<u>My Lovely Jesus Ministry Spiritual Warfare Series #3</u> <u>Fighting the enemy in Jesus Christ's Name</u> <u>Vicki Goforth Parnell 2-24-25</u>

We're not to fear the power of darkness.

Isaiah 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Luke 10:19 Behold I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions. And over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

<u> James 4:7-8</u>

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Romans 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Isaiah 59:16 So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.

I've shared some of this before. Part of this information I received in a dream actually from Michael. I didn't share that part because I was not allowed to release it and that's when I had started really intensely praving, "Blessed be the Lord my strength who teaches my hands to warm my fingers to fight Psalms 144:1." You can take this to Jesus Christin prayer and try, test and discern it. I'm letting you know that's where I got the first part. There is no power of the enemy that Jesus Christ's Name cannot break. There's no agreement or bondage His Name cannot break and when we understand His name can do this, we will walk in the fullness of His power. Jesus Christ has all power and authority to break every oath, covenant and agreement of the kingdom of darkness that has ever been made with His children and those to come. He legally can do it becauseHe has been given all power from Father God as Matthew 28:18 tells us. Colossians 2:15 and Revelation 1:18 tells us He defeated all the kingdom of darkness and has the keys to death through the power of Father God that He placed inside Jesus Christ and into His Name. A Name which is highly exalted above all others according to Philippians 2:9. When you become His child you are adopted into His Kingdom bearing His Name and all its power. He's the unfair advantage! He really is over the enemy whether His children realize it or not. The power is there. His Name, His Blood, His Word, His anointing are all unbreakable, unstoppable, all-powerful, unconquerable to

the enemy. This is just a few of what He and His Name are, so are His children that bear His Name. We must never forget that Jesus Christ Himself can break everything.

The only thing we are limited as His children that I understand is when God turns somebody over to reprobate mind, somebody that has blasphemed the Holy Spirit which then becomes unredeemable. The Holy Spirit is not going to move on you in the authority of Jesus Christ to break any kind of agreement when Father God has done this. How powerful is Jesus Christ and His Name?

Jesus Christ is unstoppable meaning impossible to stop or prevent. He is unconquerable... incapable of being defeated, overcome or subdued. He's Sovereign. He's invincible meaning absolute unconditional unlimited power. He's Omnipotent. He's matchless meaning, unable to be equaled.

He's undefeatable,

His power is unquestionable. Meaning not able to be disputed or doubted. He reigns supreme.

He's King of kings and Lord of lords just to name a few and He lives inside of His children. That's power, real power and this power lives inside of you if you have accepted Jesus Christ into your heart whether you realize it or not. All that dunamis power is inside you and that's how you can do all things but we don't rejoice in the power He's given us. We rejoice because His Blood was shed for us and we are forgiven of our sins. Now we are no longer in the kingdom of darkness. We're in the Kingdom of Light. We're going about doing His work as we pass through this world trying to take all we can till we get to our real home. Oh what a day that's going to be.

The Powerful Name of Jesus Christ

There is no power of the enemy that Jesus Christ's Name cannot break. There's no agreement of bondage His Name cannot break and when we understand His name can do this we will walk in the fullness of His power. Jesus Christ has the power and authority to break every oath, covenant, and agreement the kingdom of darkness has ever made with His children, and those to come. He legally can do it because He has been given all power from father God as Matthew 28:18 tells us. Colossians 2:15 & Revelation 1:18 tells us He defeated all the kingdom of darkness and has the keys to death through the power of Father God that He placed inside Jesus Christ and into His Name. A Name which is highly exalted above all others according to Philippians 2:9. When you become His child you are adopted into His kingdom bearing His Name and all its power. He's the unfair advantage over the enemy whether His children realize it or not. The power is there. His Name, His Blood, His Word, His Anointing are all

unbreakable, unstoppable, all powerful, uncomfortable to name just a few so are His children that bear His Name.

