

HEART OF A WARRIOR

“Give me a man and let us fight each other!” 1 Samuel 17:10

First Samuel 17 records one of the most favorite stories in the Bible, the story of David and Goliath. In this book, the author retells the story in his own words. As you read, picture in your mind the battle raging between the forces of heaven and the forces of hell. It is real, and we are part of it.

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The Christians and the demons were drawing their battle lines, facing each other. The two armies were fighting each other. Shepherd boy David left his supplies with the keeper and ran to the battle lines to greet his brothers. They were among the soldiers who were ready to fight. Goliath had come out to

meet them, surrounded by all of his demon army. They had come to fight and were giving their war cry.

As David visited with his brothers, Goliath, the territorial spirit, stepped out from the battle lines and shouted his usual defiance. David heard it, and when the soldiers (church people) saw the territorial spirit, they fled in great fear.

Now the church people kept saying, “Do you see how this spirit demon keeps coming out? He comes out and defies God’s church.” So David asked, “Who is this defeated little spirit demon, that he should defy the armies of the church of the living God?”

The trained soldiers, with swords and shields and with their battle lines drawn, were ready to fight until the territorial spirit stepped out and breathed threatening remarks. Then they were afraid and ran. But little shepherd boy David spoke up and said, “This spirit is going down!”

David knew his authority. He knew who he was in God. David said, “Is there not a cause?” I believe this is what God is saying to the church. *“Is there not a cause?”*

Do you have a reason to fight? Do you have a reason to stand up and resist the enemy? Or will you run the rest of your life and be defeated? Will

you stand up against the enemy who has already been stripped and disarmed according to Colossians? Will you take your ground and take your stand and defeat what Jesus has already defeated?

Shepherd boy David said to church leader Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this spirit. Your servant will go and fight him.” Saul said, “You are not able to go out against this spirit and fight him. You are only a boy and he has been fighting men for thousands of years.” But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his heavenly father’s sheep and there were two demons who came and carried off a sheep from the flock. I went after them

and struck the demons and rescued the sheep from their mouth. When they turned to me I seized them by prayer and intercession and defeated those little spirits. I defeated both of those demons and this defeated territorial spirit will be just like one of them because he has defied the church of the living God. The Lord who delivered me from the two little demons will deliver me from the power of this territorial spirit.”

Saul said, “Go! And the Lord be with you!” Then Saul dressed David in his own armor and gave him his own sword and David tried to walk but he could not. Then David said to Saul, “I cannot go in these. I cannot fight with the weapons of this world, but only with

weapons that are divinely powerful for the taking down of demon spirits.” So he took them off. Then he took his Bible in his hand and chose five powerful scriptures, and approached the territorial spirit.

Meanwhile the territorial spirit, with his shieldbearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. He looked David over and saw that he was just a boy, ruddy and handsome, and he hated him. He said to David, “Am I a dog that you come at me with those little Bible verses?” And he cursed David. “Come here, and I will give your flesh to the demons of the air and the demons of the field!”

David said to the territorial spirit, “You come against me with weapons, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of the victorious church, whom you have defied! This day the Lord will hand you over to me and I will strike you down and defeat your power, and today I will give you back to the demons of darkness, and the whole world will know that there is a God! And all those gathered here will know that it is not by spear or sword that the Lord saves, but the battle is the Lord’s, and He will give you into our hands.”

As the spirit moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly towards the battle line. He took a scripture verse

and he spoke it, and it struck the spirit on the forehead. The powerful verse sank into his forehead and he fell to the ground. So shepherd boy David triumphed over the territorial spirit with intercession and the Word of God. And without the weapons of the world in his hands, he struck down the territorial spirit and defeated him.”

(1 Samuel 17, “Don Babin version”)

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Many Christians need to get their fight back. We have listened to demon spirits as Israel did to Goliath, and have become a church full of cowards like Saul and his army. God needs real men and women ‘who have a cause’. Not

someone who runs when the going gets tough. Not cowards, not sissies, but real, fighting men and women of God who are willing to war in the heavenlies for their children, their family, their church, their city, and their nation.

