

# **SPIRITUAL WARFARE SEMINAR**

## **# 1 THE BATTLE**

**THE ENEMY - Ephesians 6:10-12**

**THE LEADER – Revelation 12:7-11**

**SATAN’S HELPERS – Ephesians 6:12**

**SATAN’S ABILITIES – John 10:10a**

In 1993 while driving in Texas I was listening to Focus on the Family with James Dobson and he played a speech given to the Virginia legislature by Peter Marshall, Jr. I would like to use a portion of this speech.

On August 27, 1776 the Continental Army was entrapped at Brooklyn Heights, NY. Eleven thousand troops under

George Washington were up against twenty one thousand highly trained, well disciplined British regulars commanded by General Sir. William Howe. The governor of Connecticut, Jonathan Trumbull, had just sent 5,000 raw recruits to help Washington. They did not even have 1 hour of training. In the initial fighting 1500 were killed or wounded and 1500 were captured by the British. No one knew why the British didn't mount the second charge that afternoon because the Continental Army would have met defeat. Washington had his staff draw up plans to escape by small boats to Manhattan. A northern blew in early evening with a hard pelting rain. It provided cover for the withdraw and kept the British fleet which was commanded by Richard Howe stalled just 2 miles away down river. By midnight the storm stopped and there was a full moon. Minutemen who were long shore men from Salem and Marble Head, Massachusetts were placed at the oars. They knew how to row without making a wash. This was extremely important because sound travels over water and the British would have heard them. Major Beltelmege under Washington's command recorded the dawn miracle. Several thousand troops were still waiting to be evacuated when a dense fog rose up from the ground and river providing a corridor of cover. The fog lifted as the last long boat was launched. The British sentries fired a few feudal musket rounds which fell short and 8000 troops made good their escape. Only 2 soldiers were captured as they remained behind to loot what was left behind. God's hand was upon our soldiers. As Washington prepared the Continental Army for battle against the British, the Apostle Paul has some instructions for us for spiritual battle.

Paul is ready to equip us for battle and he is encouraging us, the troops, to be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. The enemy that we face is much stronger than we are except when we rely on the Lord's power to defeat Satan and his helpers. As Christians we face 3 enemies: the world (the system around us that opposes God), the flesh (catering to the lust of the eyes and pride of life. This is the old nature that we inherited from Adam), and the devil. Paul has 4 topics to discuss that will help us walk in victory.

### **A. The Enemy vv. 10-12**

1. The leader - the devil. Devil means accuser, because he accuses God's people day and night before the throne of God (Rev.12:7-11). Satan means adversary, because he is the enemy of God. In Matt. 4:3 he is called the tempter, and in John 8:44 he is called a murderer and liar. He is compared to a lion in (1Peter 5:8), a serpent in (Gen.3:1; Rev.12:9), an angel of light (2Cor.11:13-15), and "god of this age" (2Cor.4:4). In Isa.14:12-15 he is called Lucifer,

son of the morning, and that he was cast down because of his pride and his desire to occupy God's throne. Satan is a created being and is limited in his knowledge and activity. But how does Satan operate all over the World?

2. Satan's helpers - Paul calls them "principalities...powers...rulers...spiritual wickedness in high places" v.12. This is an army of demonic creatures that assists Satan in his attack against believers. In Rev.12:4 John stated that 1/3 of the angels fell with Satan when they rebelled against God. In Daniel 10:13-20 states that Satan's angels struggle against God's angels for the control of the affairs of nations. We are witnesses of Satan's work in America as some members in Congress and our judicial system are trying to remove God from our nation. There is a battle going on in the heavenlies.

3. Satan's abilities - In the Book of Job we read about Satan's power to attack man's body, home, wealth and friends. In John 10:10a. Jesus calls Satan a thief who comes to "steal, and to kill, and to destroy." Wrestle indicates that we are in hand-to-hand combat.

## # 2 THE EQUIPMENT - Ephesians 6:13-17

THE BELT OF TRUTH – v.14a

THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS – v.14b

THE SHOES OF THE GOSPEL – v.15

THE SHIELD OF FAITH – v.16

THE HELMET OF SALVATION – v.17a

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT – v.17b

B. The Equipment vv. 13-17. In the movie "Gladiator" we saw how the helmet and shield could be used as offensive weapons, but Satan looks for the unguarded areas. We put on the armor which we do by faith.

1. The girdle of truth v.14a. Since Satan is a liar and believers are controlled by truth, we will defeat him. This belt of truth holds the rest of the armor together. With integrity and a clear conscience we can face the enemy without fear. The girdle also holds the sword - the Word of truth.

