

Fighting The Good Fight of Faith – Part 1: Pulling Down Strongholds

2 Cor. 10:3-6

The Flesh

- ❖ What is the flesh?
 - Sarx: the flesh, denotes mere human nature, the earthly nature of man apart from divine influence, and therefore prone to sin and opposed to God (Thayer's Greek Definitions)
 - It refers to our inherited nature from Adam – 1 Cor. 15:45-50; Eph. 2:3
- ❖ No matter how we dress it or condition it externally, it is still the flesh
Rom. 7:18
- ❖ Although we all have flesh, we are not to live by it – 2 Cor. 10:3; Rom. 8:1-8
- ❖ Examples of the flesh
 - Making decisions in anger or wrath – James 2:23
 - Believers taking other believers to court – 1 Cor. 6:1-11 (AMP)

The Warfare

- ❖ To understand the warfare, you must first recognize the war – Isa. 14:12; Eph. 6:12; Rev. 12:7-11
- ❖ It is spiritual in nature and is not limited to this world. Hence, we must be willing to engage the enemy where the battle truly is. And, since God already has the victory, He desires the earth to manifest the victory as it already is in heaven. Mat. 6:10

The Weapons

- ❖ Not carnal but mighty through God
 - The enemy desires us to think that the weapons God has equipped us with are ineffective. But, if you understand the principles of God, they are more than effective.

THE FLESH

Manipulation and lies
Perception of power and intimidation
Human schemes and programs
Images and facades of success
Flattery and smooth words
Overbearing, unruly, and authoritative

GODLY WEAPONS

Prayer
Fasting
Truth
Breastplate of righteousness
The Gospel
The Shield of Faith
Helmet of Salvation
Sword of the Spirit

- ❖ The purpose of the weapons is to deal with strongholds!

The Strongholds

- ❖ What are the strongholds Paul is referring to?
 - Imaginations – Pro. 12:20
 - Every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God
 - Thoughts
 - Thoughts of lust, thoughts of anger, thoughts of fear, thoughts of greed, bitter thoughts, evil thoughts – they are part of every thought that may be, must be brought thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.
- ❖ Poverty
- ❖ Victimization
- ❖ Intimidation