Is there not a cause? 1 Samuel  
17

Can someone find a reason to fight? If we do not fight against the enemy, we will be defeated. Demons do not have mercy. If we do not fight them, they will not surrender. As a part of the army of God, we have no choice but to fight, to resist, and to submit to God. Get on the front lines and take a stand

and fight for your family, your church, and your nation.

God is still looking for men like David. The war is still raging. There is still a battle to be fought. God is looking for men after His own heart. The Bible says that David was a 'brave man and a warrior'. God wants brave, fighting men and women. He wants soldiers who will stand and fight even when the odds are against them. We need more Gideon's who know God is with them.

Exodus 15:3 says, "**God is a warrior.**" Unfortunately today, when we think about Jesus, we think of someone meek and mild-mannered like the children's TV host, Mr. Rogers. But Jesus is not a Mr. Rogers. He is a mighty war-

rior. We have turned Jesus into a coward, a Mr. Niceguy, a pushover type of man. That is a false image of God. The Bible says He is a 'warrior'.

The Old Testament is full of bloodshed. God told Israel to kill the enemy, to kill their children and their animals, and to destroy everything that belonged to the enemy. But we have created in our own minds a false image of God and yet we are commanded not to worship any false image. We become like whatever we worship. If we worship a false image of God, that is what we will become like. What have the Christian men in America become? We have become like the God we worship, and because of that we do not have men who know

how to fight. The men of America have stood back and allowed the women to fight in their places. Demon spirits are pushing the church around, and our cities have fallen into control of territorial spirits. They are defeated spirits, but they rule because we have no men like David, who know their identity in Christ, who will stand up and defy the demon spirits. We need to get our fight back!

Men, what movies stir your heart? Is it *Bambi*, or is it *The Gladiator*, *Die Hard*, *Brave\_Heart*, *The Patriot*? It is those movies that stir something in a man. They stir our manhood that the church has stripped away from our manhood and replaced with passivity. The church in America is being defeated

by the devil because we men have lost our fight. We have no spiritual masculinity.

History tells us that men used to hunt and kill for their food. They killed and gutted an animal for its meat, then dragged it home for the family. Today we have lost that image of men as fighters and warriors.

If you have been born again, you have the DNA of Jesus and He is a warrior. That warrior spirit in your manhood needs to rise up so you can be the fighter and the defender that God has called you to be.

Every great patriarch in the Bible had a battle to fight. Abraham fought and defended his nephew Lot. He killed

kings and destroyed their armies. He won his battles and intimidated people because he knew he was on God's team.

David had many battles to fight. The Bible says that Saul slew his thousands, but David slew his ten thousands.

Joshua was a warrior who intimidated his enemies. He knew about manhood and he knew who he was in God. He was being the warrior God called him to be.

Think about Samson. When Samson had a bad day, all the Philistines had a bad day. Samson killed one thousand Philistine soldiers single-handedly. When did he do these

mighty feats? The Bible says it was when the Spirit of the Lord came upon him. He was a Spirit filled warrior. This is what all men need to be.

Think about Jesus for a minute. He was more of a man than this earth has ever seen. Did He fight any battles? He fought the devil tooth and nail. He fought hell. He fought sin. He fought death. He fought the grave. He defeated every one of them! He fought to the blood. That's a man, and He lives inside every Christian.

Jesus walked into the temple with a whip in his hand, kicked over the tables, and everyone ran. They saw a fire in His eyes they knew they could not defeat. Where is that Jesus today?

Where is warrior Jesus? I am not talking about "spiritual macho-ism". I am talking about being a warrior like God. We should be fighters because the DNA of God is a warrior and a fighter. We need men that 'have a cause' and will allow the warrior in them to come out. God made us defenders and that must be released out of us in the spirit.

Have you ever wondered why men cannot overcome addictions and strongholds in their lives? Could it be because there is no fight in them? Their fight was taken away as they grew up.

