

Fighting *The* Battles *of* Your Life



Mary Owolabi

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By Deaconess Oluwakemi Mary Owolabi

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Mission

“Called and sent by God to depopulate the kingdom of devil through divine instruction and revelation in writing and guidance by the power of the Holy Spirit to open the secret that leads to human liberation and also interceding and counseling the children of God worldwide, so as to be won back into the Kingdom of the Most High God”

Dedication

I dedicate this book to God Almighty who only is my source of inspiration, for his divine grace and mercy over my life, only you is worthy to be praise and adore Daddy.

Foreword

I'm pleased to provide some introductory thoughts to this book, which arrives at this critical end time of our Christian pilgrimage, when many believers are missing the point and fighting like someone beating the air when it comes to spiritual warfare.

The Bible is explicit about the fact that our very lives are a battle and we dwell in the territory of our enemy (the bible calls him the prince of this world). Yet too many Christians loose more battles than they win and endure their walk with God rather than enjoy it because they don't recognize the enemy when they see it. More importantly, they have no idea how to respond, they lack strategies to fighting spiritual warfare.

Christians must be strategic in their reactions to these clearly defined enemies, learning how to fight biblically and effectively rather than just sincerely. The author of the book, Deaconess Oluwakemi Mary Owolabi, who heeded God's call to this special assignment of authoring books on Christian faith and victorious walk with God through God's revelation and divine inspiration - has written this guidebook titled "Fighting the battles of your life" for defence that is simple, biblical, and transferable.

Through the revelation of God's word in this book, it is made very clear that we have a greater battle to fight and

overcome within us than outside us. We need to recognize the battle is not ours, but the Holy Spirit living within us. The hardest thing for many believers is to get out of the Spirit's way. When we refuse to give control of ourselves over to the Holy Spirit, we end up constantly finding ourselves in the midst of the struggling for control over situations and issues in our life. The book expose that the enemy attack us through our old fallen nature and the temptations which surround us. But, we have the ability to choose, we are not helpless in this struggle.

If we yield control of ourselves to the Spirit, we will be filled with the Spirit, as the Lord takes and moulds our life into the image of Christ. As much as we yield ourselves, we become more like Christ, thereby overcome the greater battle with self. And when we have overcome ourselves, then overcoming enemies outside – principalities, powers rulers of darkness, witches and wizards will become a child's play.

I have been greatly torched and blessed by this book as it reaffirms and reveals God's truth about spiritual warfare from a clearer perspective. Such revelation of truth could only have been by God's divine inspiration.

This book will truly open your eyes of understanding as to why you have not been victorious in certain spiritual warfare and battles of your life. It also enlightens you on a step by step strategic ways of becoming victorious in any spiritual battles of our lives. I recommend this book for every Christian that desires a victorious Christian living.

Olalekan Oregbesan

Preface

Many believers are suffering in silence, held in captivity and manipulated by the devil because they do not understand the principles of spiritual battle.

Of a truth, many fast and pray but they are not getting result because they fail to understand when and how to use spiritual weapons and the principles governing spiritual warfare.

This book written under the influence and directive of the Holy Spirit ***"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness"*** 2Tim 3:16 will bring to clarity the fundamental principles governing spiritual battle and the way to be a victor always.

I pray that this book will highly be of benefit for your spiritual upliftment and may God bless your heart as you read in Jesus mighty name. Amen.

Acknowledgment

I thank God Almighty through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given me the grace to write this book. I write this book in fulfillment of God's calling and purpose for my life and therefore I give Him alone all the Glory, Honour and Majesty, for only Him is worthy to be praised and adored and will forever be praised in my life. Amen.

I can not but thank God Almighty for my loving, caring, wonderful and God's given husband, who has always being there for me as a daddy, a friend and brother. Elder Julius Olukayode Owolabi. I appreciate God for his grace upon you. "Okomi owon, I love you."

I also appreciate my pastor, Pastor. I.G. Fakunle whom teachings I appreciate so much. He is a teacher of the truth, he teaches the way to our destination which is heaven. The Lord have used your teachings to guide me and also used it to confirm his words to me. Daddy you are rear and thank God for his grace upon your life sir.

My appreciation to any human will not be complete if I did not appreciate God for the life of my Father in the Lord, Bro. Solomon Olalekan Oregbesan. A Youngman with qualities of a true father. He gave himself and time to be used of God for my life. Bro. Lekan, you allow God to use you to nurture me with patient and understanding. You

are never tired of spiritual and physical watering till maturity. I thank God Almighty for your life.

Table of **Contents**

Mission.....	v
Dedication.....	vi
Foreword.....	vii
Preface.....	ix
Acknowledgment.....	x
Introduction.....	1
Chapter One	
Understanding Spiritual Warfare.....	9
Chapter Two	
Strongholds.....	16
Chapter Three	
The Strongman.....	30
Chapter Four	
Strategies to Spiritual Warfare.....	40
Chapter Five	
Spiritual Networking.....	55
Chapter Six	
God's Army for Spiritual Battle.....	65
Chapter Seven	
Conclusion: Victory is Sure.....	72

Introduction

When man was lost in the Garden of Eden after he sinned against God, he was lost in the Spirit and not only in the physical realm. Man died first in the Spirit after disobeying God before it manifested in the physical.

“But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons”.

Gen 3:3-7

When a man dies physically either by accident or any other means, one thing happens. His eyes are closed to

the physical but opened in the spiritual. This is because the physical has been killed or is dead. So only the spirit of man that was leaving in the physical body, which is now dead that awakens.

Similarly, when the Spirit of God in man is dead, his eyes may still be opened and awaken in the physical but, spiritually he is gone.

This was what happened to Adam and Eve in the Garden as they were deceived by the devil.

“And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat therefore, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing, good and evil”. Gen 3:4 - 5.

Devil understands perfectly that the spirit realm controls the physical and that when every thing is right in the spirit realm, the physical has no choice than to align and manifest the results and situation existing in the spirit realm. Devil's struggle every day over the Christian is to bring us down from the spiritual realm to the physical (flesh) so that he can make us do contrary to God's will. This is because in the physical (flesh) we have no strength to do God's will. When we are in the flesh, we are operating according to the law of the flesh and the law of this world.

“For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God". Rom 8:5-8.

The devils understand that when you are in the Spirit, You are in the realm that he doesn't have control over. In the spiritual, you are in charge and God is in charge too.

"God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth, John 4:24

But in the flesh, Devil is in control

"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, by grace ye are saved". Eph 2:2-5.

“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”.¹ John. 2:16

These scriptures made it clear that devil's struggle over us daily is to bring us away from God's realm (the spiritual) to his own realm of domain (the flesh) so that he can manipulate, hold us captive, kill and destroy.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour”.¹ Pet. 5:8

The explanation and scriptural verses quoted above gives a clear understanding that there is a constant battle and warfare going on between man and the devil. We can see that the battle is spiritual and not a physical one. We have also seen that the devil has a strategy of fighting and attacking the believers which is moving us away from the spiritual to the flesh. He tries to change the battle ground from where he does not have control to where he has control.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places”. Eph. 6:12

If the devil has a strategy to fight you, then you should know, that there must be a strategy from God, which you can use to counter him,

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand”.

Eph 6:12-13

These strategies in fighting constant warfare we have with the devil and the principles governing their application; so that you can always be a winner no matter how tough the battle is are what the Spirit of God has inspired and directed me to put together in this book.

At this point, I would like you to pray this prayer before you move on in the reading and meditation of this book.

