# Spiritual Conflict – Volume 5: Weapons That Prevail

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— Study Note Outline — SC5

#### Four Tape Series

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## The Real Enemy 1023

#### I. Introduction

- **A.** Eph. 6:10–12—Paul alerts us that we are inevitably going to be engaged in an intense spiritual conflict against a very cunning adversary—the devil. Satan commands a force of rebellious spirits—"persons without bodies"—organized on various levels of authority
- **B.** Eph. 2:2—Satan has legitimate authority over all those who are disobedient to God
- C. Col. 1:12–13—Through God's intervention we can be delivered from Satan's authority and transferred into the kingdom of Christ. Outside of Christ, there is a system of darkness, directed from the heavenlies, which is seeking to dominate this world.
  - 1. The Bible reveals that there is more than one heaven:
    - a. 2 Cor. 12:2—If there is a third heaven, there must be a first and a second
    - **b.** Eph. 4:10—The phrase "all" heavens indicates there are at least three heavens. The word which KJV translates "high places" in Eph. 6:12 is elsewhere translated "heavenly." See Eph. 1:3, 20; 2:6; 3:10.
    - **c.** By inference, the "first" heaven is the visible heaven, with sun, moon and stars; the "third" heaven is God's dwelling; and Satan's headquarters are in an intermediate heaven.
- **D.** Matt. 12:24–28—Satan has a kingdom which he dominates and which is not divided. It is on two levels. In the heavenlies, as "Satan," he rules over rebellious angels. On earth, as "Beelzebub" (Lord of flies), he rules over demons. The specific evidence that Satan's kingdom is challenged by God's kingdom is the ministry of deliverance.
- **E.** Daniel 10:2–3, 12–13—On his way from God's heaven to Daniel on earth, the angel of God encountered the opposition of rebellious angels in the heavenlies. It took him three weeks to break through. Daniel's prayer first initiated the action in heaven, then helped God's angel to get through.
- F. 2 Cor. 10:3–5—Because we are in a spiritual war, God has given us appropriate

spiritual weapons with which to pull down Satan's strongholds. The battlefield on which the war is being fought is the realm of the *mind*.

## Defensive Armor 1024

#### I. Introduction

- **A.** Eph. 6:10–12—Paul urges that we "put on the whole armor of God" as protection against the devil. Our confrontation with Satan is inevitable and we must be prepared for battle.
- **B.** Daniel 10:2–3, 12–13, 20—It took God's angel three weeks to reach Daniel because he had to battle his way past the rebellious angels of Satan.
- **C.** 2 Cor. 10:3–5—God has given us appropriate weapons with which to fight this war. The battlefield is the *mind*.
- **D.** Eph. 6:13–17—Paul describes the protective armor God has provided for Christians:
  - 1. Girdle of truth

We must rid ourselves of all religious hypocrisy and be completely honest about ourselves and to each other

- **2.** Breastplate of righteousness
  - This protects the *heart* (compare Prov. 4:23). It is *faith* and *love* (compare 1 Thess. 5:8; Rom. 10:10)
- **3.** *Shoes* of the *preparation* of the Gospel of *peace*

A double preparation is needed: Intellectually, an understanding of the Gospel; spiritually, the peace of God in our heart.

- 4. Shield of faith
  - A faith that covers every area of our lives.
- **5.** Helmet of salvation
  - This protects the *mind*—particularly from "the spirit of heaviness" (see Is. 61:3). Sometimes deliverance is needed first (see Joel 2:32). Then the helmet is *hope* (see 1 Thess. 5:8; Rom. 8:24; Eph. 2:12; Col. 1:27; Heb. 6:17–20).
- **6.** Sword of God's Word
  - Rhema, not logos. We must personally speak God's Word in faith (as Jesus did when confronted by Satan).

