



7/3/25

*So many mornings, I wake up feeling like I'm a disappointment to God, worthless... and like He doesn't really love me. Well... with all the study we've been doing on spiritual warfare and the armor of God... I decided to actually use the armor God has given me. Duh!!! This morning, instead of wallowing in my shame for a while, I did what Jesus did. I said... IT IS WRITTEN. I spoke the word of God OUT LOUD. It is written, "For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation" (Psalm 149:4)... "'For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but My steadfast love shall not depart from you, and My covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you" (Isaiah 54:10). And lo and behold... The truth flooded in and the liar and his lie went away. I pray that you and I will continually, daily, regularly use our weapon and take our thoughts captive with the truth of God's word. We will never regret it!*

*Blessings,*

*Jonna*

*2 Timothy 3:12-17, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ~*

*This life on earth is a battlefield. Every day I face situations that can either make me stronger in battle or derail my faith and leave me wounded. One thing that will absolutely leave me wounded is having the wrong expectations. If I expect the joy and peace of heaven on earth to be found in my circumstances, I will be constantly blindsided by the daily battles that God has already warned me about. But if I will pay attention to God's word and use it as my weapon of attack as I hold up the shield of faith and put on the whole armor of God, I WILL experience the peace and joy of heaven on earth... in my heart. O Lord, please help me to have Your perspective, and help me to keep alert with all perseverance as I continue to pray in the Spirit... because YOU are the hero of each battle. You have already won the war.*

*2 Timothy 3:12-17 ~*

*"Indeed ALL who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus WILL be persecuted." Wow. Is that I what I signed up for when I became a Christian? Guaranteed persecution??? Yes... in part. This world is under the control of the domain of darkness. The devil has been at work to destroy anyone who follows the Most High God since the Garden of Eden. Sometimes he uses people to do his dirty work. Sometimes he speaks directly to my flesh. Sometimes he uses fear tactics. Sometimes he uses, "You don't deserve to suffer like that!" Sometimes he uses, "You're worthless. You don't deserve love." Sometimes he uses, "Don't even bother. Nothing will ever change." He's a liar and the father of lies. And he's also very proficient with his attacks.*

*He likes to point out to me... "Look at the evil people and imposters of this world. They go from bad to worse. They deceive others and they ARE deceived. And no one's stopping them. That's because you've been forgotten, abandoned by your God." Satan is a liar and the father of lies.*

*What should I do with all these attacks???*

- "Continue in what you have learned." The Greek word translated "continue" means "abide, dwell in, endure with". I need to take what I've learned and let it dwell in me richly. Speak the truth to my heart. The greatest enemy of my hope is my own flesh. If I don't let my spirit speak the truth, my flesh will speak lies.*
- "Abide, dwell in, meditate on, remember what you have firmly believed." Dwell on the things I've been assured of through every opportunity I've had to hold up my shield of faith. If I don't dwell on what and who I have put my faith in, my flesh will take over and dwell on fears, complaints, all the "this is unfair" statements. But the truth is the truth. Why give in to a lie??? Don't use the prosperity of the evil liars and imposters of the world to determine my measure of faith. Instead, keep my eyes on the gospel, on the empty cross and the empty grave. My God is alive, and He WILL fulfill ALL His promises to come, just as He fulfilled ALL His prophecies of the gospel.*
- "KNOW the sacred writings, the words of God which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." Let the word of God speak. Know it. Study it. The word is what gives me wisdom because all the treasures of wisdom are found in Jesus who IS the word. His word makes me wise FOR SALVATION. This salvation is all encompassing. It is the salvation of my soul from eternal separation from God. It is my salvation and rescue THROUGH the battles I face every day. It is the promise of the ultimate outcome of my faith... eternal life with Jesus in heaven forever... freedom from sickness, pain, sin, sorrow. KNOW what it says so that I can use my sword and speak the truth that divides soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and discerns the thoughts and intentions of my heart (Hebrews 4:12).*

*Why use the word of God rather than my own words or someone else's? Many people speak mantras and dwell on philosophies that fall apart... like... "Follow your heart." But the heart is deceitful above all things. The heart doesn't know the whole picture. How is speaking the*

*WORD to my heart any better? "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."*

*The philosophies of this world are not breathed out by God. They are breathed out by the liar and the father of lies, the accuser, the one who will be defeated forever. "The world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of the Lord abides forever" (1 John 2:17). God Himself has breathed out His word and sent His word to earth to save my soul.*

