



OUTLINE of Derek Prince's Spiritual Warfare (Ephesians 6:10-18)
Whitaker House Publishers, 1987

The conflict of spiritual warfare involves all Christians, whether or not Christians want to be involved.

Since the warfare is spiritual, the weapons must also be spiritual because the battleground is the mind.

A person develops strongholds in their mind that blinds them to the light of the gospel and the stronghold must be pulled down with spiritual weapons.

The strongholds in a person's mind are:

- Unbelief, prejudice, and preconception: when a person has an attitude that if he is not familiar with a subject, he decides to view it with fear, suspicion, skepticism, or unbelief. Or, when a person has an attitude that their mind is made up, not to confuse them with facts or truth.

The most important truth forming the basis of our victory over the enemy is WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY DONE FOR US:

“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;
Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;
And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”
(Colossians 2:13-15)

Satan does not want us to know this truth! Jesus Christ has already defeated Satan and all his evil powers and authorities totally and forever!

Satan's primary weapon is guilt. He is the accuser of the brethren.¹ As long as he can keep us feeling guilty, we cannot defeat him:

- Jesus forgave us of all our sins.²
- We are no longer under the law and do not have to keep the law in order to be righteous.³
- We can live free from guilt because our faith in Jesus is accounted to us for righteousness. Once we understand that we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, the devil cannot make us feel guilty any longer.⁴

Jesus won power and authority for us over the enemy. We have to go and exercise it. We demonstrate His victory to the whole world by fulfilling His commission.⁵

We must daily put on the whole armor of God,⁶ because we will not escape the “evil day” and we must be prepared to go through it:

- “The loins girt about with truth.” A defensive weapon. The basis for everything else is truth in daily living. Put away all lying, deceiving, and half-truths. Be honest in what we say or do. If we don't mean it then don't say it. We must begin to show people the kind of person we really are, even if the truth is painful.
- “The breastplate of righteousness.” A defensive weapon. The breastplate of faith and love that guards our heart. We must not believe that works or the law makes us righteous but we



must believe that Jesus is our righteousness. Because of our faith in Him, we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.⁴ We must have the kind of faith that works through love. Love protects us from all the negative forces and love always trusts, hopes, and never gives up.⁷

- "Our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." A defensive weapon. We must be mobile and available to God at all times whenever He needs us to do something. We must always be prepared to witness to others when God opens the door. We need to know the Scripture so we are able to share the gospel, especially if someone asks "what must I do to be saved?". Also, we must have peace in ourselves in order to transmit peace to others. We must be living in peace if we are going to be able to tell somebody in simple language how they can find peace. It is difficult to share the gospel when we don't have peace of heart and mind. If we are living in sin, we cannot have peace.
- "The shield of faith." A defensive weapon. Satan is our enemy and when we come against him and his kingdom, he will counterattack. Our health, finances, minds, and families can come under attack and we need to have a shield big enough to protect everything that God has made us responsible for. In faith, we must always claim the blood of Jesus over everything in our responsibility. If the enemy attacks an area that is "uncovered", claim the blood of Jesus and declare the shield of faith over that area in the Name of Jesus, then rebuke the power of the enemy (confusion, strife, etc.). Faith is in the heart and it's focus is on the now.
- "The helmet of salvation." A defensive weapon. This is a helmet that protects our minds. In the Name of Jesus, we must refuse depression, we must refuse doubt, and we must refuse self-pity. We must always be optimistic. The protection of our mind is hope. Because we are Christians, everything that happens is a reason to hope.⁸ Because the Holy Spirit is in us, we have reason to hope.⁹ Do not give up hope, be an optimist.¹⁰ It is the protection of the mind. Hope is in the mind and it's focus is on the future.
- "The sword of the Spirit." This is the main offensive weapon we have: the WORD OF GOD! With the five defensive weapons we can keep the devil from hurting us but with the Word of God we can drive the devil away. Jesus drove the devil away with the Word (out of Deuteronomy) when He was tempted in the wilderness.¹¹ The devil can quote the scripture but he does not have the wisdom to apply it correctly because there is no truth in him.¹² As we continue in the Lord's Word the Holy Spirit will give us the power and wisdom to use it.

Concerning the back: there is no armor listed in Ephesians for the back. That means we are never to turn our back on the devil. In other words, WE MUST NEVER GIVE UP! Also, we must protect each other's back. We should not individually and haphazardly attack the devil's kingdom. We should have prayer support and other preparations in place before we attack.

On attacking the devil's kingdom:

- We need to understand that we have the authority to attack Satan's kingdom and that the church is supposed to be on the offense and the devil is supposed to be on the defense.¹³ The church is to be busy rescuing the unsaved and delivering the captives.
- Prayer is one of the strongest weapons for attacking enemy strongholds.¹⁴ Prayer has no limitation of time or distance. Prayer is like artillery support for the Christian soldier or like a smart bomb for a surgical strike. An intensity of prayer is sometimes needed to release God's intervention and we must persevere in prayer until we pray through and achieve victory.¹⁵
- Praise is another weapon to use in silencing the enemy.¹⁶ Satanic forces such as propaganda are released out of the mouths of Satan's servants. God's Word and praise go



together to silence the enemy. Praise is a great source of strength for the believer, as David discovered in the wilderness.¹⁷

- Preaching the Word is a powerful weapon because it assaults the strongholds of the mind. It sheds light on the darkness of lies and false doctrine. It also results in miracles and in evil spirits being driven out into the open. The apostle Paul used preaching to great effect.¹⁸
- Testimony is another weapon that believers can use to overcome the enemy. We overcome the devil when we testify or witness to someone what the Word of God says the blood of Jesus does for us.¹⁹ The way we live is an open testimony to those around us of the redemption, forgiveness, cleansing, justifying, and sanctifying power of His blood.²⁰ A confession of faith that a believer can say out loud to defeat the devil's lies is the following:

“Through the blood of Jesus, I am redeemed out of the hand of Satan, all my sins are forgiven, I am cleansed from all sin, I am justified, made righteous, just-as-if-I'd never sinned. Through the blood of Jesus, I am sanctified, made holy, set apart to God, and I am no longer in Satan's territory.”

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Scripture Reference:

¹Revelation 12:10

²Colossians 2:13

³Romans 10:4

⁴Romans 5:17-18, 2 Corinthians 5:21

⁵Matthew 28:18-20

⁶Ephesians 6:10-17

⁷1 Corinthians 13:4-8, Romans 13:8

⁸Romans 8:28

⁹Colossians 1:27

¹⁰Romans 8:24

¹¹Matthew 4:3-11

¹²John 8:44

¹³Colossians 2:15, Luke 10:19, Matthew 16:18

¹⁴Ephesians 6:18

¹⁵Daniel 9, Acts 12:5

¹⁶Revelation 12:10-11, Matthew 21:15-16, Exodus 15:10-11

¹⁷Psalms 48:1

¹⁸Acts 19, 2 Timothy 4:2, Isaiah 55:11

¹⁹Revelation 12:11

²⁰Ephesians 1:7, 1 John 1:7, Romans 5:9, Hebrews 13:12