

Spiritual Warfare - My Weapons

A final word: Be strong with the Lord's mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies and tricks of the Devil. We are not fighting against people made of flesh and blood, but against the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against those mighty powers of darkness who rule this world, and against wicked spirits in the heavenly realms. Use every piece of God's armor to resist the enemy in the time of evil, so that after the battle you will still be standing firm.

Stand your ground, putting on the sturdy belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News, so that you will be fully prepared. In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere. (Ephesians 6:10-16 NLT)

God is very clear with us that there is a battle, that we are involved, that we can fight and resist, but that we need help in order to stand firm and win. We need to use every piece. We need to use them consistently and we need to keep on using them. We need to use these weapons prayerfully. Above all, we need to surrender ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit because ultimately it is His power and authority, not ours, that sends the forces of darkness fleeing.

Here are some prayerful ways to put on the armour of God.

1. God, this morning I put on the **helmet of salvation** to guard my mind. Guard what I think, hear, see and speak. I choose to take every thought captive and make it your Word. Today I renounce all obsessions, all negative thoughts. I declare today that I have the mind of Christ.
2. I put on the **breastplate of righteousness** to guard my heart, my will, and my emotions. I will live right today and do good because the blood of Jesus washes me clean. I can respond to all circumstances and people with love and truth because God's love protects me.
3. Jesus, today I wrap **truth around me like a belt**. You are the way, the truth and the life. Satan is a liar. Today I choose to believe I am a child of God. I have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus. I have been healed by His sacrifice on the cross. I have been filled with the Holy Spirit and today I will live a strong and successful life according to the Word of God which is truth.

4. Lord, today wherever my **feet** take me, I will share the **good news** of Jesus. By my words and actions I will show that Jesus makes a difference in the lives of broken and hurting people and brings them peace.

5. Jesus, today I take up the **shield of faith** which will, stop every negative thought the enemy will throw at me. God is with me. God is in control. I have nothing to fear. Lord, you are the only true and living God and my faith is secure in You. You love me. You will keep me safe. I will live by faith and not simply by my feelings.

6. Lord, today I take up the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God. I will use my words with caution so as not to harm myself or others. I will use my words effectively to tear down lies and curses, fear and shame, and all other negative effects of Satan's words in my life past, present, or future.

The ultimate weapons we carry with us on a daily basis are the name of Jesus and a worshipping heart.

The name of Jesus. We are advised repeatedly in scripture to use the name of Jesus. When we do, the demons respond because they know they that Jesus is in charge. When you don't know what else to do, call out Jesus. When you tell the devil to leave you alone, do it in the name of Jesus. Saying the name of Jesus is not magic. It is our affirmation that we are living under His authority and His ways are the rule for our life.

Praise and Worship: The Bible tells us that God makes his home in the praise of His people. (Psalm 22:3) A great way to send the enemy away is to sing or shout out praise and thanksgiving. Turn on a CD with worship music. Make it a habit to be in meetings and with others who sing and worship God. Let God make His home in your heart as you worship Him.

We have the tools - the armour of God. We have a mind and a voice that can pray. We don't always have for take great strides ahead but what we are responsible to do is to stand and not go back. Whenever we are tempted to turn back to our former life, God's clear command to us is to **stand**. We have power, God's mighty power. We may have to hold on and persevere in prayer and affirming truth but God's clear promise is that we can stand firm against all strategies and tricks of the Devil.

It's time for battle.

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. Which tools have I used in the past 24 hours?
2. In what ways do I need to do a better job of inviting God into my day?