

Battling For Internal Victory

2Co 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

2Co 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

2Co 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

STRONGHOLDS were BUILT IN CANAAN

Judges 3:1-3 Now these are the nations which the LORD left, to prove Israel by them, even as many of Israel as had not known all the wars of Canaan; Only that the generations of the children of Israel might know, to teach them war, at the least such as before knew nothing thereof; Namely, five lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in mount Lebanon, from mount Baalhermon unto the entering in of Hamath.

Judges 3:5 And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites:

CANAAN was AN INHABITED LAND

The land was sitting there under the control of strongholds of several different nations. Each was similar yet different. 5 Philistine Lords, Canaanites, Sidonians, Hivites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, Jebusites. Nearly a dozen different fortified, fortress positions with strongholds upon the Canaan territory. They did not go peace-fully nor quietly. There were no surrenders. (except the Gibeonites & their deception). It was a fight to the death.

*Joshua 11:18-19 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites the inhabitants of Gibeon: **all other they took in battle.***

Israel, in type, was born again of the water & Spirit in their salvation rescue from the land of sin, Egypt. Afterward it became time to begin to conquer the inhabitants of the land of promise. We know that the experience of salvation and Holy Ghost baptism, our new birth does bring a new creation life and existence to our old land nature which once served the flesh with all it's heart. But the saving from sin & Egypt did not affect the land of God's promises. That was a different task and different act of faith entirely.

All during the years of our servitude to sin & rebellion to God, before we were born again of the Spirit, our human nature contained spiritual-mental fortresses & strongholds built within our minds by the flesh's dominating spiritual enemies from the powers of the kingdom of darkness.

Think of your human natural sinner life as a country inhabited by many spiritual nations of thought whose main purpose was to see that the "country of me" stayed under the dominion of hell. The scripture says we were all born in sin and shapen in iniquity. The enemy spent years building his fortresses within our minds and our spirits of human nature.

Strongholds of.... fear, doubt, jealousy, revenge, unbelief, greed, covetousness, anger, hate, grudges, addictions, rebellion to authority, inferiority, pride, lust for power, control, lust of the eye, lust of the flesh, worry,

OUR WEAPONS

The Spirit of Christ is reminding us through Paul to the Corinthians that we are involved in warfare. The key to winning the victory is not by using natural, human, psychological strategies; ...not fleshly, or carnal weapons, ...fighting as natural men fight has no value here.

We are reminded as believers that our Victory is in using weapons and tactics that are spiritual, heavenly, all of Christ's Holy Ghost/Spirit power.

It would probably surprise us how often believers in Christ, live in continual defeat due because of using irrelevant fleshly weapons and non-spiritual or human forces in their struggle with the fortresses and strong-holds in their personal Cannan land.

There is Intense Internal struggle within our minds and thoughts which is far greater than any physical or external struggle.

Using any method whose source of power comes from the nature of man, the flesh,whether it is psychological, intellectual, emotional or physical, ...to deal with spiritual problemsalways ensures a prevailing sense of defeat.

If publishers would strip away the few scripture verses in most so-called Christian Self-Help Books on 'Victorious Living' ...they would have nothing more than a human self-help book which becomes a great tool for the powers of darkness.

ONLY SPIRITUAL WEAPONS

Nothing works for the child of God in this struggle except the weapons which have been furnished by our commander and chief, the Lord Christ Jesus; ...the Living Spiritual Word & Anointing of the Holy Ghost of heaven on earth. Our Captain's Weapons are powerful because they are spiritual. The Living Word (Eph6:17) , Prayer (Eph 6:18), & Anointing (Act 1:8)

Our internal mental thoughts have chemically etched **long-term memory habits** into our minds. These pathways become trenches our enemy powers of darkness use, all through our inner mind, in helping the establishing of spiritual fortresses and spiritual stongholds of the fleshly human nature.

They are impregnable military positions of the prinicipalities and rulers of the darkness of this world. It definitely takes a miracle work of the empowering of the Spirit of Christ Jesus within to break their hold upon us. It becomes a warfare of faith unto a pre-determined outcome of Victory.

When any believer mounts an assault against any of these previously erected inner spiritual castles and fortresses, ...we are bombarded and fired upon from behind their walls. Just as it would be if we attempting to take a natural castel or a natural fortress.

No wonder the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, and are mighty through the spirit of God to bring these erected castle-fort sanctuaries of resistance down to the Word and Holy Ghost. Each were built stone by stone, block by block over a period a life-time of sin and walking after the flesh.

So we should not think it strange, that one assault, one prayer meeting, one petition, one application of Holy Ghost anointing, does not tear down and destroy a fortress that took weeks, months, and years to build. Hell does not want to give up and therefore resists with great conflict surrendering this access point; ...this beach-head, ...this forward base of operations within our souls. A War is on. But we are confident of victory if we simply attack and attack with Holy Ghost Weapons.