Ministry of The Holy Spirit Prison Letters Ephesians 6:10-12

Last times...walking with Jesus Christ in all our relationships

- marriage
- children
- fathers
- servants/employees
- masters/employers

This time...standing with Jesus

We face demonic resistance and spiritual attacks as we follow Jesus

This has been happening since

Gen 3:1 (Satan to Eve) hath God said

Gen 3:4-5 Ye shall not surely die. For God doth know that in the day ye eat

thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods,

knowing good and evil.

and will not end until

Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and

brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be

tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Ezk 28:11-19 (v12 vs v2) Who deals with Satan?!

Is 14:12-15, 21-22a Who deals with Satan?!

Jude 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation,

but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

Satan is the root of the world's hatred for the people of the Living God

- Jews
- Christians

The devil's tool: fear

The Lord's antidote: Fear not! Trust Me!!

2 Tim 1:7

The Holy Spirit, therefore, turns our attention to spiritual warfare

This week: the baseline, the power base from which we fight our spiritual

adversaries

Next week: the defensive armament and the offensive weapons the Lord has

given us for the ongoing battle

v10-12

v10a Finally, in the Epistle to the Ephesians

- 1. started in Ch 1-3 sit with Christ in the heavens 2. moved to Ch 4:1 6:9 walk with Christ in this world
- 3. finish with 6:10-23 stand with Christ in the battles in both worlds

Who fights?

The brethren

We followers of Jesus Christ live in a war zone!

The devil and his gang have their sights on each of us and are relentlessly laboring to

- destroy our testimonies he cannot have us for we are sealed with the Holy Spirit but he can render us as ineffective or useless combatants unless we are careful to not become a casualty
- distract us from of Christ-given mission to seek and save the lost (Satan's prisoners of war)
- discourage us so we look inward rather than up that we finish not well our course

Intense battles are raging all around us, the "prizes" of which are the souls of people!

A battle against the incompatible worldview of liberal humanism and its Godlessness and utter contempt and disdain of the Word of God that has corrupted/blinded of countless people

A battle against violence, lawlessness, and anarchy in the big cities of USA that have embraced liberal humanistic policies

A battle against our children and grandchildren, whom Satan wants

1. before they are even born

A battle against the abortion industry and its ruthless, merciless, and barbaric murder of innocent and defenseless lives; doctors, nurses, and a "health care" system are as "Hamas" to the unborn!

- 2. from the moment they enter the public school system
 A battle against lies (Evolution) and sexual perversion and gender confusion (LGBTQ+/Trans/Drag indoctrination)
- 3. in their teenage and youth adult years

 A battle against depression and hopeles

A battle against depression and hopelessness and suicide From 2011 to 2021, suicide rates increased

48% among teenagers 39% among young adults

A battle against the invasion of this nation and all of Western Civilization by another completely incompatible "civilization" – Islam

On 11/29/23, Michigan Islamic Scholar Ahmad Musa Jibril:

"Mothers in America and the West should nurse their infants with the love of Jihad, ambition to become a mujahid and a martyr; the Infidel West, U.S. are the enemies of the Muslims."

Love of death

On 12/2/23, Michigan Imam Usama Abdulghani (speaking in public): "October 7th as a day of God. It was a miracle. We thank Allah for making it possible."

Who is Allah, the god of Islam? Satan in the Bible.

What was the purpose of Muslim immigration to USA starting in 1966, the gates opened by LBJ's liberal agenda of The Great Society and "flooded" since 2000 (Bush and Obama)?

Mohammed's battle plan as documented in the Koran:

- 1. Be peaceful ("Religion of peace") when weak, destroy when strong (jihad, infidels must convert or die by the sword)
- 2. The Jew first, then the Christian

Boiling now in Muslim nations and the West is the Jew-hatred of radical Islam, the way of life of which is death.

Islam is playing USA and all of Western Civilization exactly for who they are – naïve, liberal, idealistic fools

A battle against Christianity, the faithful followers of Jesus Christ in particular 12/2/23 James Carville: "Christian nationalists are a bigger threat to the country than al-Qaeda."

The thoughts of an ignorant, darkened, and slanderous mind that needs Jesus Christ

Bible-believing Christians who are citizens of the kingdom of God are seen as a threat to this nation i.e. the Government of this nation... v12

A battle within Christianity against

- false teachers and false gospels
- long-standing false doctrine...salvation by works
- long-standing traditions that make the Word of God of none effect
- corruption of the doctrines of liberal humanism (e.g. LGBTQ+/Trans/Drag)
- Jer 2:13 For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, *and* hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.