“I plead the Blood of Jesus Christ upon my spirit, soul and body. I free my spirit from every strongholds of the devil that will not allow me to see or receive the revelation of God's truth to me through this book. Lord open up my heart and spiritual eyes to see the truth and revelations you have for me through this book and set my feet on a higher ground. Thank you Lord. In Jesus Christ name. Amen”

WHAT IS BATTLE

- (1) Battle is a medium or way in which someone use in taking back his or her right or possession from other person(s)
- (2) Battle is conflict, a fight or an engagement of

warfare against an opposing force in order to show supremacy or take back once right or possession.

One can battle against oneself when you know that what you are doing is bad. Also you can battle against other but in the context of this book, we are talking about battling against the devil to receive back all that he has taken away from you.

“And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. And the sixth angel poured out his

vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty” Rev 16:5-14.

Without a battle, there cannot be a victor that is victory comes after warfare

“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain”. I Cor. 9:24

We are in constant battle with the enemy, the devil, the ruler of the darkness of this world

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” Eph 6:12.

Therefore for as long as we still living in this world before we go home, we must operate by the higher law and rules of the kingdom of light we belong in order to live in this world of darkness.

Although is constant and fierce. But we are assures of

victory because our father is the referee in this battle.

“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world”.

John. 16:33.

WHAT IS LIFE

Life: Life is being alive, it is the course of being in existence, life is living. Life is an important part of all creative. Life is no longer worth living when it is not fulfilling the course of existence. When the basic rights of your living are being denied. Your rights to good health, good job, happiness, joy, prosperity, increase etc, then the course of existence are being altered and life is no worthy longer living.

You have the right to live and stay alive but the devil says your being alive must be under his control and rulership. I think it's time you tell the devil that you know whom you believe and that because your redeemer live you will live. Amen.

“With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation”. *Ps. 91:16.*

Chapter One

Understanding Spiritual Warfare

What you do not understand, you cannot appreciate, and you need to understand that truly there are spiritual battles that exist in our life daily. You need to understand how these warfare are fought and the best strategies for winning always.

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh .For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of s t r o n g h o l d s ' C a s t i n g d o w n i m a g i n a t i o n s , a n d e v e r y h i g h t h i n g t h a t e x a l t e t h i t s e l f a g a i n s t t h e k n o w l e d g e o f G o d , a n d b r i n g i n g i n t o c a p t i v i t y e v e r y t h o u g h t t o t h e o b e d i e n c e o f C h r i s t ; A n d h a v i n g i n a r e a d y n e s s t o r e v e n g e a l l d i s o b e d i e n c e , w h e n y o u r o b e d i e n c e i s f u l f i l l e d ” . 2 C o r . 1 0 : 3 - 6

The scripture above gives us a clear understanding of the fact that spiritual warfare exist. It says:

“For though we walk in the flesh, we are not after the flesh.....”

This mean, although we may exist in a body and walk and do things physically, that can be seen and touched, but the kind of warfare and battle we are into is not physical. It's not a battle with someone you can see or touched. The battle is not against your husband, your wife, your neighbors, your friends, your extended family members, your Boss, your colleague, etc that may seem to you like the ones waging war against you. There are spiritual forces influencing their behaviors and reactions against you.

Often time we forget this truth or we tend to believe more that the people around us are our enemies just because of the way the devil has succeeded in manipulating them against us. No! It's not true. It's not your Boss or your colleague in the office that is the problem it's the devil. You need to know that the devil actually want you to believe it's the people around you that is the problem so that your effort in attacking the problem and the source of it will be misdirected.

The scripture above in 2Cor.10:4 also makes it clear that there are weapons available to us to fight and these weapons are not physical weapons like guns, sword that we can see and touch but are spiritual weapons.

"For the weapon of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds. 2 Cor 10:4

The second part of this verse 4 makes us understand how this spiritual weapon we have is used and what it is used to target.

The verse says these weapons are not the physical guns and arrows shot with hand but rather they are spiritual guns and arrow *Shot Through God*.

In the physical, the bullet is the strength of the gun while the Arrow is the strength of the Bowl.

But in the spiritual, God is the bullet for the gun and the arrow to the bowl. God is the strength for every spiritual weapon to be used. Therefore, every spiritual weapon is fired or shot through God for it to have any impact.

"Blessed be the Lord my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight". Ps. 144:1

***"He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms".
Psalm 18:34,***

***"He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms". 2
Sam. 22:35***

The scripture further explains that these spiritual weapons when fired or shot through God are aimed or targeted at strongholds; casting down imaginations and high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

You may ask; where is the devil mentioned in all these? The word devil may not be mentioned but the form the devil has chosen to take in order to fight you and pull you down is what is mention and that is what you should target.

The way you fight to kill a snake is not the same way you fight to kill a crocodile or lion. If the devil chooses to appear as a snake to fight you then you must fight with the understanding of how to kill a snake in order to win

If the devil has chosen to come against you in the form of strongholds then, you need to understand what strongholds are and how to pull them down to be victorious over the devil.

Beloved, you must understand and accept at this point that the battles of life are **REAL**. The following facts are true about battles of life.

1. The battles of life starts from the womb. It is not every child conceived that were successfully born. That you were given birth to and alive shows you have overcome the first battle of survival

***"I was cast upon thee from the womb:
thou art my God from my mother's belly"***
Ps. 22:10.

***"By thee have I been holden up from the
womb: thou art he that took me out of
my mother's bowels: my praise shall be
continually of thee". Ps. 71:6***

***"Thus saith the Lord that made thee, and
formed thee from the womb, which will
help thee; Fear not, O Jacob, my servant;
and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen".
Isa. 44:2***

***"Because he slew me not from the womb;
or that my mother might have***

been my grave, and her womb to be always great with me". Jer. 20:17

"But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace". Gal 1:15

2. The battle is not dependent on where you're located. The battle is happening everywhere irrespectively of where you are.
3. Our weapons of warfare are spiritual and not carnal- ***"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds" 2 Cor. 10:4***
4. Our weapons of warfare are delivered to us. ***"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Luke 10: 19***
5. Once you give your life to Christ you are enlisted in God's Army. ***"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name; which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:12-13***
6. You have heaven's backup in the battle of life. ***"And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth". 1 Sam. 17:49***

7. You are guaranteed protection against the enemies attack.
“Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm” 1 Chr. 16:22
“Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm”. Psalm 105:15
8. You are already programmed for victory by God your father. ***“I have pursued mine enemies, and overtaken them: neither did I turn again till they were consumed”. Ps. 18:37***
“I have pursued mine enemies, and destroyed them; and turned not again until I had consumed them”. 2 Sam 22:38
9. Everyone no matter how small in Christ is involved in the battle. ***“At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father; Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes”. Matt11:25***
10. The battles are majorly fought in the night. ***“And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day” Gen 32:24***
11. The battle gets tougher as Christ coming gets closer ***“For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty”. Rev. 16:14***

12. Whatever happens in the physical is a carry over from what happened in spiritual.
13. The mind is the battle ground where the spiritual warfare takes place, ***“Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way”***. *Prov. 23:19*
“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life”. *Prov. 4:23*
14. When your mind is captured a stronghold is formed.

Chapter Two

Strongholds

What are Strongholds?

A Stronghold is a fortified place or a place of fortress that Satan built to exalt himself against the knowledge of God in your life.

A Stronghold is anything that is holding you down against your will.

Strongholds rob you of God's blessing. Strongholds rob you of God's victory already guaranteed for you in the battles of life.

Strongholds are not being possessed. A man's Spirit is either dead or alive. If we have accepted Christ as our Lord and Saviour, our Spirit is alive. Someone who has not made this crucial decision to accept Christ has a dead spirit. Such unbeliever with this dead spirit is either full of self or he/she is possessed by Satan, to have refused to make such a decision to follow Jesus. The point being made here is that, it is only those who have not accepted Jesus into their lives that has a place available in their heart for devil's possession.

