

# The Sword of the Spirit

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Christ not only came to set captives free, He came to train and empower the recently freed to be warriors.

We may not always walk perfectly, but because God causes all things to work for good, we still can walk triumphantly. How can we, imperfect Christians, walk triumphantly? The Bible says we overcome "because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of [our] testimony, and [we do] not love [our lives] even when faced with death" (Rev. 12:11).

These three things - Christ's atoning blood, our testimony of God's eternal word and choosing to not love our own lives - secure us in the place of victory. We are a covenant people, a people purchased for God from every nation. Yes, we still sin, but God has placed the iniquity of us all upon His Son, Jesus Christ (Isa. 53). When the enemy comes to accuse and condemn us for our failures, we must remind ourselves that every sin we have ever committed has been nailed to Christ's cross. The entire "certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us," has been paid in full by the blood of Jesus Christ! (Col. 2:14).

As much as we need the blood of Christ, to functionalize our victory, we also need a living knowledge of God's word. Many Christians are awakened spiritually, but they do not know God's promises in the Bible. To be successful, we must know God's word, believe it and speak it with faith when we pray. We overcome by the "word of our testimony."

Third, in our world of excess and self-gratification, we must learn the wisdom and power of carrying the cross ("they did not love their life"). By becoming true disciples of Jesus Christ, the cross keeps us focused on our transformation. It also keeps us from the quicksand of self-pity, gratuitous over-indulgence and unforgiveness.

To aid your fight of faith, we've prepared a brief collection of Scriptures. Remember, God's word will not return to Him without accomplishing the purpose for which He sent it (Isa. 55:11). Let us, therefore, "hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful" (Heb. 10:23). Don't murmur when you pray, proclaim the word of God with authority. Indeed, the Holy Spirit tells us to take up "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). If we advance protected by the blood of the Lamb; if we war armed with the word of God; and if shoulder in our hearts the cross of Christ, we will truly be "more than conquerors through Him that loved us" (Rom. 8:37 KJV).

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The following are just a few of the many mighty promises of God. We urge you to print these verses, memorize them and pass them on to your friends and fellow intercessors.

## Spiritual Warfare Verses

"The Lord will go forth like a warrior, He will arouse His zeal like a man of war. He will utter a shout, yes, He will raise a war cry. He will prevail against His enemies" (Isa. 42:13).

"Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it" (Matt.16:18).

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

"Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you" (Luke 10:19).

"You will tread upon the lion and cobra, the young lion and the serpent you will trample down" (Ps. 91:13).

"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place" (2 Cor. 2:14).

"Can the prey be taken from the mighty man, or the captives of a tyrant be rescued? Surely, thus says the Lord, 'Even the captives of the mighty man will be taken away, and the prey of the tyrant will be rescued; for I will contend with the one who contends with you, and I will save your sons'" (Isa. 49:24-25).

"Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matt. 18:18).

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph 6:17).

"The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8).

"I pursued my enemies and overtook them, and I did not turn back until they were consumed. I shattered them, so that they were not able to rise; they fell under my feet. For You have girded me with strength for battle; You have subdued under me those who rose up against me. You

have also made my enemies turn their backs to me, and I destroyed those who hated me" (Ps. 18:37-40).

"When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own homestead, his possessions are undisturbed; but when someone stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away from him all his armor on which he had relied, and distributes his plunder" (Luke 11:21-22).

"Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out" (John 12:31).

"The ruler of this world has been judged" (John 16:11).

"He ... disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him" (Col. 2:15).

"No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their vindication is from Me,' declares the LORD" (Isa. 54:17).

"You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

"Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

"All authority has been given me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:19-20).

#### Divine Shelter of God

"For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son" (Col. 1:13).

"The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold" (Ps. 18:2).

"He who was born of God keeps [us] and the evil one does not touch [us]" (1 John 5:18).

"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty" (Ps. 91:1).

"And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God" (Rom. 8:28).

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7 NKJV).

"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him" (John 14:23).

"My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep" (Ps. 121:2-4).

"The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. The sun will not smite you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forever" (Ps. 121:5-8).

"Our soul has escaped as a bird out of the snare of the trapper; the snare is broken and we have escaped" (Ps. 124:7).

## Fear

"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18).

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me" (Ps. 23:4).

"Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them" (2 Kings 6:16).

"Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil" (Heb. 2:14).

"Since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives" (Heb. 2:14-15).

## Deliverance, Forgiveness and Salvation

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:17-19).

"He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea" (Mic. 7:19).

"Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7:25).

"Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us" (Rom. 8:34).

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

"He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities" (Isa. 53:5).

"You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance" (Ps. 32:7).

"For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper and from the deadly pestilence" (Ps. 91:3).

## Peace

"The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet" (Rom. 16:20).

"In no way alarmed by your opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God" (Phil. 1:28).

"Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet" (Ps. 110:1).

"Be still, and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10 KJV).

"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may

exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:6-7).

"In peace I will both lie down and sleep, for You alone, O LORD, make me to dwell in safety" (Ps. 4:8).

"For thus the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, has said, 'In repentance and rest you will be saved, in quietness and trust is your strength.' But you were not willing" (Isa. 30:15).

#### The Power of the New Covenant

"And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death" (Rev. 12:11).

"He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross" (Col. 2:13-14).

"And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins'" (Matt. 26:26-28).

"As for you also, because of the blood of My covenant with you, I have set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to the stronghold, O prisoners who have the hope; this very day I am declaring that I will restore double to you" (Zech 9:11-12).

#### Healing

"Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried" (Isa. 53:4).

"But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed" (Isa. 53:5).

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8).

"The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them" (Matt. 4:24).

## Family

"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household" (Acts 16:31).

"For I will contend with the one who contends with you, and I will save your sons" (Isa. 49:25).

"And it shall be in the last days,' God says, 'that I will pour forth of my spirit on all mankind ; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams'" (Acts 2:17).

## Discernment

"The devil . . . was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

"But he who is spiritual appraises all things" (1 Cor. 2:15).

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty strength. Put on the whole armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the devil's strategies. For our struggle is not against a human opponent, but against rulers, against authorities, against cosmic powers in the darkness around us, against evil spiritual forces in the heavenly realm. For this reason, take up the whole armor of God so that you may be able to take a stand in that evil day. And when you have done everything you could, you will be able to stand firm. Stand firm, therefore, having fastened the belt of truth around your waist, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness. And having put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In addition (above all), to all of these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to put out all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Also take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times with every kind of prayer and request there is. For the same reason be alert with every kind of effort and request for all the saints" (Eph. 6:10-18).