CHAPTER 12

THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE

"MANY CHILDREN OF GOD HAVE CONTINUED TO BATTLE THE EVIL ONE AND HIS FORCES USING WEAPONS WHICH ARE APART FROM THE WORD OF GOD - WEAPONS THAT ARE CARNAL IN NATURE AND DEVOID OF FAITH"

...."For though we walk (live) in the flesh, we are not carrying on our warfare according to the flesh and using mere human weapons. For the weapons of our warfare are not physical (weapons of flesh and blood), but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds"....

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 Amplified

...."In conclusion, be strong in the Lord - be empowered through your union with Him; draw your strength from Him - that strength which His boundless might provides. Put on God's whole armour - the armour of a heavy-armed soldier, which God supplies - that you may be able successfully to stand up against all the strategies and the deceits of the devil. For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood - contending only with physical opponents - but against the despotisms, against the powers, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere. Therefore put on God's complete armour, that you may be able to resist and stand your ground on the evil day of danger, and having done all the crisis demands, to stand firmly in your place. Stand therefore - hold your ground - having tightened the belt of truth around your loins, and having put on the breastplate of integrity and of moral rectitude and right standing with God and having shod your feet in preparation to face the enemy with the firm-footed stability, the promptness and the readiness produced by the good news of the Gospel of peace. Lift up over all the covering shield of faith upon which you can quench all the flaming missiles of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword the Spirit wields, which is the Word of God. Pray at all times - on every occasion, in every season - in the Spirit with all manner of prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose and perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints. (God's consecrated people)"....

Ephesians 6:10-18 Amplified

It is time for every child of God to come to the "full realization" of who they are in Christ Jesus, and to discover the purpose which the Father has for them in their remaining time on the earth - until the catching away of the Church. For the most part many children of God have continued to battle the Evil One and his forces using "weapons" which are apart from the Word of God - weapons that are carnal in nature and devoid of faith. This is futile of course and is purely a scheme (deception) of the Evil One intended to keep the child of God "neutralized" in their efforts against the domain of darkness. If Satan is able to deceive one into "thinking" that they are accomplishing the will of the Father in their "prayer-life" when, in reality, they are on a path which will end in some form of trap for themselves - then the Evil One will never suffer any harm to his strongholds, and sad to say, will even be able to use the "good", but mis-guided intentions of that one to further his vile attacks on the children of God, and to hinder the furthering of the Kingdom of God in the earth.

"EVERY CHILD OF GOD MUST HAVE A REVELATION OF THE FACT THAT EVERYTHING WITHIN THE WORLD SYSTEM OF THE EVIL ONE IS A COUNTERFEIT OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD - AND HIS METHODS OF DOING THINGS!"

It is for this reason that we must draw near to our Heavenly Father and come to abide in His Word - for it is only through intimate fellowship with Him that we will be able to discern all that Satan attempts to hinder and destroy us with. Let us make no mistake! It is his vile intention is to put each Christian walking this earth out of "commission" - for literally our "commission" is to destroy the works of Satan in this earth (1 John 3:8). In other words, we, as children of God are called to break down and remove every trace of the product of the law of sin and death which is the manifestation of the evil that came into this earth when Adam fell. As each believer continually operates in the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:2) they, by the power of the Greater One within them (the Holy Spirit) will drive out the forces of death at every turn. For too long many children of God have remained in a form of "heart-fellowship" with the world and its ways - thus remaining under bondage, without realizing it, to a system whose author is Satan himself! Every child of God must have a "revelation" of the fact that "everything" within the "world system" of the Evil One is a counterfeit of the Kingdom of God and His methods of doing things! Many believers continue to ignore what the Father has said about His children "remaining by choice" in the world system but it is written:

...."you adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God"....

James 4:4

"WE MUST BEGIN - WITH A HOLY VIOLENCE - TO SHATTER THE LIES THAT HAVE BECOME DOCTRINE AND TRADITION IN MANY PARTS OF THE CHURCH!"