A child of God, born again cannot be possessed again by the devil. However, in contrast to possession, a believer

could be under a Stronghold. Devil knows he cannot possess a Christian so he seeks to manipulate us through the foothold we have allowed into our soul. These are areas where we have been taken captive to do Satan's will.

How are Strongholds formed?

Strongholds can either be Spiritual or mental. Some example of Spiritual. Strongholds are: fear, lust, anger, depression, addiction, rejection, sexual perversion, unforgiveness and bitterness.

Some examples of mental Strongholds are: vanity, greed, pride, self-love, ambition and Imaginations (fantasy).

It is important we understand the rebirth happens in our Spirit. The Bible makes it clear by referring to the rebirth of the Spirit and the restoration of the soul.

The first occurs when we receive Jesus the second is a process that occurs overtime, but only if we choose.

"But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart". 2 Tim.

2:20 – 21.

Every Christian must have a time in their own life where they decide to live life abundantly. We are given the choice to be victorious Christians or not to be.

We can choose to live a life of Christianity full of joy, peace and righteousness. Or we can choose to live a life of Christianity full of addiction, past hurts and failures.

When we gave into temptation and sin, we unleash the destructive forces of darkness and open our souls up to demonic torment. Not only do we become a slave to that sin but that sin will eventually bring forth death. Jesus said:

“Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin”. John. 8:34.

“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death”.

Jam. 1:14 - 15

Satan is the one behind the temptation of mankind. Satan and his demons makes up the kingdom of darkness. Satan is a created being, therefore, he is not omnipresent like God. Satan cannot be everywhere at once, he relies on the help of his demonic angles that were thrown down from heaven with him.

Whenever there is a temptation to sin, there is a spirit of evil behind that temptation, trying to get us into that sin.

If they get us to fall into the temptation and sin, they have a legal right to gain foothold in our soul.

“Neither give place to the devil”. Eph. 4:27.

It is obvious from this scripture that we can give the devil a foothold. This passage is referring to anger. If we sin in our anger, then we give the devil a foothold. This is just one example of how sin opens door. There are many ways that the enemy uses to gain footholds into our soul. Those footholds, if not confessed, repented of and renounces will eventually become Strongholds.

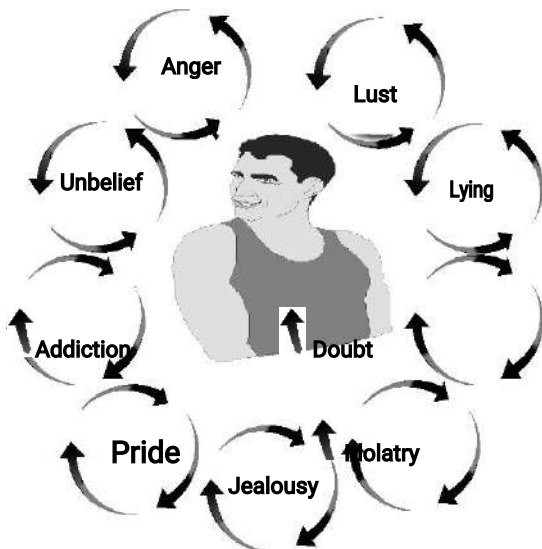
Those Strongholds, if left alone will completely bind us with unseen Spiritual chains and ultimately bring destructions into our lives.

“His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins”. Prov. 5:22.

If a person has a Stronghold in an area of their life, one of two things will happen:

1. They will commit the sin again and again, even when they try to repent and turn away from that sin.
2. When we continually feel regret and guilt, condemnation and shame. This is telling us the enemy has a Stronghold in that area.

Identifying your strongholds



Take a personal inventory of your life. What areas of your life cause you to fail? Like faithful Joshua and Caleb, we need to spy out the land. We need to determine where Satan's Strongholds are. Our goal is to enter the "Promised Land" of God promises.

"And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain: And see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak,

few or many; And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds; And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes. So they went up, and searched the land from the wilderness of Zin unto Rehob, as men come to Hamath. And they ascended by the south, and came unto Hebron; where Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmi, the children of Anak, were. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.) And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs. The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence. And they returned from searching of the land after forty days. And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and

brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan. And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it. But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we". Num. 13:17 – 31

The issue here is not salvation, but victorious Christians living. In the passage of the sower,

"And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow; And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up: Some fell upon stony places, where they had not

much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with

their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side. But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth

fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?" Matt 13:3-28,

The seed is sowed on different types of soil, in the end, the abundant crop comes from good ground. Why did the good soil produce a fruitful crop? Good ground was clear of those things, which prevented growth. In the parable, the weeds, stones and thistles, choked off the seed (word) planted by the sower (Jesus). Jesus describes the weeds as the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches.

"But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an

hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty”.

Matt. 13:23.

Just like Joshua and Caleb did, in order to take over their promised land, we need to identify where these Strongholds are and remove them.

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God”. Gal. 5:19-21.

“This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness”.

Eph. 4:17-19

“Mortify therefore your members which

are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him". Col. 3:5-10

"For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults: And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they have committed". 2 Cor. 12:20-21

Once, we identify the Strongholds, we must wage war against them. Apostle Paul in 2 Cor. 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. 2 Cor. 10:5 Gave us summary of how Spiritual Strongholds are formed.

He says that Strongholds are argument, pretensions and thoughts, contrary to the knowledge of God.

"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. 2 Cor. 10:5.

Arguments – This is not speaking about arguments with other people but the battle that goes on in one's mind when the conclusion drawn by human reason and those given through divine revelation in scripture contradicts each other. In such case, to believe our own human reasoning's is to reject the revealed will of God.

Pretensions – Here, it speaks of pride by which we exalt our own human reasoning's over divine revelation. It puts the intellect in the place of God so that one is more comfortable trusting his reasoning's than believing God's word. This is mind idolatry.

Thoughts – This is when we allow Satan to effectively plant thoughts into our minds and deceives us into thinking that those thoughts were our own reasoning's.

Devil makes us to devise schemes for handling life situations contrary to God's directives for living.

The base for Strongholds is that we **DOUBT**. Strongholds make us to doubt God's word so we depend on our own reasoning.

Truly, Strongholds are diseases that must be excise from our souls if we want to live a life that is fruitful and productive.

Let's look at a practical example from the scripture, for Clarity and better understanding of this truth.

In Matthew 4, the bible described the story of how Jesus Christ was tempted after forty days and forty nights of fasting.

“And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread”. Matt. 4:3.

The tempter, devil, was the Strongman being the temptation and attempt to deceive Jesus.

By God's revealed truth and understanding through the Holy Spirit I need to let you know that the devil did not appear in person to tempt Jesus in the wilderness but appeared in the spirit through the arrows of arguments, pretension and thoughts contrary to the will of God that he was shooting into the heart of Jesus.

If Jesus Christ had fallen for those temptations, He would have given room for Strongholds to be formed in His life and thereby destroying His ministry and mission on earth.

Chapter Three

The Strongman

Behind every Stronghold, there is a Strongman. Behind every act, thought and feelings that are not in agreement with God's word and truth, there is a Spiritual force behind it.

When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, verse 3 of Matthew Chapter 4 made it clear to us who the Strongman was – the devil.

“And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread”. Matt. 4:3.

Devil is the opposite of God in every sense. Everything God choose and want to do for his children, devil always wants to offer the opposite, even though he will first come with deception to offer same thing as God has promised.

Jesus Christ came to give life and life abundantly but devil came to kill and to destroy this life. Jesus Christ came to deliver and set free through His word of life. Devil came to hold captive and keep in bondage through his word of deception. God sent forth his word to heal and deliver.

