

The Spiritual War in Your Home, Part 15 | the victorious family and the Conquering King

I. Our spiritual weapon works for only one reason . . .

- I Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 6:10-20; II Corinthians 10:3-5
- The Spiritual Weapon exists to help us win against temptation. The only way we could ever overpower temptation from Satan, the World, and the Flesh is God.
 - **Salvation comes from God.** Titus 2:11-14; Ephesians 2:1-10
 - **Prayer is powerful because of God.** I John 5:14-15; Romans 8:26-27; John 17; Luke 22; I John 2:1-2
 - **The Bible has value because it was inspired by God.** Ephesians 6:17; Matthew 4:11
 - **Truth exists and never changes because it's rooted in the character of God.** Psalm 119:160; John 8:31-32; Hebrews 4:11
 - **The Gospel has no meaning outside of God.** There is no new birth, no good news for salvation from sin, no promise of eternal life outside of the promises made by God.
 - **Faith in Truth can only come from God.** Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:16-17
 - **Righteousness is only possible through God.** I Timothy 6:11-16; Galatians 5; John 14:25-31

II. Therefore the ability to defeat the attacks we experience on the Lust of the Flesh, Lust of the Eyes, and the Pride of life are only possible for one reason . . .

- I John 2:16; II Peter 5:8-11
- When we use the Spiritual Weapon as God commands, He not only empowers us to use it, He also is the driving force that makes it so potent against the enemy.

III. Therefore, Satan, the World, and the Flesh are defeated for only one reason . . .

- **The Flesh is defeated because of God.** Galatians 5:16, 24; Romans 8:13; Romans 13:14
- **The World is defeated because of God.** John 12:31-32; John 16:33; I John 5:1-5
- **Satan is defeated because of God.** II Thessalonians 3:3; James 4:7; Matthew 6:18; Ephesians 1:18-23; Revelation 20:10; Romans 8:37-39

Your family will only ever be victorious through the character and love and power and guaranteed victory of the Conquering King of the Universe.

Now, this Truth is a two-edged sword. On one side we have the confidence that when we use the Spiritual Weapon in our lives and our individual family members submit to it and use it in their lives we will all experience spiritual victory. But on the other side, if you're not going to use the Spiritual Weapon the right way, if you're going to cherry-pick God's law, if you're not going to believe His promises, if you're not going to obey His commands . . . there will be no spiritual victory for you or anyone who follows in your footsteps.

We have been warned. We have been promised.

May we trust and obey and teach our children to do the same.

IV. A Final Thought

- Philippians 4:4-14, *“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! 5 Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. 6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”*
- And then verse 7 communicates the expected spiritual victory we will experience because of our obedience: *“7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*
- And then comes another command. This command is so pregnant with meaning because it addresses the very core of our spiritual conflicts. Spiritual Warfare is a battle of the mind. We win the war when we reject lies and embrace Truth. We win the war when we think God’s thoughts after Him. We win the war when we choose to believe Him.
- *“8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, **dwell** [think, reckon, consider, ponder] on these things.”*
- That verse right there is not merely a promise that we will be victorious in our spiritual warfare, it’s actually a command to be victorious. If we’re thinking on those things, we are winning the war, and God is commanding us here to win the war.
- And then God adds another direct command to win. He says through the hand of Paul: *“9 The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, **practice these things.**”*
- To win the Spiritual War is to reject temptation and live righteously. God’s not merely promising us it can be done if we do a bunch of other things, He’s flat out telling us simply to do it.
- And then He ends with another promise of Spiritual Victory, *“and the God of peace will be with you.”*
- Now, most people are familiar with those verses, and they’re familiar with at least one verse from the following passage, but I think too often we don’t appreciate the connection between the two.
- Paul then transitions into a discussion of God’s provision. Paul says, *“Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. 12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.”* It doesn’t matter what physical experiences Paul had, he just outlined how to have victory in every spiritual situation. One of the blessings of spiritual victory is peace — soul rest from God. But another of the blessings is contentment. Biblical contentment is another indicator that we’re experiencing spiritual victory.
- And it’s in this context that Paul says in Philippians 4:13, *“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”*
- I know people quote this passage in various ridiculous contexts. The confident ones quote it before competing in sports. The less confident quote it only after they won.
- And though — yes — God is the one who brings all success into our lives through His grace — this passage is not a promise that I can make a million dollars through Christ. It’s a promise that we can do everything He expects from us. And — more specifically — it’s a promise that we can obey the command to rejoice in the Lord, not be anxious, pray to God about everything, think biblically, obey God’s law, be at peace, and be content.
- Those are the things we can do through Him who strengthens us.
- And — when you think about it — that’s all we have to do.
- God is promising to strengthen us to obey as He commands us to overcome in our spiritual war.