### Weapons Of Attack 1025

### I. Introduction

- **A.** Eph. 6:12—Paul describes the satanic kingdom which opposes us, the one we must overcome
- **B.** 2 Cor. 10—We have the weapons we need to win the spiritual battle
- C. Eph. 6:13–17—The six items of armor God has given us to protect ourselves

- **D.** Eph. 6:18—Prayer is the vital aggressive weapon. Watching (in order to pray) while others sleep is a part of this (Isaiah 62:6, Luke 18:7). Self denial of both sleep and food is necessary to reinforce prayer. Prayer is our spiritual ICBM.
- **E.** Col. 2:13–15—Satan has already been defeated. Our task is to administer the defeat. The death of Christ accomplished three things:
  - 1. Obtained forgiveness of our past sins
  - 2. Blotted out the law as a means of righteousness (Eph. 2:15, Rom. 10:4)
  - **3.** Defeated Satan and stripped him of his weapons. Satan's only remaining weapon is bluff

Our three main weapons are:

- **a.** The Word of God
- **b.** The name of Jesus
- **c.** The blood of Jesus
- **F.** Psalm 8:2, Matt. 21:16—All spiritual weapons are launched through the mouth. The ordained strength of God's people is perfected praise. By this we can silence Satan.
- **G.** Rev. 16:13—The mouth is also the channel of the weapons of wickedness used by the servants of Satan
- **H.** Eph. 3:20—The Holy Spirit is the power that launches the weapons against the devil (1 Cor. 4:20). The Holy Spirit knows what to pray for and how to pray for it (Rom. 8:26–27, Eph. 6:18).
- **I.** The four main ways we use our mouths to send forth the spiritual weapons are:
  - **1.** Prayer—Acts 4:17, 23–25, 29–31
  - **2.** Praise—Acts 16:25–26
  - **3.** Preaching—Acts 19:8–20
  - **4.** Testimony—Acts 1:8, 4:33, 5:28, Rev. 12:7–11
    - **a.** Although Revelation is written in the past tense, its main fulfilment is still in the future. We overcome Satan when we testify personally to what the Word of God says the blood of Jesus does for us
    - **b.** Pattern of testimony:
      - (1) Eph. 1:7, Psalm 107:2
      - **(2)** 1 John 1:7
      - (3) Rom. 5:9
      - (4) Heb. 13:12
      - **(5)** 1 Cor. 6:19–20
      - (6) Rev. 12:11

## Aggressive Prayer 1026

#### I. Introduction

- **A.** Eph. 6:14–17—God has given us six items of protective equipment for use in our battle against Satan
- **B.** Prayer is our most powerful weapon of attack. It needs to be reinforced by the self-denial of fasting and watching (praying while others sleep)

C. Col. 2:13–15—Christ has defeated Satan through His death on the cross

#### II. The Prayer Of Binding And Loosing

- **A.** Matt. 16:19; 18:18–20—Harmony is the basic requirement. Matt. 18:18–19 contain all the authority that will ever be needed in prayer.
- **B.** Matt. 12:28–29; Luke 11:21–22
  - 1. The Holy Spirit shows us that we must deal with (bind) the Strong Man (Satan's representative) before our ministries can be effective.
  - **2.** Examples from personal experience: Excommunication of chief elder; the boar; the marionettes.

### III. Specific, Directed, Persistent Prayers Given By The Holy Spirit

- **A.** Joshua 8:18, 24–26—Joshua's outstretched spear had spiritual, not military significance
- **B.** 2 Kings 13:14–19, 25—Israel's three victories over Syria were the direct result of symbolic actions ordained by the Holy Spirit through the prophet Elisha—the arrows are pictures of directed prayer
- **C.** Examples from personal experience:
  - 1. Gen. Montgomery named British commander in North Africa
  - 2. Division between Russia and Red China (Psalm 55:9)
  - **3.** Recent political developments in USA (Ps. 75:6–7; Daniel 2:20–22; Prov. 10:9, 29:2)
- **D.** Job. 38:8–11—A possible prayer for God to set a boundary to the spread of atheistic communism.

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