All these battles are spiritual in nature, spiritual attacks against the Living God and His people

Learning from the history of Israel, given to us as an example from which to learn (1 Cor 10:6, 11), are all these battles connected/intertwined?

Ezk 22:3-5	Thus saith the Lord GOD, The city sheddeth blood
	(abortion) in the midst of it, that her time may come, and
	maketh idols against herself to defile herself (humanism).
	Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed;
	and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast
	made; and thou hast caused thy days to draw near, and art
	come even unto thy years: therefore have I made thee a
	reproach unto the heathen (the worst of, radical Islam), and
	a mocking to all countries. <i>Those that be</i> near (among
	you), and those that be far from thee, shall mock thee,
	which art infamous (polluted) and much vexed
	("Allah Akbar!", Gen 16:12 and Is 14:12-14 "greater").

- Ezk 7:24 Wherefore I will bring the worst of the heathen (consider the unspeakable, morality-defying atrocities of Hamas in the 10/7/23 invasion of Israel)
- Ezk 36:18 Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land (abortion), and for their idols (humanism) *wherewith* they had polluted it:

At their roots, all of these battles are spiritual conflicts for

- Truth, for right and wrong
- Authority, God's or Satan's
- Is 59:14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.
- Is 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness

Is 55:8-11 For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 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.

John 17:17 John 1:1, 4, 14 John 14:6

Therefore, all these battles are "antichrist" in nature

1 John 2:18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

1 John 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

1 John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that *spirit* of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

And we followers of Jesus Christ are soldiers in all of these battles, both individually and as the Body of Christ

Where does our loyalty lie – with USA or with the Lord Jesus Christ and our Father?

Our loyalty will be tested!

For the Lord's soldiers, remember we are active participants!

Ps 44:5 Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us

"The battle belongs to the Lord." So declared young David

- spoken to Goliath
- just before David ran toward Goliath

As soldiers we must contend for the faith and fight for the Truth and for God's Authority Scoffers abound

But we should not be deterred, distracted, or discouraged

Ezk 2:1-5 applies to us in USA today applies to us in USA today

Acts 20:21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 26:22-25 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come (the Word of God): That Christ should suffer, *and* that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles...the words of truth and soberness.

When we contend for the faith, we should expect a fierce fight for the Truth

Acts 9:16 I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake

Phil 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe

on him, but also to suffer for his sake

Because Matt 10:34, 37

How, then, are we to fight?

v10b-11a How do we fight?

In the strength **of the Lord**In the power of **His** might
Putting on the whole armor **of God**

be...a state of existing, of mind (thoughts) and body (actions)

In the present tense it is "am" or "are"..."I am" or "You are/We are"

strong in the Lord...empowered by God the Holy Spirit

Luke 24:49 I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

We are sent by Jesus and led by the Holy Spirit behind enemy lines on search and rescue missions...to seek and save the lost (Satan's prisoners of war)

and in the power of His might

Rom 8:31 If/Since (the Almighty) God be for us, who can be against us?

The strength to stand with Christ in these individual and Body of Christ battles as soldiers fighting in His army comes from the Lord, particularly in these last days, days like the Days of Noah and the Days of Lot

2 Tim 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous (spiritually fierce) times shall come.

2 Tim 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

The strength to stand with Christ, doubting nothing, and to attack the gates of hell (Matt 16:18) is the strength of God Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth

Zech 4:6 Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

Zech 8:13b fear not, *but* let your hands be strong.

1 John 4:1-4

- 1 Cor 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men (not babies or infants, grow up!), be strong.
- 2 Cor 12:9-10 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.
- 2 Tim 2:1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Since spiritual warfare is individual (hand-to-hand combat) as well as Body of Christ (national/global, long distance fighting), the Lord equips us with the whole armor of God

Next week

- v11b-12 Being strong in the Lord and in the power of His might wearing the whole armor of God, who are we fighting?
 - Satan, the devil
 - Satan's gang, fallen angels/demons

We are equipped for the battles (spiritual warfare) by the Lord, Who is

- a Man of war (Ex 15:3)
- the Keeper of the book of His wars (Num 21:14)

so that in the power of His might we may be able to stand against our spiritual enemies

"may be" able?

Known: The Almighty Creator is able!

He gives us access to His strength, might, and authority

Matt 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils

John 14:12 Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Mark 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils

Acts 16:16-18 I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Unknown: Are we

- available?
- ready?
- willing?
- faith-full vs fear-full?

