(06.02.2024) 🗻 22th

Today's passage informs us, as we conclude the book of Ephesians, that the life of a Christian is a spiritual battle. The word "finally" in verse 10 indicates that Ephesians is coming to a close. In verse 12, it is explained that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

To achieve victory in spiritual warfare, we must first understand our enemy and the nature of the fight. Verse 12 mentions that it is not against flesh and blood. It describes how behind the visible powers, culture, injustices, and sins of this world, there are evil spirits. The leader of these spirits is the devil, mentioned in verse 11.

The name "devil" or "Satan" means "the one who separates." He seeks to divide us from God, even from ourselves, and from one another. Behind the events that separate people from each other is the work of the devil. Satan's ultimate goal is to distance us from God and His providence by any means necessary.

How can we prepare to overcome such spiritual attacks from the devil and stand rightly as Christians?

First, we must be strong in the Lord (v. 10).

The passage today says there is a place where we must stand to be strong (v. 10). The first secret to victory is to become "strong in the Lord."

We are told that we become strong when we come into the Lord and remain in Him. Coming into the Lord means accepting Jesus. Once you have entered into the Lord, you must abide in Him daily. Through the Word and prayer, we must walk with the Lord, seeking His presence and guidance.

Second, the power of the Holy Spirit must be at work (v. 10).

What we need to overcome the devil in spiritual warfare is the power of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual warfare cannot be won by our strength and efforts alone. Verse 10 says, "Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power." In Ephesians 3:16, God says the source of the strength that fortifies our inner being is the Holy Spirit: "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being."

When the power of the Spirit of life comes upon us, it frees us from the chains of sin and death that bind our hearts, allowing us to live with true peace and power.

Third, we must achieve victory through the Word (v. 17).

God tells us there is a spiritual weapon given to us to win the battle. What is this weapon? Look at verses 13-17. The expression "full armor of God" appears.

Salvation, righteousness, truth, peace, and faith protect us. All these are related to the gospel of Jesus. When we truly believe in Jesus and clearly understand the truth of the gospel, we can stand firm.

There is one weapon of offense mentioned. What is it? The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (v. 17). The Word has power. It has the power to heal and transform our hearts and minds. The Word gives us life and enables us to overcome evil spirits.

Therefore, when we hold the Word in our hands, and we eagerly hear and read God's Word, the Holy Spirit works within us, and the gospel of the cross and resurrection comes alive in us. Then, the evil spirits can never overcome us.

Bīble Memorī -zatīon

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." (Ephesians 6:10-11)

Bīble Readīng

6/3(Mon)	6/4(Tue)	6/5(Wed)	6/6(Thur)	6/7(Fri)	6/8(Sat)	6/9(Sun)
2 Chronides 36, Ezra 1-2	Ezra 3-6	Ezra 7-9	Ezra 10 Nehemiah 1-2	Nehemiah 3-5	Nehemiah 6-8	Nehemiah 9-10

QT

Quiet Time Passage

6/3(Mon)	6/4(Tue)	6/5(Wed)	6/6(Thur)	6/7(Fri)	6/8(Sat)	6/9(Sun)
1 Peter	1 Peter	1 Peter	1 Peter	1 Peter	1 Peter	1 Peter
1:22-2:10	2:11-25	3:1-12	3:13-22	4:1-11	4:12-19	5:1-7

Sharīng Questī*o*ns

1. Please share any new insights or blessings you have received through today's message.

2. Share whether you feel you are living in spiritual warfare, and discuss any personal experiences of spiritual battle.

3. Discuss how you can practically experience and achieve victory in your daily life through the three necessities for winning spiritual warfare mentioned in today's message.