Devil sent forth his word to deceive and hold captive.

These words of deceptions from the devil, the strongman, are what establish Stronghold(s) in our life when we fall victim of them through our thoughts, reasoning and unbelief.

PULLING DOWN STRONGHOLDS AND BINDING THE STRONGMAN

There is just one thing we need to pull down every Stronghold and destroy the strongman in our lives which is the **HOLY SPIRIT**.

You cannot fight or wage war against someone you know is bigger than you. Without the Holy Spirit in us we are very fragile and no match for the devil. God knows this, which was why he endowed Jesus with the Holy Ghost before the temptation from the devil in the wilderness happened.

“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”. Matt. 3:16-17.

Because Jesus Christ was carrying on His inside someone greater than the devil, he could confront him and frustrate his power.

I am the vine, ye are the branches, he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same brought forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing. ***"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love".*** John. 15:5-9

Without the Holy Spirit in our life we are helpless.

Jesus was tempted and being deceived just like me and you are. But he didn't fall a victim because he was full of the Holy Ghost. He didn't see the devil in person, but in thoughts, arrows of deceptions were shot at his heart by the devil to ensnare him. He knew right away that those voice and thoughts going through His mind were not from God and He counter them instantly by God's word of truth.

If the devil had appeared in person with a wicked and unholy look, perhaps Jesus wouldn't even need the help of the Holy Ghost to know that every word from the devil's mouth shouldn't be taken. But because devil came in the Spirit, he needed the help of someone who understand the Spirit realm better. Someone who can distinguish the

voice of God from other voices in the Spirit, **THE HOLY SPIRIT**.

How often have you fallen a victim when you are in similar situation like Jesus? When the thought to tell a lie, steal, fornicate, abuse, manipulate other people etc. comes through your mind through the devils deception, did you not succumb?

For every arrow of deception shot by the devil into our hearts to enslave us and establish a strongholds in our life there is a right and perfect word to counter and destroy it from the scripture. It is the Holy Spirit that can tell you those right words at such times, if we are full of Him and submit totally to his leading.

Jesus gave a perfect counter attack for every attack of the devil.

“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”. Matt. 4:4

“Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God”. Matt. 4:7

DESTROYING THE STRONGMAN

It is not enough to destroy the Stronghold(s) with God's word, but we must also destroy the strongman behind those Stronghold(s) so that we can truly be free.

Jesus knew this when at the third instance of temptation

he rebuked and cast away the strongman. Jesus said, "Get thee behind me Satan, for it is written, thou shall worship the Lord thy God, and only shall thou serve.

"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". Matt. 4:10.

"Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him". Matt. 4:11.

Until Jesus binded the Strongman, he had no rest and angels didn't come to minister unto Him.

When your mind is full of thoughts exalting itself against the knowledge of God. When thoughts to lie, commit sin and do something contrary to God keeps coming into your mind, do you resist it with God's word and pull down such thought or you just continue to encourage such thought in your heart until it enslaves you and establish a Strongholds.

If you resist such thoughts and deception from the devil and it keeps coming back from time to time, perhaps you are yet to deal with the Strongman behind the Strongholds. When you do this you will be free from devil's deceit and angels will come and minister unto you for such victory. You need to submit and rely completely on the help of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit helps us in the following ways when we fully rely on Him and submit ourselves to His leadings.

- (a) The Holy Spirit shows us what natural eyes cannot see – what a radar is to a pilot, what a compass is to a soldier, so is the Holy Spirit to the believer.

The Holy Ghost will give discernment, revelation and insight beyond the natural eyes and understanding.

- (b) The Holy Ghost connects us with the sent and revealed word of God for our deliverance.

“He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions”.

Ps. 107:20.

“How forcible are right words! but what doth your arguing reprove?” Job 6:25

- (c) The Holy Spirit strengthens us in the inner man. He is our Spiritual energizer.

HOW DO WE ENGAGE THE HOLY SPIRIT IN PULLING DOWN STRONGHOLDS AND DESTROYING THE STRONGMAN

- 1) You must repent of your sins. If there is any trace of unrighteousness and iniquity in us, we must repent of it in order not to give the devil any room or hold in our lives Ps. 66:18 ***“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me”.*** ***“And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled”.*** 2 Cor.10:6
- 2) Locate relevant word of God concerning the stronghold. When Jesus was going through

temptation in the wilderness. He counters every attack of the devil by relevant and valid words from the scripture. You must search the scripture day and night and locate relevant words needed for every situation. There is an appropriate word for every situation, locate it and use it.

- 3) Meditate on that found word, when you locate a relevant word in the scripture, its like finding a box full of treasure. Until you meditate on that found word you have not open the treasure box to know what kind of treasure is inside. You can only make use of the treasure inside the box and not the box, Meditate on the found word so that you can see the treasure hidden therein and handle them.

“And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled”. Ps. 1:2

“Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might meditate in thy word”. Ps. 119:148

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law”. Ps. 119:18

- 4) Engage the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

“Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned". 1 Cor. 2:13 – 14

Allow the Spirit of God to lead you as you face the battles of life ***"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts". Zech 4:***

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing".

Isaiah 10:27

When you engage the anointing of the Holy Spirit, then victory is at your finger tips. The Holy Spirit cannot fail. The anointing we receive through the Holy Spirit is not meant for decoration. They are meant for Spiritual warfare. How much of those anointing is released into our lives depends on how well we use the one we have today.

- 5) Destroy the Strongman and Strongholds by praying in the Spirit.

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds. 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". 2 Cor. 10:4 – 5

"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints". Eph. 6: 18

One of the greatest weapons of the believer in Spiritual warfare is praying in tongues or in the Spirit.

"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries". 1Cor. 14:2

Once we have checked ourselves that there is no iniquity or sin in us and if we have sincerely repented, if we have erred and trespassed in any way and once we are full of God's word, meditating on them day by day, no face of darkness, no stronghold and strongman can stand the amount of force we generate when we pray in the Spirit. This is our sure way to victory in pulling down every Stronghold and destroying every strongman behind them.

But as explained earlier, we must do the first thing first so that we don't seem like someone beating the air.

Why must I deal with strongholds first in spiritual warfare?

In every Spiritual warfare and battle, the greatest battle to conquer is self. If you can overcome yourself and the things contending with God in your life, then your victory is sure over others.

You need to understand that dealing with forces of darkness, demons, witches and wizards is very easy because you have been given authority over them and that is guaranteed anytime and any day; but there are conditions that places you in that realm of authority over these forces of darkness.

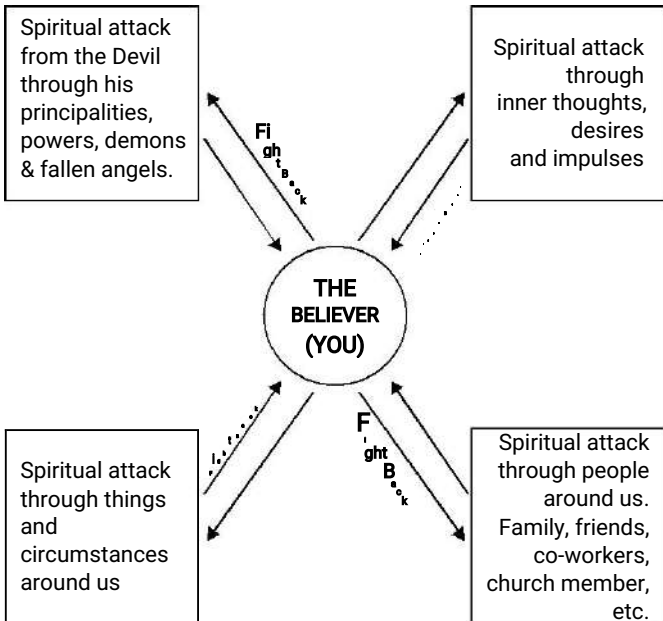
If you can overcome your **self**, your **doubt**, your **lust**, your **unbelief**, your **lying**, your **idolatry**, **hypocrisy** and your **pride** etc which are the strongholds that deprives you of walking in that realm of glory, grace and authority for which God has ordained for you to walk since you became His child, then you have become unstoppable for any forces of darkness.

