

Battle Strategies for The Last Days

(Luke 14:31) *“What king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?”*

(Eccl 8:8) *“There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.”*

(Eccl 9:18) *“Wisdom is better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good.”*

(Prov 20:18) *“Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.”*

The four attacks of the End Times according to Matthew 24 and 1 Timothy 4 are:

1) Attacks from seducing spirits

-- A Seducing spirit is not just a lustful spirit but a spirit to draw you away from the truth.

2) From doctrines of devils

3) Of spiritual deception and

4) Attacks coming by false teachers

According to Matthew, Luke and The Revelation....

The very atmosphere in the last days will be one of these three:

Great Fear

Great Wrath and

Great Trial.

Along with this horrible atmosphere and environment in the End Time, the Bible tells us that the attitude in the last days will be one of Scoffers according to 2 Peter Chapter 3:

(2 Peter 3:3) *“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts.”*

A SCOFFER is one who mocks and scorns to produce doubt and persecution in the one they are attacking.

(2 Timothy 3:1-5) *“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”*

The army of God in the last days according to Acts Chapter 2 will consist of four kinds of people:

1) Sons and daughters

2) Servants and handmaidens

3) Dreamers and visionaries

4) Prophetic ministries

The first two are of Flesh. The others are of Spirit.

General of the Grecian Empire,
ALEXANDER THE GREAT.

At the age of 20, he began his military campaigns. By the age of 30, he ruled the known world. At age 33, he died in Babylon.

Alexander's army was small but motivated.

He took 40,000 men and took on an army of one million Persians after they had swum across a freezing cold water at night to attack.

In this battle, he lost 500 men, but the Persians lost tens of thousands.

History records Alexander the Great as one of the greatest military leaders in history. He had three main strategies that helped him win wars and rule the world by age 33. They are these concerning his army:

A Light Load.

Fed.

Rested.

A Light Load: The spiritual parallel

2 Timothy 2:4 *“No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”*

Hebrews 12:1 *“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”*

THERE ARE THREE MAIN WEIGHTS TO THIS LIFE THAT PREVENT US FROM PREVAILING IN WAR:

Mark 4:19 *“And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.”*

- a. The cares of this life
- b. The deceitfulness of riches
- c. The lust of things

Fed: The Spiritual Parallel

He fed them well before the journey: (know when it is time to fast and when it is not time to fast)

Jesus fed the multitude after three days.

David ate the shewbread while on the run from Saul.

Jonathan dipped his rod in the honey comb and received strength.

Rested: The Spiritual Parallel

He allowed them plenty of rest

They averaged seven miles in four days. They did not over-extend themselves before a conflict.

Jesus knew to take time aside for rest

(Mark 6:31) *“And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.”*

Jesus would, at times, be alone in prayer

(Matt 14:23) *“And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.”*

In 1 Kings 19 Elijah was completely burned out and even loses the purpose of his life, hiding from Jezebel in a cave.

Every Battle Needs a Strategy

Why we wear down:

(Jeremiah 12:5) *“If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?”*

(Galatians 6:9) *“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”*

(Daniel 7:25) *“The enemy shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High.”*

STRATEGY AGAINST THE DEVIL:

It usually falls within our own:

SELF CONTROL, OBEDIENCE and DISCIPLINE.

The greatest battle is with strongholds, these are things that have taken root in our lives, things that we do, or say or even continually think ... that is evil. Beyond ourselves provoking ourselves to evil works... These Strongholds have to be cast down and cast out.

(2 Corinthians 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.”*

A stronghold is twofold:

1. Inner strongholds that hold your thoughts captive.
2. Outer strongholds that form addictions and bondages in your life.

The words "to fight, wage war, or serve as a soldier" in the New Testament have their root in a word that means:

"an encamped army."

A soldier is called as one who endures hardship for Christ.

The war is against spirits creating strongholds in the heart and the mind. NOT THE PEOPLE.

It begins with a thought, then an imagination, then an obsession and finally a stronghold.

These strongholds exalt themselves against the knowledge of God.

There are FOUR Principles of defeating a stronghold:

1. The Word must be spoken, and not just thought upon.

(Matthew 4:1-11) *“Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy*

city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.”

2. A believer can use personal prophecy as a weapon.

(2 Timothy 2:4) “No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”

3. We must fight with the knowledge of God's will.

(Hebrews 10:36). “For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.”

4. Guard the words from your mouth.

(Proverbs 18:21) “Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.”

(Mark 7:19-22) “Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness.”

THREE proven strategies:

Agreeing

Rebuking and

Resisting

1. The power of Agreement includes:

- * The power of multiplication

(Lev 26:8) *“And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.”*

(Matt 18:19) *“Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.”*

The Greek word for AGREEMENT is where we get our word Symphony.

A symphony is a collaboration of different instruments playing together in harmony. The selected piece of music must be played in the same key.

2. The power of the rebuke

- * Jesus rebuked the wind and the sea.
(Matthew 8:26).
- * Jesus rebuked an epileptic spirit in a child.
(Matthew 17:18).
- * Jesus rebuked a demon in a man in the
synagogue (Luke 4:35).
- * Jesus rebuked a fever in Peter's mother-in-law.
(Luke 4:39).

3. The power of resisting

(James 4:7) says to: *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”*

(1 Peter 5:8-9) *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

The word RESIST here means: to "cause to stand against."

The enemy has certain limitations:

1. He does not know how you will react to the struggle.
2. He does not determine the outcome of the struggle
3. He does not plan the future beyond the struggle.

8 Keys to Being a Good Soldier -

(2 Timothy 2:3) *“Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”*

1. He’s A Follower

2. He Knows His Rank

3. He Follows Orders

4. He is Patient

5. Proper Priorities – Please the Commander

6. He is familiar with His commander’s voice

7. He is familiar with His weapons

8. He is familiar with the strategy of the enemy

(2 Corinthians 2:14) *“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ.”*

This word TRIUMPH is a Roman word that means Supreme in Victory. When the Romans came home in Victory, it was a grand display. This is what Christ sees in us when we overcome.