

Battlefield of the Mind

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Luke 4:1-14 NLT

1 Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where he was tempted by the devil for forty days. Jesus ate nothing all that time and became very hungry. 3 Then the devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4 But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone.'" 5 Then the devil took him up and revealed to him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 "I will give you the glory of these kingdoms and authority over them," the devil said, "because they are mine to give to anyone I please. 7 I will give it all to you if you will worship me." 8 Jesus replied, "The Scriptures say, 'You must worship the Lord your God and serve only him.'" 9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! 10 For the Scriptures say, 'He will order his angels to protect and guard you. 11 And they will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'" 12 Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'" 13 When the devil had finished tempting Jesus, he left him until the next opportunity came. 14 Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Reports about him spread quickly through the whole region.

Jesus showed us how to take on the whole armor of God to fight the devil here

Hosea 4:6 NLT

6 My people are being destroyed because they don't know me. Since you priests refuse to know me, I refuse to recognize you as my priests. Since you have forgotten the laws of your God, I will forget to bless your children.

Destroyed summarizes the condition of a person after they lost a conflict

Isaiah 5:13 NLT

13 So my people will go into exile far away because they do not know me. Those who are great and honored will starve, and the common people will die of thirst.

John 8:32 NLT

32 And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Knowing the truth of God's word brings freedom

I Thessalonians 5:8 NKJV

8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.

Paul here had a limited knowledge of Spiritual Armor

Ephesians 6:10-20 NKJV

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 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. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

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, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Paul here had a vast extensive knowledge of Spiritual Armor.

Unenlightened, untaught Christians are easily defeated by our enemy!

A small amount of bible knowledge = a small amount of freedom!

The (Bible) Truth is we as Christians have every tool and very weapon needed to live victoriously throughout life!

Philippians 4:8 NLT

8 And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

We have to locate our thoughts and where they are coming from.

We need to fill our thought life with thoughts that are true, honest, just (i.e. Godly). We do this by filling our life up with the Word of God.

Ways to use our armor against attacks:

- Thought identification:
  - Each thought has life or death attached to it
  - 1 Peter 5:8,9 - "Be sober, be VIGILANT."
  - Vigilant = implies ever on your guard.
  - Eph. 6:10-17 and 2 Cor. 10:3-5 Paul symbolizes war.
- Quench(ing) the approaching thought:
  - Eph. 6:16 - Quench the fiery darts
  - "Quench" means to extinguish
  - Extinguish means to cut off or remove its fuel source
- Final Step: Bring the "foe or bad thought into captivity":
  - 2 Cor. 10:5 - "...bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."
  - We "capture" our bad thoughts by speaking the Word of God over them and against them.