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Part 2 | **POWERFUL SPIRITUAL WEAPONS**

If you're a believer whose desire is to walk after and serve Christ, **you are in warfare!** (Ephesians 6:12)

Although the flesh may be an outward cause of defeat by enslaving us to its appetites, **our thoughts** are literally the starting point of defeat OR victory. Because Satan knows us, he bombards our minds with thoughts of fear, insecurities, offenses, etc. By allowing these thought patterns, they can develop into behavioral strongholds which are contrary to Biblical truth and the cause of much of our lack of victory. **The question is, who or what will control your mind?**

But there's an answer found in 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, (our spiritual weapons) have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it (willfully) obedient to Christ.

A FEW IMPORTANT SPIRITUAL WEAPONS INCLUDE...

- 1. **Transformed thought life** | Romans 12:1-2
 - Change our thoughts and think the way God thinks as taught in the Word (Isaiah 55:8-9)
- 2. **Submission to God** | James 4:7
 - The initial sin in God's creation was Lucifer's pride and rebellion (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-19). Therefore, by overcoming evil (rebellion) with good (submission) we have the power to resist our enemy!
 - Christ humbled Himself totally, therefore the Father exalted Him totally. (Philippians 2:5-11)
- 3. **Prayer and fasting** | Isaiah 58:6; Mark 9:17-29
 - With the armor of God on, pray all kinds of prayer. (Ephesians 6:18)
 - Prayer outside the walls. (Genesis 13:14-17; Joshua 6)
- 4. **Correct application of the Word** (Rhema) of God as the sword of the Spirit | Ephesians 6:17; Matthew 4:1-11
- 5. **The Name of Jesus** as our authority | Mark 16:17; Philippians 2:5-11

- 6. **Applying the Blood of Christ** | Exodus 12:13; Colossians 2:14-15; Revelation 12:11
 - His Blood has <u>redeemed us</u>: to release by payment of a ransom. (1 Peter 1:18-23; Ephesians 1:7-8)
 - His Blood has <u>reconciled us</u> to God. (2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Colossians 1:19-23)
 - His Blood <u>purifies us</u> from the guilt and effect of sin. (1 John 1:6-10; Hebrews 9:11-14)
 - His Blood has <u>taken away our sins</u>. The devil has *no* basis for his accusation any longer. (Colossians 2:13-15) The Scapegoat in Leviticus 16:8-28.
 - His Blood and our testimony has <u>defeated the enemy</u>. A declaration based upon our knowledge and experience of Him. (Revelation 12:10-11)
- 7. **Praise, worship and thanksgiving** in challenging times | 2 Chronicles 20:20-23; Acts 16:25; 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- 8. A God centered lifestyle | 1 John 2:15-17; 1 Peter 2:11-12
 - This is not to be confused with a religion-centered life (Matthew 23:25; Luke 11:42)
- 9. **Repentance** | 2 Corinthians 7:10
- 10. **Giving** | Malachi 3:10-12
 - And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes,...
- 11. **Unity** | Deuteronomy 32:30; Psalm 133
- 12. **Overcoming evil with good** | Romans 12:21
 - "We become what we fight." Walter Wink, Engaging the Powers (Matthew 26:52)

YOU ARE A MIGHTY WARRIOR!

Just as the Angel told Gideon, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior," the Lord declares to you that YOU are a mighty warrior! By replacing our fear, our old ways, our apathy, inadequacies, etc. with obedience to God's Word (Romans 12:21), we are what God has declared... more than conquerors!

Romans 8:37-39 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.