2. The breastplate of righteousness v.14b. Physically the breastplate is made of metal and chains that covers the body from neck to waist and both front and back. This symbolizes our righteousness in Christ-2Cor.6:1-10 as well as our righteous life in Christ-Eph.4:24. The life we live either fortifies us against Satan's attacks or makes it easy for him to defeat us.

3. The shoes of the Gospel v.15. The Roman soldier wore sandals with hobnails in the soles for better footing for battle. We must be at peace with God and with each other if we are to defeat the devil - James 4:1-7. However, the second meaning is that we are to share the Gospel of peace each day to a lost world. When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will receive power - Acts 1:8.

4. The shield of faith v.16. The shield was 4'x2' made of wood and covered with leather and protected the soldier from spears, arrows and "fiery darts." The edges of the shield were designed to interlock with other shields so that a solid wall would be formed as they marched on the enemy. This suggests we are not in the battle alone and must trust in the promises of God and have living faith. Satan shoots "fiery darts" at our heart and minds: lies, blasphemous thoughts, hateful thoughts about others, doubts, and burning desires of sin. If we do not by faith quench these darts, we will disobey God.

5. The helmet of salvation - v.17. Satan wants to attack our minds and the helmet reminds us to let our mind be controlled by God. We must know and memorize the Word of God and speak His Word against the enemy. We must not be ignorant of God's Word.

6. The sword of the Spirit v.17b. The Roman soldier wore on his girdle a short sword which was used for close-in-fighting. The writer of Hebrews 4:12 compares the Word of God to a sword because it is sharp and is able to pierce the inner man just as a physical sword. The Word convicts us of our sins. The physical sword wounds to hurt or kill, while the sword of the Spirit wounds to heal and give life. But when we use it against Satan we are out to cripple him and keep him from hindering God's work. As we read Luke 4:1-13 Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness and He used the sword of the Spirit to defeat His enemy. Please note in Luke 4:10 Satan can also use the Word, but does not quote it completely. Christ is our whole armor of God. In John 14:6 He is the Truth and He is our righteousness-2Cor.5:21 and our peace-Eph.2:14. His faithfulness makes it possible for our faith - Gal.2:20; He is our salvation - Luke 2:30, and He is the Word of God - John 1:1.

**# 3 THE ENERGY - Ephesians 6:18-20**

**PRAY WITHOUT CEASING**

**PRAY WITH ALL PRAYERS**

**PRAY IN THE SPIRIT**

**PRAY WITH YOUR EYES OPEN**

**PRAY FOR ALL THE SAINTS**

**PRAY THIS PRAYER WITH ME**

**C. The Energy vv.18-20.** Prayer is the energy that enables the Christian soldier to wear the armor and wield the sword. When Amalek attacked Israel, Moses went to the mountaintop to pray, while Joshua used the sword down in the valley - Ex17:8-16. It took both to defeat Amalek.

1. Pray always. In 1Thes.5:17 we are to "Pray without ceasing." This means to always be in communion with the Lord.

2. Pray with all prayer. Types of prayer are: supplication, intercession and thanksgiving.

3. Pray in the Spirit. We pray to the Father, through the Son, and in the Spirit. When I do not know what to pray, I pray in tongues and sometimes prophesy - read 1Cor.14. This is 2 of the 9 gifts discussed in 1 Cor.12. These gifts are called manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

4. Pray with your eyes open. Keep alert and watch and pray.

5. Keep on praying. Perseverance means "to stick to it and not quit." - Acts 1:14;2:42; 6:4 and Rom.12:12. Have you ever stopped praying before God gives the victory. In May of 2000 we were praying for a brother in El Salvador. He prayed to receive Jesus, but was still living like the world. Three of us prayed for over 3 hours before God gave the break through.

Abraham was delivered from drinking, etc. that evening. It is easy to get lazy and quit. I would have bailed out, but the other 2 warriors were not about to quit. Thank you Jesus for this lesson.

6. Pray for all the saints. Pray for your family and other saints to defeat Satan.

**D. Encouragement vv.21-24.** Paul was sending Tychicus to be an encouragement.

Here is an example of a prayer for Spiritual Warfare.