Many children of God have been deceived into thinking that certain parts of the "world system" (that which is bound and held by the spirit of anti-christ) are acceptable to operate in, but as that system continues to perish more rapidly with each passing day the Christian who ignores God's provision for their prosperity (spirit, soul, body and financially) will surely lose all that they have "staked" in a system which is geared to fail (only Love - and all thereof - NEVER fails), and is run by the "king of failure". The reason why Satan guards his money system so vehemently and continually attempts to fuel the "love of money" in the heart of the true believer is due to the fact that he must keep a tight grip on the finances of the Christian in order to maintain his strongholds. This keeps them in a form of "relative poverty" - a poverty and lack which prevents them from pouring out resources for the spread of the "Gospel of the Kingdom". Now is the time for every Christian to realize that we were not meant to live in this earth outside of or apart from our Father's Word - which is the fulness of our provison! We must begin - with a holy violence - to shatter the lies that have become doctrine and tradition in many parts of the church - at all cost to ourselves! This is most certainly part of our "warfare" and we will indeed need to be found operating in the fulness of our wondrous provision in Cbrist at ALL times in order to overcome on all fronts in these most critical days!

"AS THE CHILD OF GOD'S EYES ARE OPENED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT THEY WILL WONDER IN AMAZEMENT AS THEY SEE THE EVIL ONE IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT JESUS DID TO HIM AT CALVARY WHEN HE STRIPPED HIM OF HIS AUTHORITY!"

In Isaiah 14:16 the Word of God - in speaking of the total demise of the Evil One - states:

...."those who see you (Satan) will gaze at you. They will ponder over you stating "is this the man who made the earth tremble" who shook kingdoms, who made the world like a wilderness and overthrew its cities, who did not allow his prisoners to go home?"....

As the child of God's eyes are opened by the Spirit of God they will wonder in amazement as they see the Evil One in the light of what Jesus did to him at Calvary when He stripped him of everything he had. One of the main problems in the midst of God's people has been that many children of God are still "allowing" themselves to remain in bondage to a spirit of fear simply because they have chosen to remain in the "domain" (the world) of the Evil One where fear only breeds more fear, lust only breeds more lust, darkness only breeds more darkness etc. Quite simply, if the child of God chooses to "fellowship" with the world and its darkness, fear (self-agenda and self-desire) will be the root motivation for ALL that proceeds forth from them and, thus they will not be able to bear ANY good fruit for the Kingdom! The reality behind their situation being that although this "path of fear" may seem proper - its end is the way of death (Proverbs 14:12) (Galatians 6:7-8)!

"MANY OF GOD'S CHILDREN HAVE LEFT THEMSELVES NEARLY UNPROTECTED BECAUSE THEY HAVE MADE THEMSELVES STRANGERS TO THE COVENANTS OF PROMISE FOUND IN THE WORD OF GOD (Ephesians 2:12)"

On the other hand as the child of God forsakes all that is of this world and turns their "undivided attention" to the Word of God, they will begin to bear a maximum fruit - which is the perfect result of a life based on an absolute faith in God's Word (Romans 10:17). And, thus, all that they do will be a product of sowing to the Spirit, which in turn will reap the absolute life which is the true birthright of every child of God. The time has come for every one who would call themselves a "Christian", to put aside all of the lies and traditions which have hindered the Church for so long, and begin to meditate in the Word of God night and day (Joshua 1:5-8)! For the time has come to "pick up" the sword of the Spirit and the shield of faith and step out boldly against Satan and his forces in order that we might hasten the return of our beloved Lord.

"THEY HAVE MADE THEMSELVES STRANGERS TO THE COVENANTS OF PROMISE"

As Satan lashes out violently in this last hour many of God's children have left themselves nearly "unprotected" because they have "made themselves" strangers to the covenants of promise found in the Word of God (Ephesians 2:12). In spite of the fact that they have been born-again they have - by an act of their wills - refused the "fulness" of the wondrous birthright and inheritance that they have in Christ Jesus and because of this the Father is left on the outside looking in as Satan begins to move radically against His rebellious children. This word which He gave to me will clarify this whole area which is of great concern to our loving Father.