When a baby boy is born, he is born a fighter and warrior. Psychologists say we should not let our children play with guns, but we cannot keep that

kind of play out of their lives. A little boy will take a tree limb and use it as a pistol or chew his gram cracker into a knife.

We have tried to “de-manhood” humanity. We teach our children not to play army. We teach them to be “sweet”. We teach them to “be laid back”. But dads need to teach their sons about their manhood. Dads need to teach them that they have war inside of them. Dads need to teach their boys to stand up and fight because the church needs men who will be men and ‘have a cause’.

Dorothy Sayers said this about the church: ***“Very efficiently the church has pared the claws of the Lion of Judah, making Him a fitting house-***

***hold pet for pale curators and pious old ladies.”***

Is Jesus a Mother Teresa or a William Wallis? If you are a leper who has not been touched in a long time, He becomes a Mother Teresa. But underneath that Mother Teresa is a blood-thirsty warrior. He is not only a kind-hearted Mother Teresa, He is also a warrior Jesus. That warrior spirit should be in every believer.<sup>1</sup> God wants to use the church to defeat the enemy, but the church has been stripped of its manhood and we must recapture that.

In today’s church, the women do most of the fighting. If it were not for the women, the church could not survive.

But we need men, real men, who can say like David, “Is there not a cause?”

Remember the Beach of Normandy when the third group came ashore. Their ship encountered the bodies of their dead comrades and the ocean was red with the blood of men. As they stepped off the ship with their guns in their hands, they stepped over dead bodies. There were wounded men everywhere who were struggling for life. Those were men. Men who had a cause to fight. We need a cause!

Look around at our “Normandy Beach”. Do you see the men slain by addictions to pornography, affairs, immorality, lying, and unfaithfulness? Do you see the little children afraid of their

daddy because he is an alcoholic and he beats them when he comes home? Do you see the little girls afraid because their daddy has turned into a beast who commits immorality against them? Do you see children who are drug addicts, men who are homeless, families that have been split, and alcoholism and drug addiction? Do you see the Normandy Beaches of your city? Are you going to lay down and let the enemy do this to your family, your church, and your nation? Or will you stand up and fight and be the man God has called you to be?

In the movie, *The Patriot*, the fight rose up in him when the enemy attacked his home and killed his son. He went to

battle and slaughtered those men. His boys stood there shocked because they had never seen that side of their dad.

Every woman wants a man who will fight for her and for her children. And the children in America need to see the warrior side of their dads. They need to know that their dads will fight for them, defend them, pray and fast, and stay up all night if that is what it takes to hold back the hordes of hell. All of this being spiritual of course.

Some in God's army are ready and willing to fight. Others stop at only words. But like in *The Patriot*, it's time for us to "act upon the words and the beliefs that we so strongly speak about." These words spoken in the movie 'The

Patriot' at a country church trying to find me who were willing to fight. It is time to fight.

We need men who will defend their families and their children and grandchildren. We need men who will rise up in the spiritual DNA that God has put in them, to make them the warrior that God has called them to be. We need men after God's own heart, who will fight.

The enemy is afraid of a church where the men are fighters. When we let our spiritual masculinity rise up we will become a threat to the enemy. As warriors, we can defeat what destroys our cities and threatens our kids.

We will never make peace through compromise. If that were possible, the King of Peace would have done it. He used war to bring peace. We need to turn away from the false image of God that tells us we are spineless Christians who can be pushed around. We need to be like David and declare that we are children of the King, and that we will not stand there any longer and let the devil defy us as Goliath did to Israel.

When Israel was backed against the Red Sea, God made a way for them to cross over on dry ground, but He drowned the Egyptians. He slew all their enemies when they trusted Him. Walled cities fell. Giants were killed. Men, women, and children of enemy na-

tions were viciously slaughtered. That is the God we need resurrected in our lives today. The God that has slaughtered all the enemies of hell, needs a body in order to fight. The church is supposed to be that body of Christ.

