

How to Combat the Forces of Evil

1. Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, said, **What shall we say to these things? (Romans 8:31)**

It is your responsibility, as a believer, to condemn every tongue that comes against you by answering the problem with the Word (Isaiah 54:17, Mark 11:14, Luke 4:4,8,12).

David's Example of Countering Evil Words

And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands. 1 Samuel 17:44-47

David countered the words that came from Goliath, and as a born again child of God, you can't just sit back and let the devil do all the talking! You've got to do what God said to do in order to have success, and God said in Isaiah 54:17, **No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.**

"Thou" in this verse means you, and not God. You are the one who has to **condemn** any weapon that rises against you by countering it with God's Word. Jesus said the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force (Matthew 11:12). You can't just sit back and think that the blessings of God will overtake you, because if you do, Satan will be the one overtaking you!

You are also to counter circumstances by speaking the Word, in Jesus' Name. Jesus showed us how in the following scriptures. Speak the Word of God, which is the sword of the spirit, the same way Jesus did in Matthew 4:1-11:

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is

written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Complaining is You Speaking Your Words, Not God's Word

Precious few Christians speak the Word today. A few months ago, many were talking about how high the gas was. Now, they're talking about how bad the economy is and how things are going to get worse before they become better. Likewise, the children of Israel complained about the food, the giants, and the walls. They didn't talk their covenant. In a similar way, most born again Christians complain and talk about their problems, but they don't speak to their problems.

Adam and Eve died because they didn't use the authority that God had given them, and because they didn't resist the devil: **And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.** Genesis 1:26-28

If you're one of those Christians who is not talking to problems, and if you don't change and start speaking the Word consistently and constantly, not only will you fail the tests you're faced with, but you'll also suffer things that God never intended for you to suffer. Not using your authority as a believer is sin, as well as disobedience.

Jesus, in the gospels, always reprimanded and rebuked any doubt and unbelief. **And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? Matthew 14:31**

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove

hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Matthew 17:20

Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. Mark 16:14

You Only Win Using God's Word as Your Authority against Satan and his Devices

Satan is determined to steal, kill and destroy everything you love and he is totally committed to wrecking your life. He only recognizes boldness and authority in action, so you've got to back him down with the Word of God. He'll never leave you alone until you make him leave you alone.

It's very detrimental to your life to wonder why God allowed something to happen. When you start thinking thoughts like that, you're going in the wrong direction, because when people start thinking that way, the first thing that goes out the door is their authority. They either get angry at God, or start feeling sorry for themselves.

The disciples in Mark 4:35-41 almost drowned thinking thoughts like: 'Doesn't God Care?'

And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

You've got to constantly come against Satan with the Word of God. This is very serious, and it's important that you do it, because you'll never win a faith fight without using your authority. It's vital that you realize you've got an actual enemy who really hates you, and for the rest of your life, he's going to attempt to steal, kill and destroy everything you love. It is extremely vital that you aren't naïve about your spiritual responsibilities, and that you are never negligent in performing them. **Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices. 2 Corinthians 2:11**

What You Say Determines Your Outcome in Life

Remember, the devil is our enemy, and he'll defeat you with your own words and actions.

Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth. Proverbs 6:2

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. Proverbs 18:21

For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. Job 3:25

We will always be disappointed any time we depend on people, and not on God. We constantly have to remind ourselves that in every situation, we always have the victory(1 Corinthians 15:57), and must never take on a victim mentality. Our attitude is to be that no matter what happens in this world, "None of these things moves me." (Acts 20:24)

You've got to get a hold of your emotions and not let them get out of control. If you get all emotional about something and lose control of your feelings or your flesh, you' won't be in faith, and that's dangerous. **...for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.** Romans 14:23

You're responsible for your emotions and feelings. A mature Christian is one who you can never tell what bothers them. You don't want Satan to know what bothers you, or what you're tempted to be afraid of, because he can kill you with fear (Luke 21:26).

Spirit of Faith Vs. Spirit of Unbelief It Comes Out in What You Say

God's people in Numbers, chapters 13 and 14 took on the victim mentality. They got their eyes off of God, Who was their Provider. They got angry with the leaders that God had chosen. They no longer had a spirit of faith, but a spirit of doubt and unbelief.

1 Corinthians 10:1-13: **Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.**

Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Hebrews 3:7-19; 4:1-3: Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

2 Corinthians 4:13,18: We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

I look forward to sharing more with you tomorrow. Remember that God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

Your Word of faith pastor,

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