

We ARE in a battle.

Ephesians 6:12 (TPT)

² Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of demon-gods and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

Don't blame God for the warfare!

Have you ever been in the position of being so angry with God that you forget who your real enemy is? Satan will do anything to put a block between us and God. I've also realised that the devil doesn't want people to realise that he's real. We can tell ourselves it is all a bit too far-fetched and couldn't possibly be true but it's there in scripture.

I Peter 5:8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

How can we fight against powers and principalities or just fight to stay standing?

Here are a couple of more well-known fighting strategies that you may well have heard being talked about.

a) Always praise and worship

This is such a powerful thing to do in the face of horrible events. Praise God in all circumstances.

b) Learn about the armour of God

It's all there in Ephesians 6.

c) Pray in tongues as much as you can

It builds you up (Jude v20) and you're praying the perfect prayer as it comes from God.

When you're facing difficult times, run to your company -Don't isolate yourself

In Acts 3 Peter and John heal a lame man who was begging for money at the Gate Beautiful. (Silver and gold have I none...) This is hated by the priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees and Peter and John get locked up in jail. *Acts 4:23 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God....²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word boldly.*

The disciples released corporate prayer “enable us to speak with boldness” and God answered them! We need each other.

NB Your best company might not necessarily be a group of your best friends. When facing giants, we want to have people with us who know the power of God and pray accordingly.

We need to find others who'll pray with us, contend with us, encourage and challenge us. If you don't have a people to do battle with, pray about it and ask God to provide.

Eat, breathe, memorise, use, claim the word of God!

We know this verse, it's well-used. 2 Tim 3

¹⁶ Every Scripture has been written by the Holy Spirit, the breath of God. It will empower you by its instruction and correction, giving you the strength to take the right direction and lead you deeper into the path of godliness.

We see Jesus declaring, “*It is written...*” to Satan when he was facing temptation. (Matt 4:4,7,10). We can use scripture in the same way.

Watch what you say!

Are you speaking words of faith in one breath and tearing them down in the next?

“The power of life and death is in the tongue”.

Repent of the times you've done this wrong. Invite God to give you an awareness of when you're doing this and ask him to renew your thinking. When you notice you get it wrong another time, repent quickly (the devil hates repentance) and just try again. Try to rephrase it in a way that doesn't cancel your words of faith.

Your speech should reflect your faith.

Always praise, pray in tongues and always invite God into every part of the battle you are in, being quick to repent and quick to ask for his help and healing. He is our faithful God and He's victorious!

Victory Statements!

I am a citizen of heaven (Phil 3:20), adopted as God's child (Eph 1:5).

I'm united with the Lord and am one spirit with Him (1 Corinth 6:17).

I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me. (1 John 5:18)

I am free from any condemning charges against me and I can't be separated from the love of God. (Romans 8:31-39)

In Christ, I am complete (Col 2:10) and the power of God works through us (2 Corinthians 6:7)

Jesus came to destroy the devil's work (1 John 3:8) The Lord will fight for you, and you need only to be still. (Exodus 14:14)

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. (Zeph 3:17)

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power (Heb 1:3)

No weapon formed against us shall prosper! (Is 54:17)

We can continually experience the immeasurable greatness of God's power made available to us through faith. Our lives will be an advertisement of this immense power as it works through us! This is the mighty power that was released when God raised Christ from the dead and exalted him to the place of highest honour and supreme authority in the heavenly realm! (Eph 1: 19-20)

God is exalted as first above every ruler, authority, government, and realm of power in existence! He is gloriously enthroned over every name that is ever praised, not just now but in the future! (Eph 1: 21) And he alone is the leader and source of everything needed in the church. God has put everything beneath the authority of Jesus Christ and has given him the highest rank above all others. (Eph 1: 22)

With God all things are possible (Matt 19:26) and he is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think (Eph 3:20).

This is our God!

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