Thus saith the Lord God:

"The time for playing at Church is over! My children must realize the seriousness of their calling. Many of My children still stubbornly refuse to yield to the voice of My Spirit and because of this they shall "allow" themselves to suffer great harm at the hands of the Evil One. There is not one of My children anywhere in the earth who, in the last few months, has not in some form, heard the urgent call to draw nearer to Me. Am I not a just God? Would I allow the Evil One to gain an advantage on My precious ones in any way - apart from their own will? Truly, truly I say to you NO! Is My covenant, which was ratified by the precious Blood of My dear Son, of no avail to My children? It grieves My heart deeply to see those whom I have loved from the foundations of the earth, make themselves strangers to the covenants of promise. For what earthly father, having made provision for all the needs of his children only to watch them carelessly and recklessly wander outside the boundaries of his provision, would not suffer the deepest sorrow of heart. For in his heart he knows that there is no way to survive (overcome) for his children in the place they have chosen to remain? Truly, truly, I say to you My day has come, the time of times, the age of ages and blessed are those who will harken to the voice of My Spirit - for they shall see My Glory."

Amen

"HOW OFTEN OUR HEAVENLY FATHER IS BLAMED FOR THE WORKS OF THE EVIL ONE!"

How often our Heavenly Father is blamed for the works of the Evil One even by some of His own children - this "atrocity" being the result of their ignorance of His Word and their lack of fellowship with Him. Thus, they - in their "unbelief (rebelliousness)" many times attribute the deeds of destruction, theft and death to the One that so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son to deliver us from the domain of darkness and to translate us into the Kingdom of His dear Son (Colossians 1:13). The time has come for the lies and doctrines of devils to stop circulating freely in the church!

"FOR CENTURIES THE EVIL ONE HAS BUILT HIS SCHEMES INTO THE CHURCH LIKE A CANCER WHICH EATS AWAY THE LIFE OF EACH CELL UNTIL THE PHYSICAL BODY IS NO LONGER ABLE TO FUNCTION!"

In this last hour - as the spotless and unblemished Church is made ready for the return of the Lord Jesus - everything that is not in "complete accordance" with the Word of God (as revealed by the Spirit of God) shall become evident and be exposed as a "lie". For centuries the Evil One has built his schemes into the church like a cancer which eats away the life of each cell until the physical body is no longer able to function. Because many (who should know better) have remained in agreement with the lies of the Evil One - instead of being in agreement with the revealed Word of God and taking that Word as their sole and final authority - the church at large "appears" to be in an almost "deathly" state!

The Lord gave me a vision concerning this:

In it I saw a giant Gulliver-like figure lying on the ground and he appeared to be asleep. He was tied down with a network of ropes. But all around him were little men and women and they kept jabbing the ropes and the different parts of the body with the swords which were in their hands. Finally the figure arose to its feet and even though it had appeared to be in a deathly state, it began to walk, slowly at first, then it broke into a run at an ever-increasing pace.

INTERPRETATION:

The giant figure, of course, is representative of the Body of Christ which for so long has been bound (the ropes) by the traditions and doctrines of men and devils. The "little" men and women are those in the five-fold ministry who have persevered in their putting forth of the uncompromised Word - in spite of the intense persecution which came against them through many years. Their persistence finally paid off as the people (the body) began to harken to the anointed Word, and as more and more believers put the Word of God in its "rightful position" in their lives the Body of Christ began to move - due to a new infusion of life and light. Even though it seemed like a slow pace at first - by the power of the Holy Spirit abiding within - the pace picked up considerably as believers consecrated themselves wholly unto God. Ultimately, the "giant" was running at a supernatural pace - a pace indicative of the power and the glory of the Glorious Church and the spiritual acceleration of all things at the end of the age (Church dispensation).