In the movie *Brave Heart*, William Wallace raised up a militia to fight against the king of Scotland for all the violence being committed against the people. He went to a group of men who did not want to fight and who did not look like soldiers or warriors. He encouraged them and said, "We will fight! They may take our lives but they will never take our freedom!" My favorite words in the movie 'Brave Heart' were the words of William Wallace. In his

speech right before the big battle he said, "I'm going to pick a fight!" Will you fight for your freedom, for your children, for your church, grandchildren, and your future? Will you fight for revival and for holiness and purity in our nation again? Will you fight for your nation to return to God?

Every man has had dreams of defeating a bully. God put that fight inside of us so we could spiritualize it and be the men we were created to be. Before I met the Lord, I was pretty tough as far as the world's standards. I was not afraid of a fight. And on the streets I have learned that those who talk big are the easiest to defeat. They just know how to use their mouth. But for most of

those people their bark is worse than their bite. But beware of those who are a little afraid and not sure about how to fight but willing to stand up for what they believe is right. These are the ones who are willing to fight if there is a good reason. The church is full of those kind of men. I believe they just need to see that the warrior Jesus lives inside of them.

We need warriors to fight the spirits that rule over our cities. We can form a militia and take those spirits down, or we can sit back and let them rule our families and our churches and our cities. It is our choice whether we fight or not, but we do have a choice to make. Church will either be a "Mr. Rogers" or "Brave Heart". I want to go pick a fight.

Do you? I want men who will fight to the death. I want warriors who will live for the Kingdom and seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness.

We cannot scare the devil away. We must resist him and fight him. We must pray like a William Wallace in 'Brave Heart' and fight like a Benjamin in 'The Patriot'.

Be a man! Be a warrior and pray like the warrior you are, fight like the man God made you to be. We have a Goliath to defeat.

Now that you are ready to stand up and fight like a man of God, let's learn what we have in our spiritual arsenal.

**GOD'S ARSENAL  
FOR  
SPIRITUAL WARFARE**

***“For though we live in the world we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.”***

2 Corinthians 10:3-4

This scripture implies that we are in a war, but it's a war of a totally different dimension than we are familiar with. The weapons we fight with are spiritual weapons with divine power. God's weapons are powerful and important in the kind of war we are fighting. It is absolutely imperative that we know what God's weapons are. In this chapter we are going to take a look at some of this powerful spiritual arsenal God has handed over to us.

***“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”*** 2 Corinthians 10:5

### The Knowledge of God

A very powerful weapon we have against the enemy is the 'knowledge of God'. As we grow in the knowledge of God we begin to understand the bigness of our God and the smallness of our enemy. This only comes as we get to know God. We have a great big God and a little tiny devil. The enemy sets himself up against the knowledge of God to keep us from knowing who we are serving. This tactic is to keep us ignorant and religious in our thinking. We

must know who it is that we serve, and who's side we are on. The Bible helps us come to know God. He is a good God. He is full of grace and truth and mercy. The war is not between God and us. We must make sure we are not resisting God who loves us. It seems like Christians are resisting God instead of Satan. Surrender to God and submit to His will and resist the devil.

Many times the war is within us. It is with self. We may have an enemy inside that works against us. The devil may tell us that God is not as good as we think He is, that He is really not a good and loving God, and that He is out to make us miserable by depriving us of those things we think are important. But

that is the enemy making us think the wrong way. Everything God does is good, even though we may not understand it.

When we do not know God like we should, we have an inner disappointment and anger with God. We act like everything is wonderful, but on the inside we are screaming accusations at God. If we really knew God, His nature and character, we would not feel that way. God loves us. He never changes. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. God's love always has been and always will be the same. If we belong to God, He is always looking out for our good.

If we could get a true picture of God, we would all go running to Him. We have a great, awesome, powerful God. He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. He is so big that the earth is His footstool. He is awesome. We can't lose with God. Even when we feel like we are a loser, we always win with God. When we give our life to God we are in His hands and nothing can separate us from His love.

