

SECOND PART AND CONTINUATION OF PREACHING OF A FEW WEEKS AGO, 'Ours is a Spiritual Battle'

AS AN INTRODUCTION

we are in a constant battle on a daily basis to overcome our enemy the devil and we cannot afford not to be prepared and fight back. We, Christians are the front-line troops or infantry who come into close-quarter hand to hand combat with the enemy.

- WE ARE FIGHTING OUR OWN SELVES (OUR SINFUL NATURE WHICH HAS A PREDISPOSITION TO SIN).

Jesus mentioned this himself in Mk.7:20-23.

“And he said, “That which comes out of the man is what defiles 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, and foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.”

- WE ARE FIGHTING THE ENEMY WHO CAN DIRECTLY ATTACK US AS IN:

1 Cor. 7:5, Paul writes of Satan tempting Christian husbands and wives with sexual temptations. He does not say how he tempts them. As we have seen, it is not internally, but externally. Satan is behind a sexually charged unbelieving world around us and the flesh has desires within us.

- WE ARE FIGHTING PEOPLE IN THE WORLD (UNBELIEVERS) AND PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO BE CHRISTIANS BUT IN ACTUAL FACT ARE CARNAL CHRISTIANS AND JOHN WARNS US.

1 Jn.2:15-17

“Do not love the world nor the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

HE ALSO USES FALSE TEACHERS AND PROPHETS TO TRY AND DECEIVE US AS IN.

2 Cor.11:2-4

The Corinthians had allowed people to rise up in their church who were preaching false doctrine about Jesus Christ. These individuals claimed to be apostles of Jesus Christ and claimed that Paul was in fact, not a true apostle and therefore had no authority to preach the doctrine he had preached to them.

THE ENEMY IS INDEED FORMIDABLE AND HE IS ALL AROUND AND WITHIN BUT AND THIS IS A BIG BUT,

WE HAVE THE TOOLS TO BATTLE THE ENEMY.

WE SAW THE FULL ARMOUR OF THE CHRISTIAN IN EPHESIANS 6:10-18

LESSON 4 – FOCUS ON THE BASICS

- Know what is in the manual (the Bible the sword of the spirit) – ARMOUR PIECE
- Repetition is critical
- Only move to the next level after the basics are mastered otherwise you do not succeed in the battlefield
- Increase your knowledge and excel in your knowledge of God in your life

BIBLICAL BASICS

- **Know the 'Word'** (read Bible every day or at least make an effort to)
- **Have a routine prayer life** (committed Christians pray every day. There is no bad place to pray)
- **Fellowship with others** (As one man strengtheneth another the Bible says)

Proverbs 27:17

New International Version

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Be a witness (win others for Christ as per the GREAT COMMISSION) and make disciples of all nations (**the sandal of Gospel witnessing**) –
ARMOUR PIECE

- **Learn by reading and listening**

Read also scholarly articles, books to walk up to the next level in your walk with the Lord. Not enough to read the Bible but also read commentaries that explain it and put it in context, always accompanied by your personal Bible. You do not want to go to a false tangent. So be careful what you are reading and who you are reading.

Use the primary analysis of Bible study to put things in context. These are:

- What is the subject?
- Who is talking in the scripture being studied?
- Who is being addressed?,
- When was this spoken? (e.g., during Egyptian Exile or during Babylonian Captivity) and
- Are there other scriptures that confirm what is being said? (I.E., let Scripture interpret Scripture)

LESSON 5 – NEVER TRUST A COWARD

- Go in to battle with reliable soldiers
- Cowards will always fail
- Courage comes with a transcendent cause
- Know how to identify courage
- Physical courage

- Moral courage

There are people who are very unassuming but in the right circumstances, they rise to the occasion and they do incredible and extraordinary things.

Example from the Holocaust

During the holocaust some Jewish leaders in concentrations camps were **object failures and they were cowards** and they would do anything to save their own lives or get something extra. **In their stead unassuming and quiet individuals who nobody paid attention to, rose up in that concentration camp and they became great heroes.** They became leaders and they sacrificed for others and others knew that they cared. The respected leaders had failed and these came out from obscurity and were the real heroes.

Christian Cowardice and Cowards

- The Churches are full of them
- Many Pastors are living in fear
- Many Christians do not stand for their faith
- Many Christians do not defend other Christians
- Cowards are the first to be cast into hell

For instance In the US, Pastors are threatened that they will lose their tax-exempt status (in violation of the tax code) if they preach about politics.

So you will find those keep mum as they are afraid to offend someone and lose tax benefits. We should speak out as to who people should vote for from a Biblical perspective. Do not be afraid that people walk out

LESSON 6 – USE YOUR ARTILLERY (INTERCESSORY PRAYERS OF AGREEMENT)

They are your back-up. They came in between you and the enemy and they fight for you. So you can do what you have to do. Surround your Ministry with intercessors.