You will be amazed at how you will enjoy daily victory over every Spiritual warfare.

Chapter Four

Strategies to Spiritual Warfare

Whether or not we want to accept it, we are in the midst of a battle. All around us there is a battle-taking place in the Spiritual realms, both inward and outward.



Through the Spirit, we can become aware of this battle and know how to live in victory, rather than defeat. Understanding the dynamics of the battle, and how we are to engage the enemy is vital if we want victory. For example, what if you were an army trying to engage an enemy and stop its advance, but you did not even know where the attack was coming from? You would be at the mercy of chance, hoping your army has enough force to repulse an attack when it comes. On the other hand, if your army had “intelligence” about the enemy, you could plan for their attack and their reply.

The Bible, through the Holy Spirit allows us to see our enemy and become aware of the spiritual war. Without the scriptures, we would be fighting an invisible unknown enemy, without even knowing that we are at war. The Bible, revealed through the Spirit of God unveiled the invisible world, which surrounds us. In this spiritual world, we have an enemy who is at war with us at all time, and wants to stop the kingdom of God from advancing. Satan and his fallen angels are the enemy! They seeks to destroy us, making us ineffective against their work. There is a battle raging all around us, and the tools of Satan are fully engaged in this battle.

Satan uses our old man (flesh) and our fallen nature to war with us in the spiritual realms, but the dwelling of the Holy Spirit in us prepares us for the spiritual battle ahead. Through scripture and conviction, God's spirit prepares us for battle. Paul in Ephesians chapter 6 describes the equipment of a spiritual warrior.

“ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints”. Eph 6:11-18

Therefore, as spiritual warriors we need to know, we are in a battle, and since we are in battle, we should put together our own battle plan, so that we can live the victorious life, and also advancing the Kingdom of God.

Preparing for the battle

How is the battle waged against us? As we shall see, this battle is waged in the minds of humanity, through whom; events in the physical world are transacted. We are spiritual beings inside a physical body; the war waged is in the battlefield of the mind. Satan is conducting a war in the spiritual realm, engaging our mind in the battle.

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them". 2 Cor. 4:4

Here Satan is called "the god of this age", who blinds the lost so they cannot see the Gospel. The mind of humanity is Satan's battleground; Satan is not fighting a physical war, but a spiritual one, attacking soul and spirit of man. Satan and his fallen angels accomplish this task in the spiritual realms, by lies and deception, appealing to the fallen nature.

When we come to Christ, our mind and thinking are transformed through the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. We however play a role, where we can yield control of "self" to God's Spirit, or resist. If we yield control of ourselves to the Spirit, we will be filled with the Spirit, as the Lord takes and moulds our life into the image of Christ. As much as we yield ourselves, we become more like Christ. For this reason in Romans chapter 12, we read about our need to be human sacrifices, sacrificing the desires of our old nature, being transformed by "the

renewing of your mind". Our old nature has a fallen way of thinking, susceptible to the deceptions of Satan.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God". Rom. 12:1-2

We need to recognize the battle is not ours, but the Holy Spirit living within. The hardest thing for many believers is to get out of the Spirit's way. We refuse to give control of ourselves over and so we constantly in the midst of the struggle for control. Before a battle can be waged, we need to know where the war is. Where does the enemy attack?

First, we have to understand the battle is within, a stone idol does not make us sin, nor does what someone wears, it's what we do with those images within. The choices we choose to make. The attack is through our old fallen nature and the temptations which surround us. Second, we have the ability to choose, we are not helpless in this struggle.

There are four steps to attaining victory over our old nature and establishing a battle plan.

1. We need to surrender “self” to the Spirit
2. Identify the source of temptation
3. Recognize the Roots of Sin
4. Acknowledge the Taproot

1. **We need to surrender “self” to the Spirit**

The first course of action is to surrender our self to the Lord. Are we willing to give up the areas in our life? Romans 12 refer to our bodies being a “living sacrifice”. What exactly does this mean? In the days of the Jewish priesthood, living animals were scarified; they gave up their lives to atone for the sins of others. In the same way, they gave up their lives, we should give up our past life, and we should be willing to sacrifice our old nature. Thereby, we become a “living sacrifice”.

For example, after you come to Christ your friends invite you to a bar, which has more than just drinks and chips. You feel the Spirit groan within about going to such a place. You hear a voice within saying you are going to be left out of all the fun and friendship. What do you do? Do you sacrifice this part of your life?

These are just some examples, of what it means to be a living sacrifice; you must be willing to surrender the control of your life to the Holy Spirit.

2. **Identify the source of temptation**

Once we make the conscience effort to surrender our lives, we next need to identify, where the source of our temptation lies. What is the source of our temptation?

The Bible is very clear; Satan is a roaring lion, looking for prey to devour.

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world”. 1 Pet. 5:8-9

We make the choice when tempted, when we give in to our temptations we are drawn away into sin, when the desire overpowers our new nature. This eventually leads to death, both physically and spiritual if left unchecked.

“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” Jam 1:14-15

The circumstances around you play the role in your sin, these include;

- Your inner thoughts, desires, impulses
- People around you
- Things and circumstances
- Satan

God however limits the degree of temptation; Satan is only permitted with so much liberty with his temptations.

God allows Satan to tempt us, because our faith is being tried, through these temptations. In the book of Job, we see Satan in action, he however complains about Job, because he is protected by hedge ***"Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land"*** Job 1:10, which he is not permitted to cross. This also applies to us. God has made a way out with each temptation; Satan is only permitted to go so far. Ultimately, God allows temptation, though God Himself tempts no one.

"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". 1 Cor 10:13

Remember Satan tempted Jesus, with the same process. In Luke 4, Satan tempted Jesus using the same appeals he does to us. In each case, Jesus rebuked Satan with scripture.

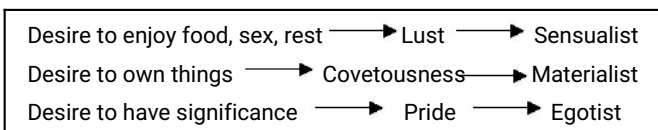
1. He tempted Jesus to prove he was the Son of God, by turning stones into bread, while he was hungry.
2. He tempted Jesus with power, turning over his authority of earth's kingdoms if Jesus would worship him.
3. He tempted Jesus with pride, by daring Jesus to

cast Himself from the top of the Temple, to demonstrate his importance.

4. Satan uses the same methods on us, appealing to our desires.
3. Recognize the Root Sin

Satan uses the desires, the natural desires we have, and perverts them, tempting us so we can fall into sin. Robertson McQuilkin delineates the process of sin, and our need to understand what we are fighting.

Have you ever stopped to analyze just what temptation is? It doesn't look bad, it looks good; otherwise it wouldn't tempt. And actually God is the one who designed our desires in the first place. God created us to enjoy our bodies, to possess things, to amount to something. But we are forever trying to fulfill those desires in the wrong way. And that's sin. So the next step in our strategy is to identify the enemy, discriminate between what is temptation and what isn't. If I don't even recognize my enemy, how can I fight successfully?



