

Spiritual Warfare “Launching Rockets”

Over the past few weeks, we have established that our enemies are not flesh and blood but spiritual. **Eph. 6:12**. And our weapons are not carnal (of the flesh), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. **II Cor. 10:3-4**

We have discussed our main “spiritual weapons” - The Word of God, The Name of Jesus and The Blood of Jesus. How do we use these “spiritual weapons” to pull down Satan’s strongholds?

God has given us some “Launching Rockets” for our “spiritual Warheads”. The first one we want to look at is PRAYER.

The Bible says in **Jas. 5:15**- “the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up;” vs. 16 says to “pray for one another that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

How do we pray fervently? First of all, we must pray in His will. His Word IS His will. Pray His Word. This means we will have to spend some quality time in His Word to understand His will.

II Tim. 2:15

Secondly, pray in the Name of Jesus. **Jn. 14:13-14** -“ ..if ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it.” (Of course we need to be walking after the Holy Spirit; doing our best to live right.) Also, **Jn. 15:7,16; Jn. 16:23,24,26**.

Thirdly, we pray in the authority we received through the shed Blood of Jesus.

II Chron. 7:14 - “If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” God was speaking to the Israelites then, but now that also includes all of us “Christians”, who have been grafted in to His people. I see much repentance in this verse. God wants our hearts to be pure when we come before Him. **Jer. 33:3** “Call unto me and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”

There are some attitudes or ways of prayer that might help our prayers to be “effectual”. For our purposes here, I will just call them “rules”.

1) The “rule” of boldness. - **Heb. 10:19,20**- “Having therefore brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh.”

2) In the same verse we see another “rule” of prayer: the rule of the blood - The cleansing of the blood of Jesus is basic to our approach to God. **Titus 3:5** - “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit”.

3) The “rule” of faith - **Heb. 11:6** - “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 who diligently seek Him.”

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4) The “rule” of right relations - **Mark 11:24,25** - “Therefore I say unto you, what things soever you desire, when ye pray, believe that you receive them and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive your trespasses.”

5) The “rule” of God’s will - **I Jn. 5:14,15** “and this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us: and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.” Also see **Jas. 4:2-4**

6) The “rule” of the Holy Spirit - **Rom. 8:26** - “Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself (Himself) maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” Also, we should pray not only with our understanding but pray in the Spirit, as Paul wrote in **I Cor. 14:15** - “what is it then? I will pray with the Spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the Spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”

7) The “rule” of praise - **Psa.34:1** - “I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth.” **Heb. 13:15** - “By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.” This is an excellent way to keep our hearts fixed on God and in an attitude of prayer. **Psa. 108:1-3** - “Oh God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise, even with my glory. Awake psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early. I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations.” Praise and worship turns our hearts to God and away from self and puts everything in proper perspective.

8) The “rule” of right motives - **Jas. 4:2b-3** - “..ye have not because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts”. Here again, we see the importance of praying according to God’s will, not our selfish desires.

9) The “rule” of binding and loosing - **Matt. 16:17-19; Matt. 18:18-20** - verse 18- “verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven”. The prayer of binding and loosing must be launched on the authority of the shed blood of Jesus, according to His Word and in His Name.

Next time we will look at another “launching Rocket”.

God Bless You!