

## Call to Duty – Spiritual Warfare – 7

### Ephesians 6:11-17

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 **praying always with all prayer** and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints NKJV

- The belt holds everything together
- The breastplate protects your heart
- The shoes protect you feet
- The helmet protects your head
- The shield protects your whole being
- The sword is for attacking
- The sword of the Spirit is the word of God
- It is one of two offensive weapons
  - Praying in the Spirit can also be an offensive weapon

Praying in the Spirit consistently will build you up  
It will bring courage, faith, spiritual stamina,  
encouragement

It will give revelation of things to pray  
Praying in tongues also helps us to wait while waiting for  
the manifestation of what we are praying for  
It will help to build up our faith

### Jude 20-21

20 But you, beloved, **building yourselves up** on your most  
holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in  
the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus  
Christ unto eternal life. NKJV

- Remember it is “the faith”
- Its something built on the revelation of the love of  
God

### Psalm 141:3

3 Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;  
Keep watch over the door of my lips. NKJV

- When we open our mouth and pray the word and pray  
in the Spirit our body begins to be repaired from the  
inside out
- You cleanse with water
- Our body is cleansed with living water
- The more we pray the more debris is flushed out

## Key Battle strategies in the last days

### Luke 14:31-32

31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. NKJV

- The enemy has a bombardment of strategies against us
- It is prudent for us to understand these strategies and prepare and prepare for battle

## Seducing spirits and doctrines of devils

### 1 Timothy 4:1

1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons. NKJV

- All doctrine should be supported by the word
- Not just one scripture taken out of context
- KJV – Seducing – lure away

## Spiritual deception and false prophets

### Matthew 24:4, 11

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you

11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. NKJV

Widespread offenses causing friends to turn against one another

**Matthew 24:10-12 NKJV**

10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

- The body of Christ is so fractured and wounded

A widespread spirit of fear

**Luke 21:26**

26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. NKJV

- Fear for health – fear for protection – terrorism

Great tribulation

**Matthew 24:21-22**

21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. NKJV

Mockers and scoffers

**2 Peter 3:3-4**

3 knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." NKJV

The Church must choose to have a form of godliness or be a fire and a flame

### 2 Timothy 3:1-5

1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of **godliness** but denying its **power**. And from such people turn away! NKJV

God never leaves a generation without a war strategy and weapons to win the moral, spiritual and even political conflicts of their time

Our message today needs to be the same message that Jesus and the early church carried. One of deliverance from sin, sickness and death. Our spiritual weapons bring the satanic armies into captivity to the name of Jesus and His word.

The prophet Joel prophesied about the army of the Lord in the last days

### Joel 2:28-29 (Acts 2:17-19)

28 "And it shall come to pass afterward that I **will pour out My Spirit on all flesh**; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. 29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. NKJV

The army of the lord in these last days consists of...

- Sons and daughters – inheritance
- Servants and maidservants – serving each other
- Dreamers and visionaries
  - dreaming and stepping out in faith
- Prophetic ministry – speaking life into others

Am I willing to serve in any part of the world?

Do I desire supernatural dreams and visions from the Lord?

Do I desire to hear from God with a present truth for direction today and a prophetic truth for direction tomorrow?

1 Corinthians 12:20 NKJV

20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.

- Say God needs me!

We must train for battle if we are going to win the war

1 Timothy 4:7-8 NKJV

7 But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. 8 For bodily **exercise** profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

In the Greek gym each man trained with the intent of winning the particular contest he was engaged in  
Paul said in **Ephesians 6:12** we “wrestle”

3 things that make wrestling different than other competitions

You are face to face with your opponent – never turn your back

Always watch and make eye contact – so you're not caught off guard

It's the only sport in which you never lose physical contact with your opponent

Face to face – eye to eye – body to body

I remember wrestling....

Train – Train – Train, Sweat – Sweat – Sweat

3 – 2 minute periods – all out – **Jeremiah 12:5** “footmen”

They would use special oils so the enemy couldn't get a grip on them

In the Bible, Oil represents the Spirit of God

When we are full of the Holy Spirit we are “slippery” to our spiritual opponent

**John 14:30**

30 I will not talk with you much more, for the prince (evil genius, ruler) of the world is coming. And he has no claim on Me. [He has nothing in common with Me; there is nothing in Me that belongs to him, and he has no power over Me.] AMP

- Satan had nothing to hold on to in Jesus' life
- We should not allow him anything to hold on to

We are in the thick of the battle now but when Christ returns there will be a victory celebration as in the days of old – a Triumph

The victors wore royal robes and gold tunics while riding in chariots pulled by horses

They were also surrounded by victorious soldiers

**Revelation 19:14**

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. NKJV

They wore crowns of victory

**Revelation 19:12**

12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. NKJV

**Revelation 3:11 NKJV**

Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

They painted their faces red

**2 Thessalonians 1:8 (The Lord at His return)**

8 in flaming fire taking vengeance. NKJV

They held scepters

**Revelation 19:15 NKJV**

And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron.

They paraded the enemy around in chains

**Revelation 20:1 NKJV**

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand

The victors received the spoils of war

**Revelation 5:10 NKJV**

10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."