We are born with natural desires, designed by God without which we would just die off as a race. There is a desire for sex, without it there would be no children. We have a desire to eat, without such we would starve. We have a desire to own things, such as clothes and shelter.

All of these are part of our natural design, God created humanity with desires.

“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”. 1 John 2:16

Satan uses these desires, and causes us to be tempted into sin. Therefore, we need to understand, why we sin, what is causing us to act the way we do. Do we hate somebody, because we jealous of the possessions, or importance? Is Satan tempting us with our own significance, appealing to our pride?

Do we really believe God is able to give us the needs we desire? When we sin, we go outside of God's will for our life, fulfilling our needs and rejecting God's provision. This is the real source of our sin. Israel in all their sins, did not believe God that He was able to deliver them, once they lacked faith in God's ability the rest followed.

For us to begin this battle we need to identify our sins, what is holding us back from being the spiritual warrior God wants.

Roots of Sin	Temptations	How I respond in the flesh
1. What temptations do I have in my flesh that God would not be pleased with?		
2. What things (possessions) do I covet?		
3. What am I tempted to be proud about?		

The Defensive Strategy

We need to realize we are under constant assault, there are many more opportunities for us to be tempted, than ever before. Television, DVD's and video, radio, magazines, the internet, Cable and Satellite are some of the many choices of entertainment, which feeds our need of entertainment. Today its very easy to be lulled into sense of spiritual complacency, not aware of the spiritual assault taking place.

In a battle, there is **defensive** and **offensive** strategies, the same goes in the spiritual battle. In days past, before radar and air surveillance, cities had designed systems of defence. One system was the wall, the other the watchtower. The watchtower allowed someone to see a great distance off; if an enemy was approaching, warning could be sent to people in the city, or other watchtowers so eventually a nation could be alerted to potential danger. The walls allowed the city to let those in who were

friendly by limiting access through specific openings (gates).

As an ancient city has a defensive strategy, we also should think in terms of spiritual defence. We are under spiritual assault, how do we defend ourselves? Once we identify areas where we are weak, we need to strengthen those parts in our wall. If we find ourselves watching raunchy programs, we need to ask, whom we are letting into our city. An invasion is taking place. The same goes with radio, the internet, and magazines. What images and thoughts are entering our mind that Satan could use to tempt us into sin?

The purpose of the watchtower was to look for potential problems before they became real problems. We also need our own personal watchtower; we need to be on the lookout for potential problems, so we can react pro-active (before) rather than reactive (after) it occurs. We do not want to give Satan a foothold to launch his assault. Our defensive weapons:

1. The Bible:

Jesus sent an example for every believer, when Satan on the Mount of Temptation confronted Him. Jesus who could have choose any weapon replied to Satan temptations with scripture. Satan tempted Jesus, and he replied with scripture.

The scriptures Jesus used answered the temptations brought forward by Satan. Whatever our issue is we can look to scripture to defend against Satan's assault on us.

If we have issues with sexual temptation, we can learn what scripture says about it. We can also memorize verses to help us dealing with our issues. If we have issues rooted in pride, we can do the same. Once we define our issues, we can then target that issue with the world of God.

List your temptations and the scriptural references to help you overcome those issues

Temptations	Scripture	Scripture to Memorize

2. Prayer:

We can also take the issue directly to the Lord, we can pray for deliverance from sins and temptations, which beset us. Jesus also modeled this for us, of all people who did not need to pray it would have been Jesus, so if Jesus needed to pray how much more should we.

Jesus facing the betrayal of Judas and the humiliation of the cross, prayed in the Garden, sweating great drops of blood.

You can write out a prayer dealing with your very issue, take it to the Lord.

3. The Church

The church is made up of believers, both old and young. Many in the church have experienced similar issues facing each one of us today. God gives “gifts” to the body for that very purpose. We can take our issues to pastors and counsellors who can guide us through our difficulties.

Also we look for a like minded soul, someone seeking righteousness and ask them to be a prayer or accountability partner. Look for someone who will take an interest in your spiritual wellbeing. Meet with the person for mutual prayer and support.

The Offensive Strategy

An offensive strategy means taking the battle to the enemy. You know you have an enemy, why wait the enemy to attack you. Our response does not have to be a reaction. We do not have to wait until we see the bad programs, we can remove their possibility from being shown.

The question we need to ask, is how serious we are about being all that the Lord wants us to be? Are we willing to make the hard steps. Eliminate the potential from occurring; take away Satan's chance at deception.

Offensive weapons:

1. The Bible:

We should not just study scripture to confront issues we are weak on, scripture is called the sword of the Spirit, and it's an offensive weapon. Daily Bible reading helps us to understand God's will in our life and prepares us for the assaults which aiming toward us.

2. Prayer:

Again, our prayers do not have to be defensive, we can ask the Lord to give us a hedge of protection, so that, we can have victory over the temptations even before they show themselves. We can take our issues to the throne of God.

3. Fasting:

Fasting allows us to discipline our body and mind, like a warrior in training. Through fasting we can see just how serious the issue is, how much do we hunger for righteousness rather than food this world offers.

4. Meditation/Memorization:

Jesus meditated and memorized the scripture, so why shouldn't we do the same? Before we are even attacked, God's word, which dwells in us will prepare us the continual assault on our mind.

Chapter Five

Spiritual Networking

You need to understand that the enemy you are fighting, the devil, work and fight through a high level form of organized spiritual network.

There are four (4) levels of authority in satanic spiritual networking according to Eph 6:12

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places”. Eph 6:12

1. Principalities:

These are territorial authorities of the kingdom of darkness over nations and continent. In the book of Dan 10:12-21

“Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of

Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days. And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb. And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength. For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me. Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me. Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when

I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come. But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince".

Dan 10:12-21 we learned how Daniel prayer was delayed by the prince of the kingdom of Persia until God sent the Angel Michael, one of the Chief princes of Angel in Heaven, the answers to his prayer were not given.

2. Powers:

These are world rulers men and women in authority at different levels in a nation that are agent and instrument of destruction in the hand of the devil. For instance, leaders and Authority sponsoring terrorism and killing of people across the world.

3. Rulers of the darkness of this world

These are various authorities in different kinds of spiritual groups of darkness like occults, witches, wizard, brotherhood and various satanic formation.

4. Spiritual Wickedness in high places

These are demons and various spiritual forces of wickedness that carries out instruction and operations for these higher levels of authority.

The Networking Operation

These four levels of spiritual authorities in the kingdom of darkness are in constant and organized high level networking just to get at you.

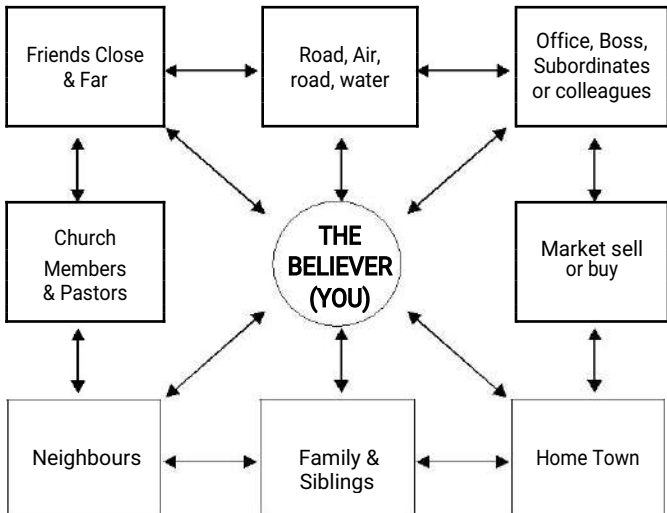
You may not see them physically and definitely you cannot except through the eyes of the spirit and that is why they are spiritual forces of darkness, but they are constantly attacking you through every means possible.