To war, at times one must invoke the Name of Jesus (Jesus Christ.) One must invoke (earnestly call on) the Name of Jesus itself. One of the enemy's greatest assets is to divide then to conquer. To invoke the Name of Jesus Christ is to call into being into the physical world all power that's contained within it. Within the Name of Jesus Christ, the Risen Lamb resides God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Many of the children of God know how to pray in the authority of Jesus Christ's Name. But many never have learned being blinded by the enemy that this is not only the power of the Lamb's sacrifice found within it to redeem, but His Name also possesses the strength and power that He contains as the great Lion of Judah whose strength and might cannot be equaled.

Jesus Christ the Lamb is love, mercy, compassion and even righteous anger and indignation at times. But Jesus Christ the Lion of Judah because of what He did, the price He paid for mankind by becoming their sacrifice contains the destructive but controlled wrath, strength, and power of the Almighty One of God. As He becomes the judge of all. Found within His Name Jesus Christ is all that He is which is the power of all....the infinite power of God and man. The power of Almighty God placed into one Name that is Jesus Christ the Lamb, the Lion of Judah Himself, yet also containing the Father of all, Jehovah the Great I Am within Himself with all His power too without any of it diminishing.

The difference between saying Jesus Christ's Name and in invoking it comes in the understanding of the power in His sweet Name. To say and to speak the Name of Jesus Christ in a situation will have the effect upon it of what you believe and have faith it contains and will do. But when you invoke the Name of Jesus Christ you command its activation of all power contained inside of it. What's inside it and not your understanding of His powerful Name.

When you invoke the Name of Jesus Christ you have all the power of both Jesus the Lamb and Jesus the Lion which is what all that Father God our Creator of all is. Invoking the Name of Jesus Christ or simply Jesus some choose to say is the absolute known and unknown power of all. But this is because inside of His Name is also found the source of this power's movement. The Spirit of the living God, the Creator of all the Almighty One that Jesus Christ has identified as the Holy Spirit Holy Ghost and the Anointing.

You have the power container that is Father God, His Word which is Jesus Christ now found within His earthly body once it was made into flesh but now glorified and you

have His Holy Spirit, the power behind the action of all that is spoken even by thought or written script.

Father God-----Container of all power, infinite power

Jesus Christ-----the Word, words that carry forth the power into being, into existence.

Holy Spirit-----The power of action that carries out the word of power into fruition, unto completion.

The Name of Jesus Christ the Son of God Jehovah always contains these three elements of our Creator Father God, but no other Name possesses all three in one location. The power of Heaven's Godhead lies within the one Name of Jesus, Jesus Christ and no other. This is how it is exalted above all others.

Colossians 2:9-10

9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: <u>Colossians 1:19</u> For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; <u>Philippians 2:9</u> Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

It was only after Jesus Christ the Lamb was baptized by water while on the earth and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him as a dove did, He Himself began moving in the power of His Name to do all the works He did while upon the earth or His disciples. Because until the final piece, the Holy Spirit came into His earthly yet Godly body the full power of His Name wasn't fully activated. This is partly what the Holy Spirit does. He activates by faith the power of God found within those who have accepted Jesus Christ whose power resides in them which is the power of His blood, He Himself and His Name. This is the power of the Name of Jesus... Jesus Christ the power of the Godhead in one Name alone... Jesus Christ. No longer the Lamb alone but the Lion of Judah, the Conquering King of love.

The power of Jesus Christ's Name is the same for all His children but the potency of its power upon a situation you are facing can be determined in some situations by your faith in His Name. Many will pray in His Name, never believing in faith He will answer their prayers or they pray prayers that are contrary to His will for their lives. His Name is not powerless but all powerful and this power never diminishes or fades over time. It never gets depleted when His children call upon it when they pray and war in the realm of the spirit world. It's the people, His own children who will pray in His Name and that prayer will go out in great power because of His Name but then they will come behind it after it's prayed and speak doubt over the prayer with unbelief that in reality is meaning, "I don't believe my God can do this for me and neither will His Name." The power of His Name is still in effect, but you have stopped it from going forward and continuing because of your own words which supersede your original words that you prayed in faith because it is your choice to believe He is the Lamb and Lion of Judah. Jesus Christ is all that He really is or not. He will not ever override man's freedom to choose. A highly prized gift of love given by the Almighty Father God to His beloved creation mankind.