***“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*** Romans 8:38-39.

God's power is the devil's source of power. There is no way the devil can ever win against God. That should give us the heart of a warrior. When we realize how big our God is and how little the devil is, we will not feel threatened. God's power is infinite, unlimited, without beginning, and unending. The devil's power is limited.

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#### Who We are in Christ

Another weapon in God's arsenal is knowing who we are in Christ. We can know all about the awesome things of God and still not know who we are in Christ. Why should we act like paupers

when we are children of the King? We are heirs to God and joint heirs with Christ Jesus. (scripture?)

Everything God has is already ours and He wants us to possess it.

Knowing who we are in God helps us to fight the enemy, especially when we remember that the devil's power is limited and God's power is infinite. Do not fear the devil, because Jesus has defeated him.

God's Word is like a mirror (Jas. 1:23). We can look into God's Word and see what needs to be fixed in our life and let God fix it. Then we can live our lives like children of the King instead of like beggars and paupers. The Bible tells us that we are fearfully and wonder-

fully made. God didn't make a mistake on any of us.

The Bible says that we are **anointed** by God. The anointing is to set us apart. It is to give us the ability to do something. It is to set us apart to be used mightily by God.

Romans 4:7-8 says we are **blessed**. Even when we don't feel blessed we are blessed because God says we are. We are anointed and we are blessed.

First Peter 1:9 tells us we are **chosen** by God. There are no illegitimate children in God's family. WE are all chosen special by the all knowing God. He chose you to know Him and

live for Him. Just meditate on that for a while.

We are **delivered**. We can walk in deliverance. In the Bible, the word for deliverance is the same as the word for salvation. The Bible says that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved...shall be delivered, shall be made whole, shall be healed. You have been delivered from sin unto righteousness. God has set you free. Right now stop and give God thanks for setting you free.

The first three chapters of Ephesians tell us who we are in Jesus. We need to know who we are so we can live like who we really are according to God. As we get to know God better we begin

to find out who we are in Christ. The depth of God is so incredible that we will always be learning about Him. But remember that even the smallest object, when held up to the sun, can block out the sun. The same is true with God, so remove anything that blocks the view of God. God has the whole world in His hands, and He isn't a split second of in His perfect timing. He is in control of the circumstances in our lives and it may be that He is trying to teach us to stand up and fight. He does this by us discovering our identity, or to realize that God is really bigger and more powerful than the devil. He may put us through the fire, but He will also deliver us every time.

Everyday we should confess out loud who we are in Christ. To confess simply means 'to say the same thing as'. Here is a list of who the bible says we are. Pick one a day and confess it out loud so you can be on the way of having the heart of a warrior.

**A....**Anointed (

**B....**Blessed (

**C....**Chosen (

**D....**Delivered (

**E....**

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Our Tongue

Our tongue is another part of our arsenal.

***“The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.”*** James 3:6

The tongue can be used to corrupt our whole person by setting the whole course of our life on fire. Our own tongue sometimes causes some of the fires we experience. The tongue can be deadly. With our tongue we praise God and we also curse others (James 3:9).

Our tongue can be a weapon against the enemy, or we can turn it against ourselves and others. There is incredible power in our tongue. With it we can pray, speak healing and blessing

into people's lives, or we can curse lives, judge, and destroy our own life and the lives of others.

As Christians, our talk should be different. It takes a conscious effort to talk differently from the world. Our speech should be seasoned with salt (Col. 4:6). Our words should be words of faith, love, encouragement and scripture. The words that come out of our mouth should bring life and power into the lives of the people who hear us. We must train ourselves to speak wisely because our words carry power. Our words bring life or they bring death (Proverbs 18:21). It really does make a difference. If we are going to defeat the

devil, we must learn to defeat him with our words.

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## Angels

Angels minister to people. We can call on angels for help. Hebrews 1:14 says that the angels are ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation. Angels are real. Angels appeared to people all throughout the Bible. Angels fought battles, they encouraged, and they helped. Daniel found relief when Michael came to his rescue. The bible is full of stories where angels came to help in a time of battle.