*His word teaches me because I don't know the right way to go without His direction. "Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way" (Psalm 25:8-9).*

*God's word, yes, reproves me. Through the word, the Holy Spirit convicts my heart when I'm walking in the wrong direction. When I'm walking by the Spirit and letting Him lead me, my "ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left" (Isaiah 30:21). God never abandons me and tells me to figure it out on my own. That's what the deceiver does. He makes empty promises and then accuses me when I give in. The Holy Spirit gives me warning that I'm walking in a dangerous direction and then helps me to walk in the right direction. He even forgives me and helps me to turn back to Him when I give in to the liar. The question is, am I willing to listen?*

*The word of God corrects me. This word means that He RESTORES me through His word. He restores me so that I become the image bearer of God that I was meant to be... full of the fruit of the Spirit... full of love, joy, peace and all His attributes... free of the flesh that is in direct opposition to His heart.*

*The word of God trains me in righteousness. His word educates me in what is truly valuable. Hebrews 12:11 and James 3:18 tell me that righteousness brings me peace. God is the God of peace. He wants me to have His peace. The way to peace is righteousness. The way to righteousness is being trained in the word of God by the Holy Spirit. Letting the word dwell in me richly is all about TRANSFORMATION, not just INFORMATION.*

*By standing firm in my faith, and being trained to stand firm through God's word, I will be made complete, fully prepared to handle the daily battles. God will fully equip me for every good work that He's prepared for me to do.*

*So... the battles come. God equips me to stand firm in my faith using the word of God as my weapon. The more I wield my weapon in the power of the Holy Spirit, the more equipped I become.*

*Does God love me? Yes. He tells me up front that the battles are real. He supplies me with everything I need in order to stand firm in the fight. He brings me the peaceful fruit of righteousness as I learn from Him. He gives me the Holy Spirit to dwell in me as my constant*

*strength and guide to navigate through the battles. AND He promises me that the war is already won. My job is to trust Him. O Lord, please make my shield of faith HUGE!*

*2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ~*

*Galatians 2:20 says, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Let me never forget how I got to be on the winning side of this war. It was through Jesus... He freed me from the side of the enemy... and now He equips me with what I need to fight each battle. I still live in flesh and blood while I'm on this earth. But He has equipped me with supernatural, divine weapons.*

*Truly, to fight the battles in my flesh would be like Ironman trying to fight the evil aliens without his Ironman suit and without his new heart. He would be utterly destroyed. I need my new heart through Jesus, filled by the Spirit. And I need my supernatural, divine armor of God to fight each battle. Otherwise, I would be utterly destroyed.*

*With the armor of God and a heart saved by Him, my weapons have divine power to destroy strongholds. There is no reason for me to fight in my own natural flesh. I have been given so much more than my flesh, and my flesh WILL NOT BE ENOUGH to fight the supernatural evil enemy. God has equipped me to demolish the sin that tries to ensnare me by the lies of Satan and his minions.*

*By the power of the Holy Spirit working in me through the word, I can demolish ~*

- Arguments... logic... the plausible words of earthly wisdom. Things that encourage selfish ambition and pride.*
- Every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God... the ENTIRE elevated arrogant opinions and presumptions of the world that claim superiority over knowing God... personally and experientially.*

*As I study God's word and speak God's word, I'm able to take even my thoughts captive so that even my thoughts obey Jesus. By allowing the Holy Spirit to stir God's word in my heart, I have the power to ~*

- Stand firm in my faith*
- Not get entangled by my circumstances*
- Not get deceived by the enemy*
- Grow in the peaceful fruit of righteousness*
- Destroy strongholds*
- Destroy plausible words of earthly wisdom*

- *Destroy arrogant opinions*
- *Take my thoughts (which are often ruled by my feelings) captive.*

*Why would I NOT cling to God's word? Why would I NOT delight in God's word? Why would I NOT let His word dwell in me RICHLY??? O Lord, please help me to EXPECT the battles. Please help me not to ignore this incredible supernatural, divine weapon I have in You, because of You. Thank You so much for richly providing me with everything I need to take my stand with You in every battle. You are my salvation... You've freed me from the domain of darkness. You sustain me through every battle. When the time comes, the war will be over and You will bring me home with You forever. Praise Your name!*