When you gain a full understanding that the Name of Jesus Christ contains all the power of the Holy Godhead of the Great I Am then as you speak it you will further understand that you are enacting all three. Father God, Father the Son, and Father the Holy Spirit to all move freely into your situation. Meaning (1.) the source of power---God the container, (2.) the words that instruct the power needed---- Jesus Christ the Son (3.) and the Holy Spirit--- the action and movement of God's power are released into your situation.

So, when you have the full realization and understanding of the power of His Name within your being, your inner man, that's when saying or invoking Jesus Christ's Name it can be like releasing a megaton of nuclear arsenals upon your enemy but even worse. But most people don't expect or realize the force found within His great Name which is the Godhead, the three that are One. Only believe.

The Godhead (also called the Holy Trinity by men) was found in one place originally...Heaven, but now it's also found inside the Name of Jesus Christ. The Three that are One found in one Name because of all that He has done for mankind by His great sacrifice of love. He's no longer just the Lamb of God but the Lion of Judah, King of kings and Lord of lords!

And This is why the Name of Jesus Christ when spoken in faith by a true believer of His who understands the full power of His Name whether they are speaking it or invoking it will cause evil spirits to scatter and demons to flee. It will tear down enemy strongholds and cause them to have very, very bad days and nights. But you've got to believe in the power of His Name because He will meet you at the point of your faith. Sometimes but not often past it. Remember all things are possible to him that believes. *Luke 8:17* And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

<u>*Mark 9:23*</u> Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

<u>*Colossians 1:16*</u> For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

<u>Hebrews 1:1-4</u>

1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:

4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

<u>Hebrews 2:7-9</u>

7 Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:

8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

Isaiah 22:22 And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

<u>*1 Peter 3:22*</u> Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Invoke definition: cite or appeal to (someone or something) as an authority for an action or in support of an argument: call on (a deity or spirit) in prayer, as a witness, or for inspiration; call earnestly for; make supplications; call on; beseech

We have the power to Bind, loose & cast out in Jesus Christ's Name.

<u>Matthew 16:19</u> And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

<u>*Matthew 18:18*</u> Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

<u> Matthew 12:24-29</u>

24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:

26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?

27 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges.

28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.

<u>Mark 3:23-29</u>

23 And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan?

24 And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

25 And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

26 And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end.

27 No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

28 Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:

29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation.

<u>Mark 16:17</u> And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

(*Mark 9:14–29* is an example of casting out a demon and Jesus Christ instructs it not to return.)

<u>Pray. Gird & Guard</u>

Pray without ceasing.

(*1 Thessalonians 5:17*) Prayer is the key for a more intimate relationship with Father God and Jesus Christ. Prayer is also a step of faith that Father God through Jesus Christ hears you and will move for you. Faith in Him in the power and authority of Jesus Christ's Name can move mountains. Prayer is the weapon that can break through the heavenlies and reach into God's very Throne room. It can release the intervention of the holy angels. The main objective of the devil's schemes, devices and plans concerning prayer is to make the believer's heaven brass, so that God's blessings and answers cannot reach him. Prayer prayed in faith in Jesus Christ's Name has the power to shatter every satanic demonic network in the spirit realm that spills over into the physical one. Praying effectively can bring victory in Jesus Christ's Name. What else is prayer? Prayer is a conversation with God. It is a love

relationship of our soul with God, not in contemplation or meditation, but in direct address to Him. It is crying out the Lord (Exodus 32:11) and pouring our soul out before the Him (1 Samuel 1:15) It's praying and crying to Heaven (2 Chronicles 32:20) as we seek Father God through Jesus Christ and make our supplications known (Job 8:5). Through prayer we find ourselves drawing near to God in a more intimate relationship (Psalms 73:28). Prayer is a very powerful formidable weapon from Heaven.

<u>*Fob 22:27*</u> Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

Matthew 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

<u>*James 5:16*</u> Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. *Jeremiah 33:3* Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty

things, which thou knowest not.