They attack your job or business through your colleagues that is an agent in the office, they attack your home through your siblings or house maid staying with you, they attack your spiritual growth in the church through their members present, they attack you in the market places and through your neighbour next door etc. everywhere you are is a potential place of attack.

Since, you cannot avoid the attack by changing location. Since these is no where to hide then its better to fight back and attack you attacker, more so when you have someone greater than they to fight for you, Jesus Christ and you are sure of victory. Am glad to tell you also that everywhere you are is a potential place of victory if you are rooted in God. ***“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his***

wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him". - Ps 2:1-12

Spiritual Warfare against the Devils Networking



In Eph. 6:12, the Bible says we should put on the whole armour of God in order to overcome these spiritual networking of the devil against us.

Let's look at the description of the armour of God:

(a) **Having girded your waist with TRUTH**, vs.14
– Truth is that revelation of God, found in Christ and known in the scriptures.

(b) **Having put on the breastplate of righteousness**, vs.14

- Righteousness is given by God, through His son Jesus Christ. Everyone who is born of God through Christ Jesus is righteous.

(c) **Having shod you feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace**, vs.15 The gospel is the power of God for salvation to all who believe. It is the good news of the kingdom of God. It is the message of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

(d) **Above all, taking the shield of faith**, vs.16

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for the conviction of things not seen. It is that bond between man and God that pleases God, ***“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”***. Heb. 11:6

- With faith you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

(e) **Take the helmet of salvation**, vs. 17

- The cross of Christ is central
- Some walk around with only the helmet on.
- This is the greatest of all gift ***"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord"***. Rom 6:23
- It is your deliverance from the pit of hell whose grip of sin upon you has been broken. You are free from sin. You are free to believe the gospel, to glorify God in truth, to live in righteousness and faith through Jesus Christ, the only way.

(f) **And the word of the spirit, which is the word of God**, vs. 17

- The word is that which teaches you, guides you, and admonishes. It is worthy of study so that you might learnt what is right and acceptable to God.

Why must you take on God's Armour

- (a) So that you won't be naked and rely on your own strength.
- (b) So that you may remain strong that is why these six (6) weapon were given to you. So that you might remain strong in faith, rooted in the gospel, living in truth, and victorious by faith. It is the armour of God that you wear that keeps you safe and strong. It has already been field tested and proven itself worthy of trust.

To trust the armour of God is to trust God, you can trust God's provision for battle, not your own. God's faithfulness to you has already been manifested in the cross.

PRAYER

You must pray at all time in order to maintain a victorious living. If we put on the whole armour and we are not prayerfully, we are like a soldier putting on his armour of war but is just standing by not attacking the enemy despite several gun shots and bullets flying past him. If he is not careful the enemy might catch him on target and shoot him. We have to pray.

- (a) At all time in spirit- This does not mean we pray every seconds, but it means we pray in all situation and in all things no matter how small or insignificant we may think it is. Learn to commit all things to God and pray about everything. This is one area we often give room for the devil to attack us because of our carelessness in thinking some things does not require praying or committing them to God.
- (b) We have to pray with all perseverance
 - This means you are to continue in prayer even though you do not seems to get answers or the answers you get does not seem to be what you had hoped for. Consider Daniel in Dan. 10:12-21 ***Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine***

heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days. And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb. And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength. For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me. Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me. Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come. But I

will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince". Dan. 10:12-21. He kept on praying until God intervened and he got an answer to his prayer even more than what he prayed for.

- (c) We have to pray for all saints-Are you praying for your brothers and sisters in Christ? Are you praying for those who run the Church Administration? Are you praying for your Pastors?

From the spiritual networking of the devil explained above, we have seen that devil could work through any means just to get at us, even through brethren that are spiritually weak and slacken in the church. That is why we must pray for them so that instead of Devil using them against us. God will use them for us. You have to be proactive and be ahead of the devil in this spiritual battle.

- (d) Pray for your leaders & people around you.

Pray and commit the heart of your Boss(es) in the office to God, your colleagues, your family, your neighbours and friends.

NOTE; The more you win these people to God the more you are creating for yourself a place of rest all around you because the devil will not be able to use them against you through his spiritual network of darkness.

Chapter Six

God's Army for Spiritual Battle

The bible say, "***The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is his name***" (Exod. 15:3).

The kingdom of God is in a constant battle with the kingdom of Satan, to destroy their attack and manipulation over men and women in order to deliver them from kingdom of darkness unto the kingdom of light.

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son". Col. 1:13"

Everyone that accept Jesus as his Lord and Saviour and become born again is automatically recruited into God's Army.

Jesus is the commander in Chief of the Armed of God's kingdom. We are His Commanders, Major Generals, Generals, Colonels, Captains and Recruits.

In the literal world, the Army has different divisions and battalions headed by different commanders for different territorial attack and coverage. In the same way, every

church of God, rooted and established in true and living word of God represents different divisions and battalions of Army headed by different commanders. These are the Generals, God has called to establish those churches, the great men of God.

In every camp you may belong to you have to follow instructions through your commander (your Apostle and Pastors) given by the Chief Commander (Jesus Christ).

Soldiers are one of the most discipline people because they have laid down their lives to fight and protect their country. They lay aside every distraction. They go through tough training because there is no room for mistake in the battle front.

So it is in God's Army, there is no room for mistake.

"No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier". 2 Tim. 2:4.

We have to do every thing to please the one who have called us to be His soldiers.

There is only one way to please Him who have called us to be enlisted as His soldier, and that is **OBEDIENCE**. 99.9% obedience is still total disobedience to God. God expect from us nothing short of 100% obedience. We have to follow the instruction of our Commander in Chief to the letter, if we want to survive in these spiritual battles.

“And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully”. 2 Tim. 2:5

To obey is better than sacrifice –

“And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams”. 1 Sam 15:22b

WHO IS COMMANDING YOU IN THE BATTLES OF YOUR LIFE?

How sure are you that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Commander in Chief, is the one commanding you? Are you sure, you are not being led by your desires for materials things, your desire to make name and your desires to enjoy life which are in contrast with God's purpose for your life.

You are a soldier no doubt, but what kind of a soldier are you. Are you a soldier that follows instructions from Jesus, your Commander in Chief, or not?

No matter how big a soldier is in the Army, if he does not follow instructions on the battle field, no matter how little he might think the instruction is, he may pay seriously for it even with his own life.

We have to lay aside every weight and be setting sins that would not allow us to be focused on God and be alert as a good soldier.

“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us”. Heb. 12:1.

“ Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking”. 1 Pet. 2:1

There are many Christians today who are giants in the Lord, but they are still struggling with some besetting sin. You need to check yourself at this point and examine your stand in the Lord. Do you do things to please God or men. The way you talk, the way you dress.

These are things many Christians are neglecting even when the Holy Spirit is pricking your heart about the kind of dressing you wear or put on that is not pleasing to Him. If you can't follow God's instructions and leadings through His Spirit as regards little things like your dressing, how do you expect Him to guide and instruct you in greater things? Other negligible ways many Christians are easily ensnared are through backbiting, gisting and gossiping.

It amazing to see the amount of time wasted by many Christians in gossiping, gusting and backbitting about other people.

These are strongholds used by the kingdom of darkness to create a leaking in the life of a believer through which his/her strength in the Lord can be reduced.

WHAT LEVEL ARE YOU IN THE RANK OF GOD'S ARMY

A new recruit in the Army today does not remain a recruit forever. A Major General in the Army today was once a recruit some years back. But with dedication, discipline and total obedience to commanding instructions as a soldier he rose and rose until he become a General.