Many stories are written about people who survived a crisis or time of danger because angels intervened on their behalf.

I know of several accounts that angels came to my aid. One foggy morning I was driving to the church. The sun had not come up yet and the fog was densely thick. I came to the stop sign at the entrance of our subdivision. The road I was fixing to enter was a major highway. The speed limit was 55 mph and most drove over 60 plus. I could hardly see. As I let out on the clutch to enter the road my car just stalled. I have driven a standard for years and knew it was not my driving

why it stalled. But as soon as it stalled a 18 wheeler came whizzing past me. I know for sure that an angel stood at the front of my car and stopped me from going any further. Without a doubt the angel caused my car to stall. If not I would have been killed instantly. Once again the devil got defeated. That always makes me feel good.

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Intercession, Prayer, Fasting

Intercession, prayer, and fasting are major weapons of warfare. Read the words of this song that most of us

have sung hundreds of times. What truth can be discovered in this song.

*What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and grief's to  
bear! What a privilege to carry EVERY-  
THING to God in prayer!*

*Oh, what peace we often forfeit,  
Oh, what needless pain we bear, All  
because we do not carry EVERYTHING  
to God in prayer.*

I have learned in my own life. The things I have prayed about I often don't worry about

When it comes to fasting there is a lot to be said. Jesus did battle against satan and he was fasting. Fast-

ing is a good way to engage the demonic in warfare. I don't believe there is another way to draw so close to Jesus than to fast. I have done five, (40) forty day fast. The presence of God is so intense it cannot be described. It is at this time that Exodus 14:14 became so real to me. 'I shall fight for you and you shall keep your peace'. KJV. Intimacy with God is the most incredible defense and offense against satan and all his defeated demons.

I do not recommend a 40 day fast unless you are sure it is the Lord leading you. Also you must spend much time in personal, spiritual and physical preparation to do this. But I suggest that you try a one day fast and spend that time just

drawing close to Him. You will be amazed at the power you will discover.

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### The Name of Jesus

The Bible says in James that the demons tremble at the name of Jesus. There is power in the name of Jesus. His name tells who He is. He is Jehovah Jireh, our provider. He is Jehovah Shalom, our peace. He is Jehovah M'Kaddesh, the one who sanctifies us. He is Jehovah Tsidkenu, our righteousness. He is Jehovah Rophe, our

healer. He is Jehovah Rohi, our shepherd. He is Jehovah Shammah, the ever-present one. He is Jehovah, the self-existent one. He is that and much, much more. When we know who He is and who we are in Him, we have a powerful weapon against the devil. Remember who we serve. He is all you need. Call upon the **name** of the Lord and watch what happens. His word says, 'call upon me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things you do not know', Jeremiah 33:3.

Just shout out that wonderful name sometime and see what happens. Demons will tremble. Something I learned about warfare. Whenever you engage the demonic you must do it ver-

bally and out loud. Jesus when He rebuked the enemy he spoke, sometime with a loud voice. Why? Why didn't He just do it in His heart. Let me tell you what I think. I do not believe the demonic can see our hearts. Only God can do that. So if that is true than the demonic cannot hear us when we just think the name of Jesus or rebuke them in our hearts. It must be out loud. It doesn't necessarily have to be a shout but it does need to be where the demonic can hear it. I have seen believers make all kind of expressions when they rebuke the devil under their breath. I wonder if the demonic wonder what we are doing? Go ahead and just shout out

the name of Jesus and tick off a few demons.

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### Praise

Praise is another powerful weapon. The devil doesn't like praise. When Paul and Silas were in prison awaiting execution, they began to praise God. Do you remember what happened? The prison gates flew open and the jailer and all his family were saved! Praise is powerful. Joshua took the city

of Jericho by marching around the city, blowing the ram's horn, and shouting praises to God. That brought down the walls of the city.

First Thessalonians 5:18 says to give thanks in everything because this is God's will for us. We should go to church to give God high praise, even when we don't feel like it.