**Heavenly Father, I love You, I praise You, and I worship You. I thank You for sending Your Son Jesus Who won victory over sin and death for my salvation. I thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit Who empowers me, guides me, and leads me into the fullness of life. Lord, I place myself at the foot of the cross of Jesus and ask You to cover me with Your precious Blood which pours forth from Your Most Sacred Heart and Your Most Holy Wounds. Cleanse me my Lord, in the living water that flows from Your Heart. I ask You to surround me with Your Holy Light.**

**Heavenly Father, let the Blood of Jesus now flow back through the maternal and paternal generations to purify my family line from Satan and sin. I come before You, Father, and ask forgiveness for myself, my relatives, and my ancestors, for calling upon powers that set themselves up in opposition to You or that do not offer true honor to Jesus Christ. In Jesus' Holy Name, I now reclaim any territory that was handed over to satan and place it under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.**

**By the power of the Holy Spirit, reveal to me, Father, any people I need to forgive and any areas of unconfessed sin. Reveal aspects of my life that are not pleasing to You-- ways that have given or could give satan a foothold in my life. Father, I give to You any unforgiveness; I give You my sins; and, I give to You all the ways that satan has a hold on my life. Thank You, Father, for these revelations. Thank You for Your forgiveness and Your love.**

**In the Holy Name of my Lord Jesus Christ, I bind all evil spirits of the air, water, ground, underground, and nether world. I further bind, in Jesus' Name, any and all emissaries of the satanic headquarters and claim the Precious Blood of Jesus on the air, atmosphere, water, ground and their fruits around us, the underground and the nether world below.**

**Heavenly Father, allow Your Son Jesus to come now with the Holy Spirit and the holy angels to protect me from harm and to keep all evil spirits from taking revenge on me in any way.**

**(Repeat the following sentence 3 times: once in honor of the Father, once in honor for the Son, and once in honor for the Holy Spirit.) In the Holy Name of Jesus, I seal myself, my relatives, this room(place, home, church, car, plane, etc.), and all sources of supply in the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ.**

**(To break and dissolve all satanic seals, repeat the following paragraph 3 times in honor of the Holy Trinity because satanic seals are placed 3 times to blaspheme the Holy Trinity.) In the Holy name of Jesus, I break and dissolve any and all curses, hexes, spells, snares, traps, lies, obstacles, deceptions, diversions, spiritual influences, evil wishes, evil desires, hereditary seals, known and unknown, and every dysfunction and disease from any source including my mistakes and sins. In Jesus' Name, I sever the transmission of any and all satanic vows, pacts, spiritual bonds, soul ties, and satanic works. In Jesus' Name, I break and dissolve any and all links and effects of links with astrologers, bohmos, channelers, charters, clairvoyants, crystal healers, crystals, fortune tellers, mediums, the New Age Movement, occult seers, palm,tea leaf, or tarot card readers, psychics, santeros, satanic cults, spirit guides, witches, witch doctors, and Voodoo. In Jesus' Name, I dissolve all effects of participation in séances and divination, Ouija boards, horoscopes, occult games of all sorts, and any form of worship that does not offer true honor to Jesus Christ.**

**Holy Spirit please reveal to me through word of knowledge any evil spirits that have attached themselves to me in any way. (Pause and wait for the words to come to you, such as anger, arrogance, bitterness, brutality, confusion, cruelty, deception, envy, fear, hatred, insecurity, jealousy, pride, resentment or terror. Pray the following for each of the evil spirits revealed.)**

**In the Name of Jesus', I rebuke you, spirit of \_\_\_\_\_. I command you to go directly to Jesus, without manifestation and without harm to me or anyone, so that He can dispose of you according to His Holy Will.**

**I thank You, Heavenly Father, for Your love. I thank You, Holy Spirit for empowering me to be aggressive against satan and evil spirits. I thank You, Jesus, for setting me free.**

**Heavenly Father, fill me with charity, compassion, faith, gentleness, hope, humility, joy, kindness, light, love, mercy, modesty, patience, peace, purity, security, serenity, tranquility, trust, truth, understanding and wisdom. Help me to walk in Your Life and Truth, illuminated by the Holy Spirit so that together we can praise, honor, and glorify Our Father in time and in eternity. For you, Lord Jesus, are "... the Way, the Truth, and the Life"(John 14:6), and You... have come that we might have life and have it more abundantly(John 10:10b).**

**"Jesus indeed is my Savior; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and courage is in the Lord, and He has been my Savior"(Isaiah 12:2). Amen. Alleluia. Amen.).**

#### **# 4 THE ENCOURAGEMENT - Ephesians 6:21-24 YOUR TESTIMONY**

**In 1956, my family moved from the country to the city. My dad worked for the US government**

**during the day and drank at home in the evening. We blended in with the rest of the families in our neighborhood except for one family across the street. They were different, very outgoing and full of joy. That family invited me to church in the spring of 1957 and I joined the church four months later. The next six months I attended a Bible study and it was then that I realized that I did not have a relationship with God. As the Holy Scriptures were opened up to me, I prayed with the teacher to invite Jesus Christ into my heart. I now had new friends and was active in the church youth group.**

