

Be Strong in the Lord and in the Strength of His Might

1 Timothy 6:12 – Fight the good fight of the faith.

1 Peter 5:8 – Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1 Corinthians 10:12 – Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

This Present Darkness, Frank Peretti

“Spiritual warfare is a conflict being waged in the invisible, spiritual realm that is being manifest in the visible, physical realm.”

1 Peter 5:8 – Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

We’re not warring against people.

John 10:10 – “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

Two opposite concepts that cannot coexist, side-by-side.

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

Who are we, collectively? So, part of our job is to destroy the works of the devil.

Matthew 16:18 – “On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

The gates of hell won’t prevail against His Church. That means we should be on the offensive in this spiritual battle.

1 John 2:16 – For all that is in the world— the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world.

We’re battling against the world, the flesh and the devil simultaneously.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 – For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ

Our primary weapon is the Word of God.

In Matthew 4:1-11 Jesus repeatedly declared, “It is written.” Proclamation of the Word is vital to spiritual warfare.

PROMISES:

James 4:7 – Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Isaiah 54:17 – No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall confute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord.

2 Thessalonians 3:3 – But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

Deuteronomy 28:7 – The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

1 John 4:4 – Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

Deuteronomy 3:22 – You shall not fear them, for it is the Lord your God who fights for you.

Romans 8:31 – What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Psalms 91:1-11 – He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Ephesians 6:10-18 – Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

We clothe ourselves in Him and in the victory that He already won on our behalf.

Ephesians 3:8-10 – To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

When people of different backgrounds, cultures, and races all unite together, it shows the manifold wisdom of God.

2 Kings 6:17-18 – Then Elisha prayed and said, “O Lord, please open his eyes that he may see.” So the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Elisha prayed to the Lord and said, “Please strike this people with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Elisha.

Matthew 6:7-8 – “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them...”

Matthew 28:18-20 – “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Philippians 2:9-11 – God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.