"WHAT IS SO VERY TRAGIC IS THE FACT THAT SOME OF GOD'S OWN CHILDREN REMAIN ENSLAVED BY THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH"

After Jesus defeated Satan and made an open show of him (Colossians 2:15) He turned and said to His disciples in Matthew 28:18:

...."All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations"....

Jesus said also in Luke 10:19:

...."I have given you the authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy"....

From these words of our beloved Lord, we are able to see how little we have been obedient to His command to take authority over "all" the works of the Evil One, and to set the captives free from the yoke of bondage he has placed them under. God intended for the Church to take the Gospel (of the Kingdom) to every creature that they might receive the truth and enter fully into the Kingdom of God. This is indeed happening to a certain degree, but what is so very tragic is the fact that some of God's own children remain enslaved by the law of sin and death and are kept in bondage to some degree by sickness or lack - when all along they have been redeemed at the Cross from "all" the effects of Adam's fall. This continued lack of faith in many of God's children has caused the church to be seen - for the most part - as ineffectual and weak in the eyes of the world rather than who they really are in Christ! This MUST - and shall - change! Every child of God must come to a full and deep realization that they have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out Abba! Father! For indeed the Spirit of God Himself will bear witness with our spirit that we are the children of God!

"IT IS TIME FOR EVERY CHILD OF GOD TO REPENT BEFORE THEIR HEAVENLY FATHER"

Having come to the realization that we are indeed sons and daughters of God we will then begin to seek to develop our relationship with our Heavenly Father. He is a loving Father who strongly desires for each of His precious children to know Him and to understand His ways. As one gains a continually deeper revelation of the Father's love and goodness they will soon come to the understanding that it is Satan who is their sole (soul) enemy and they will take the authority they have been given in Christ Jesus and embark on the path of the Father's perfect will for their life and ministry - exposing and destroying all that is of the Evil One in their path. It is time for every child of God to repent before their Heavenly Father - regardless of where they "think" they stand in their relationship with Him - because for the most part we have walked far below His "best".

"ALL OF THE YEARS APART FROM THE LIVING WORD OF GOD HAVE PRODUCED MASSES OF "BELIEVERS" WHO HAVE ALL OF THEIR FAITH BASED UPON THEMSELVES"

For years those who have come up through denominational circles have, for the most part, become bound by a group of rules and regulations and "creeds" that to the carnal mind appear quite morally acceptable. On the surface this may appear so - but all of the years apart from the living Word of God have produced masses of believers who have all their faith, (apart from the receiving of the New Birth) based upon themselves, or just as wrongly, based on tradition, opinions and doctrines which have proceeded from the minds of men rather than the Spirit of God. Thus, when adverse circumstances come they do not know how to receive from God through the exercising of divine faith for they have become strangers to the covenants of promise and Satan is then able to attack them openly!

"THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE CONFLICT OF THE AGES TO INTENSIFY!"

There is a great need for the uncompromised Word to be put forth from the pulpits of our land by men and women who are anointed of God to do so. For it is only then that we, as a Body, will begin to accomplish perfectly the Great Commission we have been given by our Lord - to preach the Gospel to every creature and to set the captives free. The time has come for the conflict of the ages to intensify and we, as the sons and daughters of Almighty God must come to the "full realization" that we are more than conquerors through Christ Jesus in all that we say and do in obedience (Romans 8:27)!

"IN KNOWING THAT THEY ARE A JOINT-HEIR WITH JESUS THEY WILL SURELY TREAD UPON THE EVIL ONE AT EVERY TURN!"

It is written in Malachi 3:16-4:3:

...."Then those who fear (revere) the Lord spoke to one another and the Lord gave attention and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear (revere) the Lord and who esteem His name. "And they will be mine" says the Lord of Hosts, "on the day that I prepare My own possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him". So you will again distinguish between the righteous and the wicked between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him. For behold the day is coming, burning like a furnace, and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze, says the Lord of Hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. "But for you who fear (revere) My name the Son of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall. And you will tread down the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day which I am preparing", says the Lord of Hosts"....