1 Timothy 2:1

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,

Romans 8:26

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Matthew 18:19-20

Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

LESSON 7 –FITNESS IS THE KEY (routine fitness)

Fit for combat and the rigours and the tiring things you have to do as an infantryman

- **It means that as Christians we need to exercise our spiritual gifts.** If you have a gift of prophecy and you do not have the confidence to speak to people with prophetic utterances, seek the Lord!

- **Spend time rejoicing in the presence of the Lord.** How often do we thank Him. We should be anxious to thank the Lord for answering our prayer.
- **Sit and Listen.** Meditate and contemplate for the still small voice. So much time focused on what we pray that we do not listen enough to the Lord.

Psalms 46:10, Be still and know that I am God....

LESSON 8 – COMMANDER’S INTENT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD AND OUR PRAYERS MUST BE TARGETED

Example from battle

‘My objectives for this operation are to destroy the enemy on Hill 105 and to consolidate on the south side of that hill. I want to do that by fire and manouvre. First unit to the top of the hill.....’

The objectives need to be understood by everyman on the ground. If communication is lost, every soldier needs to know what to do and they ultimately just do what they think is right because they understand what the Commander wants.

Arm Yourself With Prayer Nobody Can Take Away

When you pray your way into the realm

of the eagles, you become a DIVINE champion.

In superstitious cultures, some people might

think you're a "witch".

This happened to the Apostle Paul when he was shipwrecked in Malta in Acts 28:3-6:

"As Paul gathered an armful of sticks and was laying them on the fire, a poisonous snake, driven out by the heat, bit him on the hand.

The people of the island saw it hanging from his hand and said to each other, "A murderer, no doubt!

Though he escaped the sea, justice will not permit him to live."

But Paul shook off the snake into the fire and was unharmed.

The people waited for him to swell up or suddenly drop dead.

But when they had waited a long time and saw that he wasn't harmed, they changed their minds and decided he was a god."

We, Maltese should have been taught the lesson from the Apostle that we are overcomers and most importantly on the move!

Do you want to join them?

Please take this prayer:

Every satanic audience gathered for my downfall, be scattered unto desolation in Jesus name.

There are big bad bullies parading the spirit realm right now.

There are goliath bullies (oppressors from your ancestral lineage).

There are Pharaohs... and Herods.

They want you to crawl on your hands and knees over miles of broken glass just to put food on the table...

They want you to SUFFER the trials of the damned...

(debt, divorce, delay, dream attacks, stagnancy, joblessness, sickness, barrenness, addictions, poverty, so-called incurable diseases, failure at the edge of breakthrough, rejection).

Ultimately they want to drag you to hellfire, kicking and screaming.

But if the LORD has "trained" your hands to war and your fingers to fight...

You do NOT need to fear them.

You do NOT settle for the mediocre.

Prayer eagles will accomplish things that no one has accomplished before.

Get ready to SHOCK your enemies.

Leapfrog over the pack.

Be An Overcomer

Nothing happens in the spirit realm until someone prays.

What is God's intent for you?

Make sure that what you do God intended it for you. If He called you He is going to equip you to make sure that you succeed, if you are faithful.

Which strongholds do you need to tear down in your life, Is it a health, financial, sin issue.....? Choose the correct weaponry.

Resist and He will flee.

James 4:7

New International Version

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Interestingly results may not be so obvious and immediate. You may see the results later on as the battle smoke leaves the battle field. Your prayer results will show sooner or later.

LESSON 9 – NEVER ASSUME THE ENEMY IS DEFEATED (as you will suffer a tremendous price for this mistake. Make sure that your enemy is totally crushed)

- Watch for ambushes
- Expect booby traps
- Stay alert and ready for action
- Maintain your skills and knowledge

LESSON 10 – NEVER LEAVE YOUR WOUNDED OR DEAD

Never leave a wounded comrade behind in the spiritual battlefield. Help each other to get out of spiritual mess. We need to help those who are **willing to be rehabilitated** and not turn our backs on them no matter what others have said or done. Are we ready to take the grief on the social media for doing this? It is a Christian responsibility for us to reach out to a fallen brother or sister and comfort and mentor others.

Conclusion

As soldiers of Christ we have been given the primary task of spreading the Word of God as per the Great Commission.

Matthew 28:16-20 New King James Version (NKJV)

The Great Commission

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. 17 When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

We need to win over the souls of those who are living in our families, our streets, our towns, cities and villages, nations, continents and the world for Christ.

God has given us the full armour to do it. We can use all the means possible at our disposition including the social media.

Jesus tells us to watch and pray and not go in the street and protest but to evangelise and speak out our disagreements using Biblical principles.

Luke 21:36

New International Version

Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

These 10 points not only help in our relationship with each other but also our relationship with God

Courage, Commitment and Transcendent Call.....

We need to have a transcendent cause. Ours is a battle for souls and what gives us the victory is our faith and the power of the Holy Spirit inside me and the power of an All-Mighty God who told me I am not responsible for the outcome. I am only responsible for my part and we all need to do our part.