We are equipped and we are educated; we are not ignorant of Satan and his tricks

- Gen 3:1 hath God said (questioning the Word of God)
- Gen 3:4 Ye shall not surely die (denying the Word of God)
- Gen 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. (twisting the Word of God, adding to the Word of God, lying and deceiving)
- Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.
- 2 Thes 2:9-10 the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders...all deceivableness of unrighteousness

We are given Divine intelligence about the enemy soldiers we are fighting:

• not carnal flesh, not human

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

- 2 Tim 2:24-26 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will (have entered into a covenant of death with the devil).
- 2 Cor 4:3-4 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.
- demonic spirits
 - principalities..."chief" demons, the demonic Joint Chiefs of Staff
 - o powers..."superhuman" (NOT a Marvel comic book!)
 - o rulers of the darkness (death, unbelief) of this world...who will occupy outer darkness in the next world
 - o spiritual wickedness/depravity in the heavens (VERY organized!)
 - City Gov't, State Gov't, Federal Gov't
 - Egypt
 - UN!!!
 - near total pre-occupation with Israel
 - always attacking Israel
 - literally helping Hamas in Gaza
 - a haven of demons
 - Jerusalem is an "international city"
 - HQ on the Mount of Evil Counsel
 - Rev 12:10

So we fight with wisdom, understanding, and faith

Ps 68:1-2 Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him. As smoke is driven away, *so* drive *them* away: as wax melteth before the fire, *so* let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

Ps 68:17 The chariots of God *are* twenty thousand, *even* thousands of angels: the Lord *is* among them, *as in* Sinai, in the holy *place*

Ex 19:16 And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that *was* in the camp trembled.

2 Kings 6:8-18 a spiritual attack, to see what God sees

v19-23 "catch and release"...grace, returning good for evil

evil returns evil for good

2 Chron 20:1-17	a spiritual attack, eyes on God and the Word of God
2 Chron 32:1-8	a spiritual attack, trust God

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

The Lord (we) wins, Satan will flee...but not without a fight! Notice any adverbs modifying "flee" like "immediately"? Consider Matt 17:14-21

2 Cor 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 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;

Toeholds become footholds become strongholds the more we listen to the liar out of fear than we do to the Truth out of faith

- 1 Tim 4:1-2 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron
- 2 Tim 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
- 2 Tim 3:12-13 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution (wrath of Satan). But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.
- 2 Tim 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

Application

This is a very importance passage of Scripture for us in these perilous days like the Days of Noah and the Days of Lot

This world is awash with

- willful ignorance and contempt of the Living God and the Word of God
- deception
- lies
- hypocrisy
- deranged hatred
- seared consciences
- reprobate minds
- evil

Especially in danger in our society: our children and grandchildren, 18-35 year olds
College students standing with Satan's cold-blooded baby-killers, kidnappers of infants
and elderly, rapists, necrophiliacs, and torturers whose way of life is death,
violently standing against common sense, common human decency, and the value
of human life

"The mind is a terrible thing to waste."

Advertising by the United Negro College Fund in the 1970s

Now...a more terrible thing is a wasted mind!

We are doing Facebook advertising directed at 18-35 year olds

The Holy Spirit using the prophet Ezekiel tells us

Ezk 33:11 Say unto them, *As* I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?

Ezk 33:3 blow the trumpet, and warn the people;

So we contend for the faith of Christ!

Fear not!

Trust the Lord and fight!

1 Tim 1:18-19 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; Holding faith, and a good conscience

We must warn those who are opposing themselves by choosing death and darkness! Perhaps some with hear and believe the Gospel and surrender to Life and Light!

Rom 10:13-14 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Few will believe and find the narrow path that leads to life (and Light)
But even one soul saved is well worth getting involved in the spiritual battle...
especially if it is someone you love!

Most will not believe and march on the broad way that leads to destruction (death and darkness)

It is a matter of the heart, a choice of the mind

Acts 28:27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Those whose hearts are darkened and lifted up against the Lord

- are, by their choice of rebellion, the uncircumcised of heart unbelievers, not children of the Living God but children of devil/death/darkness
- will be delivered unto death and hell

Ezk 31:14, 18 Ezk 32:21, 24, 26-27, 29-32

They must be warned!

But, when judgment comes, may they know that a prophet (one speaking the words of God) had been among them (Ezk 33:31-33) because we were willing, ready, and able to fight the good fight of faith!

Next week...spiritual warfare continued