You cannot remain a baby soldier and expect to handle greater weapons of war and win greater battle. Your rank in the army determines the kind of battle you can handle.

As you grow in age, physically, emotionally and increase in size as a family, if you are married, you must also grow spiritually, else there would be an imbalance and you may put yourself in a situation where you may be taken advantage of by the enemy.

Are you still in the same spiritual level you were last year, two years or 5 years ago? A soldier that only knows how to use a small pistol and is not familiar with how to use a machine gun yet or a granite bomb and other heavier weapons of war might be at disadvantage if he finds himself in a situation to defend himself against an enemy that could only be destroyed with only one of this heavier weapons he has not learnt how to use.

There are many weapons of war available for use to us in God in our spiritual warfare as Christians. These weapons include **The Name of Jesus, The Blood of Jesus, The Anointing Oil, The Word of God, The mantle** and many others as the spirit of God gives understanding and revelation.

Your audacity and authority to use these weapons effectively is determined by your level and rank in the army of God.

So you must set your mind to grow and move from one level of glory to another so that you can enjoy greater history.

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord”.
2 Cor. 3:18

Chapter Seven

Conclusion

Victory is Sure

In summarizing the message of this book on fighting the battles of your life. I would like to use the same illustration of a soldier and warrior as I have been using along in this book to show you the path to God's assured way of victory in spiritual warfare.

BECOME A SOLDIER FOR CHRIST IN HIS KINGDOM

A soldier is only called a soldier because he fulfills the conditions required for being enlisted as a soldier in the Army. He is not called a soldier just by desiring or just by wearing a soldier uniform (he can't even wear it because he is not qualified, because if he is caught, he will be in trouble).

He must have been recruited and gone through certain drills of training to become a soldier.

In similar way, you cannot become a soldier in God's kingdom until you give your life to Christ Jesus and make Him the Lord and Saviour of your soul. You need to first repent of your evil ways and forsake them and embrace His righteous ways and follow Him. Only then will you

qualify as God's Soldier of war. Once you give your life to Jesus Christ and become born again, you are automatically enlisted in the Lord's Army as God's soldier. Although you may still be a baby soldier or a recruit, you have taken the first step of becoming a General in God's Army. As explained earlier in this book, there are two kingdoms at war on a daily basis, even every minute. The kingdom of light which is the kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness which is that of Satan. Every human being on earth belongs to one of the two whether you like it or not. You have a choice to choose where you want to belong but you cannot be neutral.

If you do not declare that you belong to Jesus by giving your life to him and being born again you are automatically in Satan's kingdom.

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me". Act 26:18

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son". Col. 1:13

The Holy Spirit (Your compass as a soldier)

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed

away; behold, all things are become new".

1 Cor. 5:17.

Just like a compass is to a soldier for guidance and direction on the way to go so is the Holy Spirit to the believer.

After you become born again you need to know and recognize the presence and need of the Holy Spirit in your life. You need to be filled with the Holy Spirit for without him you can do nothing.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing". *John 15:5*

The Bible says in 1 Cor. 5:17. "If any man be in Christ Old things are passed away and behold all things are new. You are in a new kingdom of light, which you were not used to, a new terrain, you need guidance on how to walk, speak, run, fly and what are your rights, what you shouldn't do and what is expected of you.

The only person qualified to teach perfectly and convincingly all these things is the Holy Spirit of God. Without him you can't even move one step ahead in the journey No matter how unfamiliar and strange a soldier finds himself in a place during warfare he can always trace his way forward or backward to the camp once he has his compass with him.

As you begin to learn the new journey as a born again child of God, a soldier of Christ, you are likely to take

some steps and decisions that may take you away from your present track. Once you are filled with the Holy Spirit of God, He will help you trace your way back to God's camp of safety if you listen to him.

“Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way”. Ps. 25:4 & 9

“Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies”. Ps. 27:11

PULL DOWN AND DESTROY THE STRONGHOLDS AND STRONGMAN

Because you are in a daily warfare as a soldier of Christ with the kingdom of darkness, you have to ensure that you do not give the enemies any room to take advantage of you ad track you.

As a new soldier in Christ just born again, our spirit is brand new according to God's word. ***“For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect”. 1 Cor. 5:17.*** But we need to work the work of faith in renewing our mind also through God's word and prayer. ***“Beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of***

your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God". Rom 12:1- 2

BE AWARE AND GET ACQUAINTED WITH THE STRATEGIES YOUR ENEMY IS USING TO ATTACK YOU

You need to get yourself informed through the word of God and revelation through constant prayer; of the devices and manipulations of your enemy.

"And the Lord spake unto Moses in the plains of Moab by Jordan near Jericho, saying". Num. 33:50

Why do the fight yourself when you don't even know how to do it. You don't even know what your enemy is up to, so how do you defend against him or counter the move of the enemy.

Your can cheaply win a battle when you know what your enemy strategies and plans are through the leading of the Holy Spirit. If you ask for the way, the Holy Spirit will lead you and guide you and tell you the way out of the situation. He will tell you what to do and how to do it and when to do it. He is always on time, He is never late if we submit to His leading.

The toughest battle can become the easiest one for you, simply by submitting totally to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by

power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts". Zech 4:6

DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO COUNTER THE ENEMIES STRATEGIES

After you have known, the strategies and plans of the enemy, you need to come up with a strategy to counter the enemy's plan through the Holy Spirit.

How do you know the strategy or strategies to use? Of course, you ask the same person who revealed the plans of the enemy. It would be foolish to think you can now attack the enemy on your own after the Holy Spirit has revealed their plans. In the book of Joshua 8:1-8, The Lord God instructed Joshua the strategies to win the battle against Ai and her king.

If you are wise enough to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the strategies and plans of the enemy, you should be wiser to ask Him how to counter them.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing". John. 15:5.

Once, you yield yourself to the leading of the Holy Spirit to guide you. You can never miss it and victory is sure.

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

It is very important to let you know the importance of praying in the spirit at this junction. In fact, you should

know that it is actually the key you need to unlock the door into the realm where you can understand, access and comprehend what the Holy Spirit is saying.

Your growth in spiritual things is tightening to your ability to pray in the spirit.

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints”. Eph. 6: 18

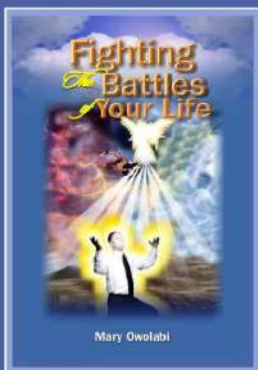
“For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries”. 1 Cor. 14:2

Several gifts of the Spirit that you need in other to survive in the battles of life as a Christian like gift of **discernment, word of knowledge, wisdom, prophesy, revelation, Healing** etc are released into your life when you learn how to pray in the spirit.

Praying in the Spirit is a way of life you must get used to if you want to be a victor all the days of your life as a Christian. It is the easiest way to be a champion and a master of situation having total control over the enemy and their manipulations.

It is the road to total victory. But note, your praying in the Spirit will only be more effective if you meditate on God's word day and night and the word of God dwells in you. When you pray in the Spirit you will be a victor for sure.

About the Book



This is a book that reveals how the human nature of a man (self) can be overcome while man is at the altar of prayer.

The devil bows at the presence of the light of God. Man receiving his victory constantly.

About the Author



Deaconess Mary Oluwakemi Owolabi is a humble Spirit-filled child of God. A Holy Spirit led writer of the secret of breakthrough on every aspects of human life. She is a Chartered Accountant, who with humility and fear of God obey the call of God upon her life. She is happily married with children to the honour and glory of God.

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