In this passage the prophet Malachi, by the Spirit of God, explains clearly the judgement of God upon His people (both the obedient and the rebellious) in this last hour. He speaks of an absolute judgement and "refining process" that will ultimately manifest in the spotless and unblemished Bride of Christ. It is indeed the time for every child of God to fix their eyes on Jesus, the author and developer of faith and run the true race set out for them! As the Word of God is put first place in the life of the believer they will begin to handle accurately the sword of the Spirit - which is the Word of God - and they will be able to withstand ANY attack of Satan and his forces. The one who has put the Word first in their life and ministry will surely gain a deep and abiding revelation of their authority in Christ and in knowing that they are a "joint-heir" with Jesus they will surely tread upon the Evil One at EVERY turn!

"SATAN AND HIS FORCES WILL HAVE A DIRECT INROAD INTO THEIR LIFE"

Every believer must come to a deep realization of the fact that "God is not mocked and that whatever a man sows that he will also reap". If the child of God continues to willfully ignore the Word of God and sow exclusively to the "flesh" THEN Satan will have a "direct inroad" into their life - an inroad that will constantly cause trouble and turmoil in their circumstances. The one who remains in wilful ignorance and rebellion will eventually - due to the hardness of their heart - become defenseless and unable to "lift up" the weapons of their warfare because of a weak faith!

"MANY CHILDREN OF GOD CONTINUE TO DIRECT THEIR ENERGIES AGAINST THE VESSEL (INSTRUMENT) WHICH SATAN IS USING AGAINST THEM RATHER THAN AT SATAN AND HIS DEMON SPIRITS"

Another serious problem which must be remedied immediately in the church is that many children of God continue to wage war against "flesh and blood" rather than against the Evil One.

In Ephesians 6:12 the apostle Paul writes:

...."For our struggle is not against flesh and blood"....

and he goes on to explain who our struggle is against (that being the Evil One and all his forces). Many children of God continue to direct their energies against the "vessel" (instrument) which Satan is using against them rather than at Satan and his demon spirits. This is precisely what the Evil One is aiming for because he will suffer no harm (or even resistance) unless the believer begins to speak the Word of God into the situation - in the power of an absolute faith. This accomplishes two things: first, it will force Satan and his minions to flee before the anointing of the Holy Spirit - which is on the words spoken - and, two, the words spoken in love will enter into the heart of the one being used by Satan and accomplish in them all that God intended in that particular "confrontation". If their heart is truly towards the fulfillment of God's will then, ultimately, they will be set free from the fear which had previously controlled them (and caused them to be used by Satan in the first place) and in their new found freedom they shall be led into the place wherein they are a "fit vessel" for the purposes of God (Isaiah 55:11).

"BECAUSE OF THEIR FEARLESSNESS SATAN HAS NO GROUND TO MOUNT AN OFFENSIVE NOR WILL HE HAVE ANY DEFENSE AGAINST THEM"

As the child of God learns the ins and outs of spiritual warfare they will quickly acknowledge the fact that everything that they are called to do in their walk on this earth must be based on faith exercised in the Word of God! Very few children of God have the desired revelation needed concerning the importance of God's Word in relation to their very existence in this earth! Gaining this revelation is without a doubt the key to total and complete victory over Satan in this last hour - for he is terrified of the Word of God and he is terrified of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, as one does (in obedience to the Spirit) the things necessary to become both filled with the Spirit of God and filled with His Word they will become the mighty warriors they are called to be - in Christ. Satan is in real trouble when he comes up against the child of God who has revealed knowledge of their absolute authority over him in Christ because those who have this knowledge deeply embedded in their heart will SURELY wield the sword of the Spirit continually. Because of their "fearlessness" Satan has no ground to mount an offensive nor will he have any defense against them - and thus victory for the child of God will ensue on an ongoing basis.