**A few years later a change occurred in the 11th grade. I was good at school and excelled in sports. The school that I attended was in a rough area of the inner city. We would walk in groups for protection to the sports field. One day we were jumped by a gang and my friends ran off and left me. That was some beating I took that day, but I arrived at the practice field later. My friends ran up to me and asked for my forgiveness. I said, "NO! I will not forgive you!" and in regret they quit the track team. I then quit the youth group. From 1961 to 1986 a spirit of unforgiveness separated me from God. I still went to church, but lived for the things of the world. I was consumed with work and special interests.**

**In fact, my life was centered on me. I graduated from college with a degree in chemistry, served in the United States Army, and worked in sales and marketing for a fortune 500 company. I was married and had 2 children, lived on a farm in the country, played polo and fox hunted with my own pack of foxhounds. I had a grape vineyard and looked at starting a commercial winery. Life appeared good. At least that is what I thought. Then, everything blew up. My wife of 18 years said that she was leaving and that I could have the farm and the kids. I remarried the first woman that was nice to me and that lasted a year. I felt like a failure and the children were in total rebellion. As a single parent I struggled with work and health. In 1986, I suffered a stroke and was battling to save my job and kids. My only hope was to reestablish my relationship with the God of my youth. I needed help. I developed a passion to seek God. He was about to reveal Himself to me in a most unusual, terrifying way.**

**This took place at a meeting in October 1987. I was experiencing my second stroke-the big one. I was facing death. The pressure in my head was so great I thought it was going to explode all over the back of the church. I continued to pray for wisdom and understanding in raising my children, when I was compelled to surrender everything to my Lord Jesus Christ. Immediately, JESUS met me right where I stood. He spoke to me and said, "DO MY WILL!" The Lord was calling me to obedience. Immediately, the pressure in my head left as I was standing before God on holy ground.**

**I felt clean as God washed away all my sins and at the same time felt an over abundance of love, like nothing I had ever experienced. God took me from death and gave me new life. That evening the prodigal son returned to the Father. As I received this gift of life, I also received the Gift of THE HOLY SPIRIT. Little did I know that there was a person praying for me and my family when this all happened. This was the start of a new life with lots of testing along the way.**

**My first test of obedience came from a friend's story. A story about a young couple killed in an automobile accident. The cause of death was alcohol related. The enraged father searched the community to find the person who sold or gave them the alcohol. After 2 days he found nothing. He returned home to relax and opened up his liquor cabinet to get a drink before going bed and there was a note, "Dad, I hope you don't mind that I took this bottle." He was responsible for his daughter's death and her friend.**

**Shortly thereafter my daughter of 14 years said, "Dad, I see nothing wrong with taking a drink." I was not going to be the one responsible for her death. I had a large investment of wine that was kept in my wine cellar. I spent that day gathering up my inventory, which included my prize winning wines and loaded it on the truck. I then drove to the dump and broke every bottle.**

**In September of 1988, I married that godly woman who had been praying for many years for the Lord to send her a suitable husband even if He had to raise him from the dead.**

**In the spring of 1990, God put an educator in my path. I first met him at a men's prayer breakfast. As I passed by the table where he was sitting the Holy Spirit said, "Pray with that man." I continued to walk to the far side of the room to take a seat. During the breakfast this man stood and said, "I need someone to join me in prayer and intercede for the church." The Holy Spirit prompted me to stand and accept the offer. Little did I know what type of person with whom I would be praying. He was the most godly man I had ever met. He was the President of the Tri-county Chapter of FGBMFI. I had been baptized in the Holy Spirit for 2.5 years, but it was he who taught me how to use it and pray. However, I continued to battle health issues. One evening, I was experiencing severe chest pains. My wife told my friend, the educator, of the problem and immediately he placed his hand on my heart and began to pray. I received a new heart that evening. Another healing took place at a men's breakfast. The speaker called for those with back problems. I had 25 years of back problems and was always going to the doctors. The speaker placed his hand on my lower back and prayed in Jesus name. I was instantly healed and remain healed to this very day. For 10.5 years I met for prayer on Saturday and Sunday with the educator. We would even pray over the phone during the week. He disciplined me up until he went home to be with Jesus. His passion for prayer and evangelism was transferred to me. Like him, I became one of those radical Christians. I had been called to love the people, evangelize, pray for the sick and do whatever the Father called me to do. God removed the pride, greed, selfishness, anger, unforgiveness,**

**bitterness, envy, fear, hatred, insecurity, jealousy, etc. in my life. It is wonderful to be set free in Christ.**

**As a businessman I have been able to travel in America on business and vacation out of the country with an opportunity to tell people about the saving grace of Jesus Christ. I have been used to take the Gospel to America, Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Ukraine, Germany, China, Jordan, Iraq, Hungary, Austria, Russia, Armenia, United Arab Emirates, and Scotland.**