

“THE INVISIBLE WAR”
2 Corinthians 10:1-6

INTRODUCTION

The rest of this letter focuses on the opponents back in Corinth, those who oppose Paul and Jesus. Paul will address their lies and accusations and spend time on his authority. In this he will use some Holy Spirit sarcasm to show how ridiculous their accusations are. The main concern is the church. Every disciple of Jesus needs this strategy. How do you handle people in opposition? The right strategy will help us win. Paul realizes that the conflict is for souls and the truth of Jesus. While the Judaizers are involved, the real enemy is Satan!

SATAN AT WORK

The 2 errors that we make with our understanding of Satan are: 1) that he is *in* everything, or 2) we totally ignore him. There is a balance, however. We must remember that Satan can transform himself into an angel of light, **2 Cor. 11:14**. Earlier Paul wrote that we are not ignorant of his devices, **2 Cor. 2:11**.

One accusation against Paul was that that he was all talk and no action, merely a paper tiger. Paul's strategy was to come in meekness and gentleness. Yes, we live with our old nature, **v. 2, 3**, but we can't successfully fight in the flesh. We must recognize that it is a *spiritual* war. In at least two occasions God speaks past a person, right to Satan, **Ezekiel 28** and **Matthew 16**. We must remember that our personal relationships should be handled in a spiritual way, such as a marriage.

Warfare is *strateia*, or a stronghold, garrison or fortress. Strongholds in the spiritual realm are arguments against the truth or any unbiblical philosophy or system of thought. Examples are Naturalism, Psychology, Hinduism, Buddhism, or Humanism. Humanism says that man is basically good with no need of a savior. With this comes intellectual pride and self-righteousness. However, our whole mindset of reality must bend to Christ and His word.

THE WEAPONS

While we must use our minds, reason and logic, are not enough. We must have Christ-likeness, and meekness, **cf. Prov. 15:1** and **Prov. 25:15**.

According to the scriptures, there are 2 offensive weapons that we can use, **Ephesians 6**. First is the sword of the Spirit, the Bible. Satan is the father of lies. Combat those lies with the truth! God leads us to victory! The Word is sharper than any 2-edged sword! The second weapon is prayer. John Bunyan said, “Pray often because prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God and a scourge to Satan”. There are some great examples in the scriptures of victories that were rather unconventional, but enabled by God, such as Jericho and David with Goliath, **Zech. 4:6**.

CONSIDER

Have you built your walls, your fortification, your own prison? Perhaps you are a prisoner. Jesus came to set the captives free. Why fight God when the real war is against Satan, the enemy of our souls in this *invisible war*? Recognize who the real enemy is. Why not surrender to Jesus!

PRAY.....

- * That the Lord would restore lives through the Veterans Day Assembly.
- * That our evening of Thanksgiving in November would be a true time of worship for our body.