<u>*Habakkuk 2:4*</u> Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

<u>*Matthew 21:21*</u> Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

<u>Isaiah 55:6</u> Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Ephesians 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

<u>Gird up the loins of your mind.</u>

That spiritual battle begins in the mind. What does this mean to gird up the loins of our minds? As children of God who have accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord we take on the mind of Christ. We have His mindset but we also have to put on the mindset of a soldier in Him without doubt and wavering. We are more than conquerors and called to be an overcomer through Him as Romans 8:37 and Revelation 12:11 tells us we can be. It means to be strong minded, not easily shaken in our minds,

unwavering. To be mentally prepared for action, to be alert and focused. It calls for a disciplined and sober mindset to face challenges and resist distractions from the kingdom of darkness.

<u>*1 Peter 1:13*</u> Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

<u>Hebrews 10:22-23</u>

22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

<u> James 1:6-8</u>

6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

<u>2 Timothy 2:3-4</u>

3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

<u>1 Thessalonians 2:2-3</u>

2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition *Romans 13:14* But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fu the lusts thereof.

<u>*2 Timothy 1:7*</u> For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

<u>Guard your heart.</u>

The Word of God tells us that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh in Matthew 12:24. Keep thy heart with all diligence. We do this by keeping our relationship strong with Father God and Jesus Christ. By putting the Word of God into us, worshipping at His feet and keeping out the things of the world that leads to lust. When lust is conceived it brings forth sin. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks so what's coming out of yours?

<u>1 John 3:19-21</u>

19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. <u>Proverbs 4:20-23</u>

20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

<u>*Romans 1:23*</u> Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

<u>Matthew 5:8</u> Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

<u>Mathew 6:21</u> For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

<u> 7ames 1:14-15</u>

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Matthew 12:35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. <u>*1 Corinthians 15:33*</u> Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

Cast your cares upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

The enemy will try to overwhelm you with attacks of cares, oppression, fears, persecution, depression, doubt and such like to try to stop you from preventing his attacks and stepping into all your called for through Jesus Christ. All of these types of attacks are through witchcraft. He reminds us to come to Him and He will give us the needed rest. Take time to refocus on Him and get your mind off of the world and all its battles.

<u>*1 Peter 5:7*</u> Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

<u> Matthew 11:28-30</u>

28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

<u>*Psalms 55:22*</u> Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suer the righteous to be moved.

<u>Isaiah 40:29-31</u>

29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: 31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

<u>Resist the enemy.</u>

Do not give into physical, mental or spiritual attacks sent through witchcraft and demons. You do this by submitting yourself to Father God, being obedient to His Holy Word and fighting in the power and authority of Jesus Christ's Name. You stand in faith without wavering that His Word is unfailing and true. You draw closer to Him and He will draw closer to you. Learn to utilize also the power of the written Word too in His great Name because greater is He that is in you than he that is in this wicked world.

<u>1 Peter 5:8-9</u>

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

<u> James 4:7-8</u>

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

8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

<u>1 Samuel 15:22</u> And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, to hearken than the fat of rams.

<u>Philippians 2:9</u> Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Isaiah 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

<u>*1 John 4:4*</u> Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

You must also make the decision to put away from you the things of the world. Those things that look innocent but are actually evil. Abstain from the very appearance of evil. Guard what you put into mind and your spirit. David said in Psalms 10:3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

It shall not cleave to me meaning I will not be ensnared by it and allow it to

stick, to adhere, be joined together with it by any type of agreement with the kingdom of darkness. He knew well their tactics and schemes.

Cast down those evil vain imaginations.

Thoughts or imaginations from the enemy don't always work to make you come into an agreement with a spirit such as one of sickness trying to be placed on you or tempt you to sin. There are times the devil will overwhelm your thoughts attached with familiar spirits that attack you emotionally too. If you stop and focus on them it can lead to a plethora of doubt, fears, lusts, and other thoughts which I call witchcraft imaginations sent to try to make you give up and even isolate yourself. Then he will launch more attacks containing more familiar spirits that can cause depression, anxiety, chaos, and such like in your mind if you don't take them captive and cast them down in the power of Jesus Christ's Name.

