoevsky *The Brothers Karamazov*

MAINTAINING MY WALK WITH JESUS



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Set Free To Live For Jesus John 8:36

Jesus promised his disciples: *“If the Son sets you free, you are truly free.”* In **Galatians 5:13-14** Paul writes: *“You have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbour as yourself.”*

In **Romans 6:6-11** he writes: *“We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. For when we died with Christ, we were set free from the power of sin. And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. So, you also should **consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.**”* (emphasis added)

Walking With Jesus Every Day In The Power Of The Holy Spirit

In order to remain free from our old fleshly sinful life, we need to understand we need to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit. This involves:

- **Crucifying the Flesh** having died with Christ on the Cross **Galatians 5:34**
- **Being Transformed by the Spirit in our Mind** by God’s Word **Ephesians 4:23**
- **Being continually filled with the Holy Spirit**, not stoned **Ephesians 5:18**

Q Which area of Body, Soul and Spirit do you find most challenging?

KEEPING IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT

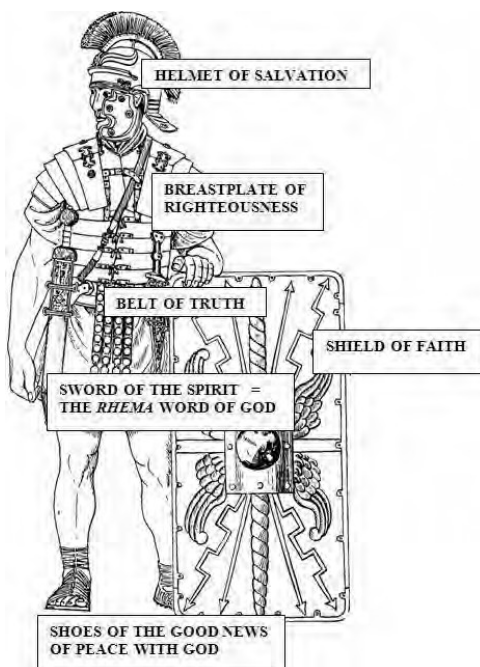


Zac Williams

Maintaining My Walk With Jesus Day By Day



WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD



SURRENDERED TO JESUS DAILY



Being Alert To The Triggers



H.A.L.T.S.
Triggers To Trap Us



HUNGRY - for food, desperate to be loved

ANGRY - betrayed, blocked goals, hurt

LONELY - bereaved, isolated, lost

TIRED - difficulty sleeping, exhausted

STRESSED - homeless, money worries

Be Alert To Satan's Schemes To Keep Us In Bondage Ephesians 6:11

"Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against Satan's schemes." One way to avoid being deceived is to be aware of the **triggers** he uses to cause us to give into the old fleshly lusts that caused us to be slaves to sin.

Love-Hunger & Looking For Love In The Wrong Direction

One of the greatest temptations that underpins most addictions is what has been called 'love-hunger.' It is the source of the pain we try to numb ourselves to that is the root of the addictive behaviours and substances, as in the diagram below.



Q Why do people become addicted to behaviours and substances?

Q What are the 'triggers' the enemy uses to tempt you to sin?

Building Healthy Relationships



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Developing Healthy Christian Relationships In The Body Of Christ

In **1 Corinthians 15:33** Paul warns *“bad company corrupts good character.”* When we became Christians, we were born into the Church, united with brothers and sisters in Christ by the Holy Spirit.

Being Baptised In Water & The Holy Spirit

In **John 3:3-7** Jesus tells Nicodemus he needs to be baptized in water and in Spirit to enter the kingdom of God. When we are set free being baptized in water as a sign God has forgiven my sins and overwhelmed by the Spirit to be filled with his power and hear God say *“You are my dear child whom I love”* are an essential part of my being a member of Christ’s body, the Church.

Becoming A Member Of A Living & Loving Fellowship

It is important to form healthy relationships with other born-again Christians when Jesus has set us free from our old fleshly way of life.

Finding My Place In The Body Of Christ

When we become Christians we are born again into the supernatural Body of Christ and receive the Holy Spirit to enable us to live for Jesus. God gives each of us spiritual gifts and invites us to join him in serving others with his love.

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you how God is wanting to use you to reach others with the love of Jesus.

NOTES

Going Deeper

SPIRITUAL WARFARE



Discipleship
Course

*I want to know Christ and the power
of his resurrection and share in
the fellowship of his sufferings
~ Philippians 3:10*

to know the Person, Power & Passion of Jesus Christ