We should praise God when we feel good and we should praise Him when we don't. We should praise Him when things are going good and we should praise Him when things are not going so good. When we praise God, the devil will flee because he cannot stand praise.

This is very powerful and truly causes the demonic to flee.

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### The Blood of Jesus

This weapon takes us back to the covenant. The Old Covenant was fulfilled in the blood of the New Covenant. John the Baptist said, 'behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world'. Jesus was God's sacrificial lamb. Jesus was the once and for all sacrificial lamb. And in the New Covenant we are promised He will be with us forever. He is our covenant

partner who provides us with what we need, protects us, and meets all our needs. The New Covenant promises this and more. When we plead the blood of Jesus we are basically reminding the demonic world that Jesus is our covenant brother and he cannot touch us without going through Jesus. He does not like the blood of Jesus. The Bible says in the book of Revelation, 'they overcame the devil by the word of their testimony, by the blood of the Lamb, and by not loving their lives even unto

death'. The blood of Jesus has defeated the devil and stripped him of all his power.

***“There is power, power, wonder working power in the precious blood of the lamb.”***

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The Word of God

The Word of God, which is the sword of the Spirit,(Ephesians 6) is a weapon of offense not defense. . The more we read the Word the bigger our “sword” will be. There is power in the Word but we must know the Word to be able to use it. If we know our sword it will help us from being deceived by the lies of the demonic. Most of the demonic destruction is built on lies. So we can attack the lies of the demonic by speak-

ing the truth. And remember when we speak the truth to the demonic we must say it out loud. When Jesus was in the wilderness for forty days he did battle against satan. If the son of God used the Word to battle satan, I kinda believe we should do the same. The Word is the sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17) and the sword must be taken up in order for it to be effective. What good is a gun in the gun cabinet? It may be powerful, and it may be deadly, but it absolutely no good if someone does not take it up. So dear friend, take up the sword of the Spirit and kick some tail. It is vital to your victory that the Word of God richly dwells in you (Colossians 3:16).

The better you know the Word the bigger your sword. It is sad to see so many Christians fighting satan with a little pen knife. You swing and swing and swing, but with so little authority. You must know the Word of God so you can swing a big sword. I cannot tell you this enough. Satan will do everything in his power to distract you from the Word. It is the Word that tells you who God is, who you are in Jesus, what your arsenal is, how to fight, and much more. Please, take to time to focus on the powerful, life giving, life changing, Word of God.

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## The Local Church\*\*\*\*\*

Another powerful weapon is the local church. The church is the army of God. The spirit of unfaithfulness will try to keep us from being part of a local church because, as part of the church, we are a bigger threat to the enemy than if we are in isolation.

### **HOW TO FIGHT A GIANT AND WIN**

There are giants in our land, but with God all things are possible! With man it may be impossible, but with God nothing is impossible. The “giants” in our land do not threaten God, and as His children they should not threaten us either.

First Samuel 17 contains some principles on how to win when fighting a giant. This story is not just a fairytale. It really happened.

Not one of the mighty men of Israel’s army was brave enough to fight this giant. But David, a shepherd boy, did not put up with the threats of Goliath. He was not a trained soldier but he understood some spiritual principles. And

we know for sure he had the heart of a warrior though he did not have the title yet.

First, David did not listen to the enemy. Goliath spoke words against David, trying to intimidate him, and trying to put fear and discouragement into his heart, but David refused to listen. Israel listened to Goliath's threats and it opened them to great fear. ( ? ). A giant only becomes a giant in our lives when we listen to what it says. We must stop listening to the threats and the lies of the enemy and start listening to God.

We can not outwit the devil on our own. The devil is always attempting to speak to us in order to deceive us, but

we must learn to discern the voice of the enemy and refuse to listen to him. If we are to defeat the giants in our lives, we must stop listening to the enemy.