If the Holy Spirit dwells in you, then so does the fruit of temperance (self-control). You have the choice and the authority through Jesus Christ to tear down strongholds trying to be built or that have been formed against your life. You have the choice whether to cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God or not to bring into captivity every thought to the obedience as the Word of God tells us we can do. But it's up to you. Nobody can cast down those scary, hurtful, unclean, or otherwise wrong thoughts for you. Nor can anyone replace these thoughts with whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report for you as we're instructed to think upon.

But through Jesus Christ you can because all things are possible through Him. He inside of you is greater than the whole kingdom of darkness.

<u>Galatians 5:22-23</u>

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

<u>2 Corinthians 10:3-5</u>

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are

honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

<u>Fight:</u>

Speak the Word of God, plead the Blood of Jesus Christ and use the authority of His great Name. These are 3 powerful spiritual weapons that are mighty through God to the pulling down strongholds. Jesus Christ the Word, Jesus Christ's Blood and Jesus Christ's Name. It's hard to effectively wield these weapons though if you don't study and know the Word of God. If you don't realize the power in His Name that allows you to bind, loose, cast out and resist the enemy. You need to know the power within His cleansing Blood to protect and shield you. Speak the Word of God. Pray and confess it because it's your spiritual sword. Pray and speak the Word to your problems. Become a faith talker and not a doubter. A true believer in Him because the Word of God always accomplishes its purpose and does not return void to Father God. Bind the enemy's operations, bind the demons, the fallen ones in the mighty Name of Jesus Christ. Cast the enemy out of your life in faith where he needs to be removed in any area he's manifesting in your life. Speak boldly the Name of Jesus Christ with the power of life that's in your tongue and the authority found only inside His Name alone. And plead the precious Blood of Jesus Christ over your mind, your whole spiritual and physical being. You've been bought with a price. You are not the tail but the head as Deuteronomy 28:13 tells us.

<u>1 Peter 8-9</u>

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

<u>Hebrews 4:12</u> For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Ezekiel 12:28 Therefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord GOD.

<u>Isaiah 46:9-10</u>

9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,

10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

11 Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Mark 14: 24 And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.

<u>Proverbs 18:21</u> Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

<u>*1 Corinthians 6:20*</u> For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Other related: Ephesians 4:21-32: 5:3-4

<u>Put your armor on and keep it on.</u>

<u>Ephesians 6:10-18</u>

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Loins girt/surrounded with Truth:

- Preparing for the future of what is to come
- Being governed by truth which is revealed in Christ Jesus. (John 14:6)
- It strengthens us to stand and testify of the truth and the truth of Jesus Christ.
- Walking in truth brings us closer to Father God and Jesus Christ.
- Knowing the truth protects and keeps us from being deceived by the lies and deception of the enemy.
- Following the lead of the Holy Ghost who is the spirit of truth. (John 15:26)

<u>Breastplate of righteousness</u>

- To put on the breastplate of righteousness, first we must have the belt of truth firmly in place. Without truth, our righteousness will be based upon our own attempts to impress God. This leads to legalism or self-condemnation. (Romans 8:1)
- It's a covering of righteousness that blocks out the devil's attacks on our hearts and souls.
- The breastplate of righteousness refers to the righteousness purchased for us by Jesus at the cross. (*2 Corinthians 5:21*)
- It refers to His righteousness that we are covered in making it possible to live holy undefiled life in Him with His help.
- The breastplate of righteousness has Jesus Christ's Name stamped on it, as though He is saying, "Your righteousness isn't sufficient to protect you. Wear Mine." (*Isaiah 61:10*)

Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace

- A spiritual shoe; something to aid our movement. This piece of armor is to aid our movement, attacks and defence and not our appearance.
- The foot is to the body what the will is to the soul. We go wherever our will takes us. Preparation, the Christian's spiritual readiness, is our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.
- It causes us to be sure-footed, established, and ready to meet any challenge.
- Allows us to be ready to share God with others at all times. (Mark 16:15)
- Our shoes equip us to walk through rough areas.
- The gospel sets the will of the Christian. It gives us a purpose and a focus. It presents us with a message and a task. It gives meaning to life and nothing else seems to matter. When the will and heart are prepared and ready to serve the Lord, the Christian feet is shod: prepared and equipped to face any trouble he must go through to complete the task ahead.

