

Prayer Meeting – Spiritual Warfare for the Spirit-Filled Saints - July 16th, 2023

Sunday was a day of prayer. We started our church service with praise and worship, the reading of Bible scriptures that pertained to spiritual warfare and praying for the Spirit-filled saints, and we ended with communion like we do all of our services. The following scripture highlights the spiritual warfare that Christians are in, but also highlights the victory that we have by putting on the full armour of God and praying in Jesus' name.

Ephesians 6:10-18, Amplified Bible, Classic Edition says;

“10 In conclusion, be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; draw your strength from Him [that strength which His boundless might provides].

11 Put on God's whole armor [the armor of a heavy-armed soldier which God supplies], that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil.

12 For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere.

13 Therefore put on God's complete armor, that you may be able to resist and stand your ground on the evil day [of danger], and, having done all [the crisis demands], to stand [firmly in your place].

14 Stand therefore [hold your ground], having tightened the belt of truth around your loins and having put on the breastplate of integrity and of moral rectitude and right standing with God,

15 And having shod your feet in preparation [to face the enemy with the [a]firm-footed stability, the promptness, and the readiness [b]produced by the good news] of the Gospel of peace.

16 Lift up over all the [covering] shield of [c]saving faith, upon which you can quench all the flaming missiles of the wicked [one].

17 And take the helmet of salvation and the sword that the Spirit [d]wields, which is the Word of God.

18 Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose and perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people).”

It's really important that Christians put on this armour daily. The devil is relentless in his plans and schemes to bring down the Spirit filled Christians. As Christ's ambassadors on this earth, His delegated authority, we have a target on us by the devil to take us out. And although he fires his flaming missiles, according to the Bible – those darts will be extinguished in the authority of Jesus name. In **Luke 10:19** Jesus tells us; *“Behold! I have given you authority **and** power to trample upon **serpents and scorpions, and** [physical **and** mental strength **and** ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; **and** nothing shall in any way harm you.”*

We focused a lot of our prayer on praying for the body of Christ, the saints. Throughout the last weeks, we sensed that there has been an unprecedented onslaught of the devil's schemes and assaults and with that, trying to single out, divide and separate Christians – making them feel that they're the only one left standing, or the warfare is just about themselves personally. But when you pull back and see the larger picture, the prophet Elijah felt the same way when he was running from Queen Jezebel, thinking that he was the only man of God still standing. But God reminded him that 7,000 in Israel had not bowed their knee to Baal. **1 Kings 19:18**; *“¹⁸ Yet I will leave Myself 7,000 in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.”* 7,000 had not bowed. So it is with us today, many have not bowed their knees, but we need to continue to pray and intercede for each other.

We interceded for the Spirit-filled saints, those who speak in tongues, who are baptized in the Holy Spirit. Many have started to wain in the faith, they no longer speak in tongues, are not in church and have bought into tradition and religion, the adversary has spiritually put them in a closet. We prayed that they would be delivered

from a stubborn spirit of religion and that the scales would fall off their eyes and get back on the straight and narrow road.

Here are some scriptures regarding praying for the saints;

Colossians 1:9-11; *“⁹ For this reason we also, from the day we heard of it, have not ceased to pray and make [^gspecial] request for you, [asking] that you may be filled with the [^hfull (deep and clear) knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom [ⁱin comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God] and in understanding and discernment of spiritual things—*

¹⁰ That you may walk (live and conduct yourselves) in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him and [^jdesiring to please Him in all things, bearing fruit in every good work and steadily growing and increasing in and by the knowledge of God [with fuller, deeper, and clearer insight, [^kacquaintance, and recognition].

¹¹ [We pray] that you may be invigorated and strengthened with all power according to the might of His glory, [to exercise] every kind of endurance and patience (perseverance and forbearance) with joy,”

Acts 12:5; *“⁵ Peter was therefore kept in prison, but [^lconstant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.”*

Romans 15:30; *“³⁰ Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me,”*

Romans 8:27; *“²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”*

Philemon 5; *“⁵ hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints,”*

Revelation 3:7-8; *“⁷ “And to the [^mangel of the church in Philadelphia write, ‘These things says He who is holy, He who is true, ‘He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens’”: ⁸ “I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, [ⁿand no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.”*

We see the church at Philadelphia had little strength and yet kept Jesus’ command to persevere. So we prayed for the church that their strength would increase as they’re refreshed in the power of the Holy Spirit by speaking in tongues because that’s where rest, refreshing and power come from. As **Jude 20** says; *“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.”*

The Bible says that the church is the restraining force on the earth and until the church is raptured, we’ve been given dominion in Jesus’ name to bind the works of the devil. So be encouraged today saints, you’re not alone, there are more for us than against us. Be filled with the Holy Ghost in a fresh way, speak, pray and sing in tongues all the time. As we said at the beginning, our spiritual warfare is not against people, but against the demonic realm. This is not to make the church back down and be afraid, but to be bold and use its God given authority in all that Jesus has done for you.

In closing, the Bible says in **Mark 11:24**; *“²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”*

Jesus says in **John 15:7**; *“⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you^[a] will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”*

1 John 5:14 says; *“¹⁴ Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.”*

So we believe that those things we have asked for in prayer will be ours and will be answered. We have confidence in what God says in His Word. When you pray the Word of God, it's like a double-edged sword coming out of your mouth, and even as the Holy Spirit was manifested on the day of Pentecost with tongues of fire, so your tongue is a fire under the power of the Holy Spirit when you pray the word of God with authority. It binds the works of the devil and thwarts his schemes. Be encouraged today, saints of Christ!

[Click on this link](#) to watch a short video about the full armour of God.

To watch the new praise and worship video with lyrics, [click here](#).