"THE TIME HAS COME FOR EVERY BELIEVER TO BE FILLED AND CONSUMED (POSSESSED) BY THE HOLY SPIRIT"

The time has come for EVERY believer to be filled and consumed (possessed) by the Holy Spirit - in order that EVERY work done in the name of Jesus is done in the power of the anointing of God! Those who refuse to acknowledge the Spirit of God in their lives - by not yielding to Him - will not recognize or be able to discern the tremendous signs and wonders wrought at the hands of those children of God who have yielded themselves wholly unto Him in this last hour. As the children of God abide in His Word their mind will be renewed to the Father's way of thinking and His way of doing things, and there will no longer be any "strangeness" in the things of the supernatural to those who have given the Word of God His rightful place in their lives. As we venture out and come against the Evil One's strongholds it is of the utmost importance for each of us to be aware that the Greater One resides within us (1 John 4:4), and as our hearts are filled with the Word of God we will be able to not only resist Satan in all that he does, but we shall keep him continually fleeing before us.

"OUR GRASPING, BY FAITH, THAT WE ARE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN CHRIST (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21) IS THE KEY TO THE FINAL OVERTHROW OF SATAN IN OUR LIVES"

Again, how important it is for EVERY child of God to realize that:

"The place of God's Word in our lives is the place God has and that the same honour and respect we give to the Word of God, we give to God. We do not love God more than we love His Word. We do not honour God more than we honour His Word. We do not obey God more than we obey His Word and that the final test of our relationship to God is our relationship to His Word for our attitude towards the Word of God is our attitude towards God."

We must also realize the fact that our grasping, by faith, that we are the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21) is the key to the final overthrow of Satan in our lives! For once the child of God realizes who they are in Christ Jesus the Evil One will be no match for them. In their faithfulness the child of God will have no desire to separate themselves from the Word of God or the Spirit of God and thus, they will meet every spiritual foe in the very presence and power of Jesus. They will confront Satan with the revealed knowledge in their heart that they have God Almighty living within them - and so possessing Him, that the battle is no longer theirs but God's and the enemy, from the beginning, understands that he has challenged, not a poor unequal man, but his own Almighty conqueror, the Son of God!

"WE MUST OPERATE IN FAITH!"

In 2 Timothy 2:4 it is written:

...."No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier"....

If we would truly be found pleasing the One Who enlisted us we must operate in faith, and if we would operate in faith we must put God's Word first and foremost in our lives - for faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Satan is no match for those whose hearts and minds are firmly established in the Word of God and now is the time for every true believer to build their firm foundation upon the Rock of revealed knowledge. For SURELY the Gates of Hell will not overpower those whose heart is filled with a superabundance of revelation knowledge - a deep knowledge of God's Word which has been revealed to them by the Holy Spirit.

"WE MUST TAKE UP THE WEAPONS WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN IN CHRIST"

In Hosea 8:1 it is written:

...."Put the trumpet to your lips! Like an eagle the enemy comes against the House of the Lord because they have transgressed My covenant and rebelled against My law (word)"....

We see from this passage that the only way that the Evil One is able to come against us (legally and successfully) is if we either make ourselves strangers to the covenants of promise or willfully rebel against the Word of our Heavenly Father. Therefore we must take up the weapons we have been given, the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the helmet of salvation, the mighty sword of the Spirit, the shield of faith and we must shod our feet with the preparation of the Gospel of peace. We must be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might putting on the full armour of God, that we may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the Evil One, realizing fully that our battle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. We must realize that our Heavenly Father did not give to us a spirit of fear but rather a Spirit of power and of love and of a sound mind. He has provided for us in such a Way that we might more than meet the onslaught of the enemy, but we must abide in His Word and obey His commandments - without exception - for in doing so, the Evil One will find nothing in us from which to come against us and we will

indeed be more than conquerors in all that we are given to do, and many captives throughout the land will SURELY be set free.

Amen