

Mt. Lebanon Church

Teaching Ministry

5.4.2025

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Spiritual Warfare

2 Corinthians 10: 3 - 6

As believers, the word of God tells us that we live in a world that:

2 Corinthians 4: 7 – 10,....we are troubled on every side....we are perplexed....persecuted, but not forsaken....

False assumptions in the world today claim that faith alone can remove any and all hardships that we might face in life. But we are told in:

James 2: 17,....even so faith, if it hath not works is dead, being alone....

Merely claiming something does not make it the truth, but it is what we do to support that claim, is that which makes our saving grace In Christ Jesus active. Living faith in Christ changes the direction of our life. We are saved only by faith, but if we lack the good works of Christ in our life then we lack that which proves and supports our faith in God, and for this reason we will constantly find our life in a state of spiritual warfare.

So, what is spiritual warfare? It is the concept of fighting against the works of the devil, but sadly, often time, we feel it is fighting against those that are doing the evil works and not against the source of those works. We must learn that we cannot control what happens in the world around us, therefore, our battle is not with them, but the battle begins within our own hearts and minds. For this reason, we must submit to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and not to our own thoughts, which come from the flesh and the lust thereof. We must learn to bring our own self-righteous thoughts into the obedience of Christ and his word, for as believers, we must learn to give these conflicts over to the Lord, so that he may guide us with his Holy Spirit, so that we might fight these battles through prayer, and through the word of God, and not by our own worldly reasoning.

Matthew 7: 1 – 2,....judge not, that ye be not judged....for with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged....it shall be measured to you again....

Now often time, we might believe that is the basis for our faith, but that would be a terrible misinterpretation and misunderstanding. For even though this is will help us in building our life in Christ, following after this commandment, which Christ himself gave unto us, will not save us, therefore we should not use it for the basis of the foundation of our eternal life. It is, however, a commandment that should be evident in the life of all believers, and it should have an impact on every area of our lives, including our actions and our motives concerning all those whom we come in contact with. Our life in Christ should be seen as a living example of the presence of all that is good in Christ Jesus, for the benefit of the saving grace of Christ Jesus, all to the glory of God the Father.

Ephesians 6: 12,....for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places....

Fighting against spiritual warfare always means that we are living our life in the presence of the Lord, so that we might guard our hearts against the iniquity of worldly sinfulness. This disobedience comes when we allow the deceptiveness of the world to live and reign in our hearts, for this will turn us away from God and cause us to separate ourselves in our relationship with him. Through Christ, we will come to the understanding that this battle has already been won through the resurrected Christ.

2 Corinthians 10: 3 – 6,....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 strongholds....casting down every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God....bringing....every thought to the obedience of Christ....when your obedience is fulfilled....

So, let us ask ourselves this question, do we allow our actions to be determined by our reactions to situations and circumstances in our life. Do we act differently when we are faced with difficulties in our life. To avoid this reaction in our spiritual life we are taught to follow the example of Christ, which is, to be the same yesterday, today, and forever. Now with this in mind, we are to be both humble and bold when it comes to speaking of the truth of God's word. Our spiritual warfare is not with one another, but with the works of the devil. Mankind is nothing more than tools in the hands of whom they serve. Therefore, by the works of our faith we confront these worldly beliefs, so that we may be able to give a truthful presentation of the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ which abides within us.

2 Corinthians 10: 3,....though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh....

Therefore, as Christians, let us not become offended when the world around mistakes our Christlike meekness for worldly weakness, for our Christlike meekness shows God's strength that is in control. Those who come to make a showing of great strength, due so because they are in the world, looking for more of the world. These are those who come showing great strength, they are false teachers claiming the authority of God, but they actually have none. Therefore, as believers, we are not to wage war according to the flesh, for this is only driven by sinful desires, and we should never see ourselves as being strong and impressive, but we should see ourselves as those who have Christ working through us.

2 Corinthians 10: 4,....for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God....

If we become careless in our life in Christ, we will find evidence of deceptiveness in our everyday lives and in our spiritual walk. This comes about when we use the gifts that are given unto us by God, through the indwelling Holy Spirit, but we use them for personal gain, and this all starts with petty arguments and quarrels over misunderstandings of the word of God. But through spiritual teachings of the word of God, he will chastise those who have adopted these inappropriate behaviors, bringing us to repentance from our worldly ways, which will to spiritual growth. The only way to confront those whose exalt themselves against the knowledge of truth is to clothe ourselves in Christ, which comes by bringing into captivity, every thought, to the obedience of God's word.

1 Peter 3: 15,....but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear....

We are not to try and frighten or intimidate others, and we are not to be secretive in our message or motives, but we are to boldly share the gospel of Jesus Christ so that others may know that we are trustworthy. We should never be any different in our spiritual conduct, but we should always communicate and conduct ourselves both through words and actions according to the will of God. Through deceptiveness and false teachings Satan will try to keep us from believing in the truthfulness of God's word by waging a spiritual war within our hearts and our minds, which will hinder our obedience to Christ. The word teaches us that if it is materialistic or worldly, then it has no connection to Christ. Spiritual authority that comes from Christ is an authority of Christlike service. Christlike authority will build up, it does not tear down. Therefore, corrections that come through the word of God will never be harmful but will always be for the good of the gospel and to the glory of God.

John 15: 5,....for without me you can do nothing....

Fighting spiritual battles in our life cannot be done of our own power, for nothing that we do of ourselves will have any eternal value. We are to become tools in the hand of God, used for his glory, so that we will have no reason to boast in ourselves, for it is the Lord who will commend those who trust in him, so that we may abide in his blessings throughout all eternity.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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