The second thing David did was to submit to authority. Samuel had already anointed David to be king over Israel, but David still submitted himself to the authority of his father. He tended his father's sheep because his father had told him to. He went to the battlefield because his father sent him. David was submitted to his father. If we are going to defeat a giant, we must come under authority. Those who come under authority are given authority. Those who are rebellious have no authority from God.

When we do not submit to authority, we open our lives, our churches, and our nation to the sin of witchcraft. We can pray, fast, read our Bibles, win souls, and do all the right things, but if we are not in submission to authority, God's curse will be on us. Jesus himself was submitted to the Father. Whatever the Father told him to do is what he did, even submitting to death on a cross. We, too, must be willing to come under authority.

Some of us rebel against authority because we have been hurt or abused by an authority figure in our life. Because of that hurt we have become independent and think that we do not need anyone but God. If this is the case

with our life, then we have been set up by Satan in order to bring us into rebellion. But if we let Him, God can take that situation and use it to make us better. If we hang on to it Satan will use it to make us bitter. We can never justify rebellion because of past hurts. We must learn to live our life by the truth of God and not by the circumstances surrounding our life.

The third thing we must learn in order to defeat the giants is not to fear the enemy. Fearing the enemy is the worst thing we can do. If the enemy senses any fear or intimidation in us, we are defeated. God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a well-disciplined mind. So where does

fear come from? Fear comes from the enemy.

***“David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and greeted his brothers.”***

1 Samuel 17:22

David, submitted to the authority of his father, first took care of his responsibility and delivered the supplies. Then he ran to the battle lines. He was not afraid of the enemy.

According to Colossians, our enemies have been stripped and disarmed. ( Col. ?) Jesus defeated the enemy at Calvary. So stop fearing the giants in your life. Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

Next, be cautious of those closest to you.

***“When Eliab, David’s oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, “Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle.”***

1 Samuel 17:28

Many times, those closest to you will plant the most discouragement. The devil knows how to get to us, so he will use a family member instead of someone we hardly know. David recognized this. He knew he had gone to the battle lines because he was being obedient to his father. He was submitted, obedient, and he had a cause to fight. If we have no reason to fight, then we will not. But we *do* have a cause. Another genera-

tion is coming up and we must leave them a church that knows how to fight. So stand up, draw your sword, and go to war.

Another important thing to remember when fighting against the enemy is to encourage others of the victory. Before he fought the giant David said to Saul,

***“Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.”***

1 Samuel 17:32

Giant killers walk in faith. They just believe the Word. David was encouraging Saul before the victory was won. He believed that Goliath was defeated, so he was confessing the victory before it was ever won. We, too, should

be confessing our victory. The blood of Jesus has already won the victory.

We do not fight the giants with the weapons of the world. God has given us an arsenal of spiritual weapons with which to fight. The blood of Jesus is enough to defeat every demon of hell. The name of Jesus is enough to defeat every demon of hell. One angel is enough to chain the devil and throw him in hell. The Word of God is enough to defeat the enemy. The resurrection is enough to defeat the enemy. Like Saul with David, sometimes the church tries to put too much armor on us. David was not able to fight with Saul's armor. He only used the weapons that God had given him to use.

Another principle of being a giant-killer is to avoid promoting ourselves. Self-promotion brings defeat. When we are faithful where we are, God will promote us. When we let God promote us we become a giant-killer.

Another characteristic of a giant-killer is determination.

***“Then he (David) took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd’s bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.”***

1 Samuel 17:40

David was determined to kill the giant. He did not choose just one stone. He chose five stones. He was prepared to win the victory whatever it took. He even prophesied and told Goliath what

he would do to him after he killed him. We must be determined. We must speak out about our victory like David did.

Next, have faith in your covenant.

***“All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the***

***Lord’s, and He will give all of you into our hands.”***

1 Samuel 17:47

We must know who we are in covenant with God. Jesus has taken us into perfect fellowship with God through His blood. We can live in the holy of holies because of the covenant that Jesus cut for us. He has cut a covenant and made it possible for us to become

children of the King of kings. We already have all of the riches of heaven and have already been blessed.