Taking the shield of faith. wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

- Faith is confidence that God is who He saidHe is, and He will do what He said He would do.
- The shield of faith is a "first line of defense" weapon.
- The shield of faith is foundational to your defense against the enemy. Without faith it is impossible to please God because the opposite of faith is doubt. (Hebrews 10:23; 38; 11:6)
- You're actively relying on your trust in God as a protective barrier against spiritual attacks.
- Protection against "fiery darts: It's a defense mechanism to deflect all the attacks of the enemy similar to how a physical shield would protect a soldier in battle. For example demon witchcraft attacks such as negative thoughts, doubts, or fears. He sends fiery darts in our direction to destroy our faith and confidence in who God is, what God has said, and who we are in Christ. These darts can also include discouragement, delay, disappointment, distraction, and deception. Regardless of which dart he chooses to throw at you, they are designed to lower your faith. Once he has accomplished that goal, he has lowered one of your primary defenses.
- The shield is the only weapon mentioned that is connected to a specific role and because of the defensive nature of the weapon, the shield of faith increases the effectiveness of the other weapons.
- Active engagement: "Taking up" the shield implies a conscious choice to actively use your faith to face challenges and resist the enemy in Jesus Christ's Name.
- Brings full reliance on God: By relying on your faith in God's power and promises, you can withstand spiritual attacks.
- The shield of faith is a unique weapon in the armor of God because it is designed to protect, yet it also helps you stand your ground.
- Another way to take up the shield of faith is by reminding yourself of who God is and what He has said, putting your confidence in those words. When you take up your shield of faith in this manner, you will be able to stand regardless of what the enemy throws at you in Jesus Christ's Name.

Take the helmet of salvation

- It means we have been saved and have eternal life through Jesus Christ and more. *(John 3:16)*
- When a soldier suited up for battle, the helmet was the last piece of armor to go on. It was the final act of readiness in preparation for combat. It was vital for survival, protecting the brain, the command station for the rest of the body. If the head was badly damaged, the rest of the armor would be of little use.
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- It is daily protection and deliverance from our sin nature and Satan's schemes.

- Keep the helmet functioning by:
- Renewing our minds. (*Romans 12:2*)
- Keeping our eyes focused on Jesus Christ and our eternity and off the world. (*Matthew 6:20*)
- Remembering and recognizing we are new creations in Him and dead to sin giving us power to choose not to sin through Jesus Christ. (<u>2 Corinthians 5:17</u>)
- Cast down doubts that cause wavering when given into. (*Hebrews 10:23: 11:6*)
- Remind yourself that the enemy is already defeated. (*Colossians 2:15*)

The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God

- Whereas the rest of the pieces of armor are meant to help us stand our ground and not retreat, there is a sense in which the word of God helps us advance and puts Satan on the defense.
- The Word of God is a living and active weapon that can be used offensively and defensively. *(Hebrews 4:12)*
- Can be used to save souls, give spiritual strength, and mature us as soldiers for the Lord.
- It is a tested and proven weapon that has been used by prior saints without failing.
- It should be used with care, as it can be dangerous and harmful if used for selfish ambition or a lust for power.
- It's not to be used on others to bring condemnation but conviction of sins and repentance of hearts.
- It increases our faith. (*<u>Romans 10:17</u>*)
- It teaches us the ways of truth through the Holy Spirit's help. (John 14:26)
- It's a weapon used to separate the good and evil intentions of our heart.
- It's Jesus Christ made into the flesh. (<u>*John 1:1; 14*</u>)
- A sword is only useful if you know how to use it.
- Memorize verses so that you can take it with you wherever you go.
- The Word of God is utilized through our words. We see this in a description of Jesus Christ.
- <u>*Revelation 19:15*</u> And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
- The Word of God is able to be called the sword of the *Spirit* because of the Holy Spirit's role in giving us God's words as well as in making God's words effective in our lives. (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16)