

# ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course

## SECTION 10 – The Battle of the Mind

### Lesson 37- The Battle of the Mind

I remember when I was a baby Christian; immediately I was in church every time the door was open. I went to a Bible study and they were teaching on the Armor of God. The leader stood up and said, “Now what I want you to do every morning when you get up is put on the pieces of the armor of God by saying, ‘I put on the belt of truth. I put on the breastplate of righteousness; I put my Gospel shoes on. I put on the helmet of salvation, shield of faith, sword of the Spirit,’ and every morning you pick it up.” It hit me a little weird, and I turned to him and said, “Can I ask a question? If I put it on every morning, does that mean I take it off at night?” He kind of looked at me like I shouldn’t be asking a question like that. They were teaching us something that sounded good, but it really had no power. What good does it do to get up in the morning and to say, “I put on my belt on, I put my shield and armor right here.”? What does that do? The devil’s not shaking in his boots over that. Some of the stuff we do in Christianity is crazy.

The armor of God is incredibly powerful, but we are going to do it God’s way by getting the revelation on this.

**Ephesians 6:10-17** *Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

*14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;*

**Ephesians 6:10 AMP** *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].*

We have got to move into a whole new dimension in the church because there are events that are about to take place on the earth. Many people are struggling and battling different things going on right now. They’re wondering what’s happening. We look at so many leaders that are falling. We look at so many Christians that are struggling. I see so many people going through financial battles and health battles. We see a multiplication of these problems going on. Yet I’m telling you in the name of Jesus, that it’s only going to get more intense in the end-times.

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The devil knows that his time is near. The devil knows that it is getting close to the end. He is increasing the intensity of the attacks, especially against God's people. It seems like it keeps rising. If many of you would be honest, the last twelve months have been harder than the previous twelve months. It seems to get more and more difficult. We are praying and believing and do not understand why it is so difficult. Often we are still operating in the same spiritual level that we were operating in. We are trying to deal with today's devils and today's demonic powers with the same power, energy, and tools that we did five years ago.

There is a great truth that we taught many times in this course; all truth is parallel.

**What does it mean that “all truth is parallel”?**

[When you see a truth in the natural, there is a simultaneous truth in the Spirit realm.](#)

One of the things we see in the nature realm is the war on terrorism. The terrorist, every time we get a handle on their tactics, change their tactics. One of the problems is that we haven't always adjusted our tactics fast enough in the early stages when we could have nipped this thing in the bud. We weren't adjusting fast enough. We weren't anticipating where they were going to go. And I'm telling you in the name of Jesus all truth is parallel. Warfare is different than it was even thirty, forty years ago. The methods they're using are different. The things that they are doing are different.

The devil has also changed his tactics. We got smart on certain areas, so he changed his tactics. He's changed his ways and he increased the intensity. Just like when the terrorist perceive a victory they become emboldening, and they become more aggressive, so too is the devil when he thinks that he's won. He sees the failures within the church and he becomes embolden to be more brazen and more vocal and more forefront in his attacks and assaults. The problem is that the church is trying to deal with today's demonic level of attack with yesterday's weaponry; with yesterday's power, with yesterday's strength.

Something is going to have to happen to us. He said to be strong in the Lord, be empowered through your union with Him. Draw your strength from Him, that strength which His boundless might provides. We are going to have to begin to rise up into a new level of strength; a strength that is not human strength, a strength that is not psychological strength, a strength that comes from His boundless might. A supernatural strength and power is going to have to come into the body of Christ.

**Zechariah 4:6** *So he answered and said to me:*

*“ This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel:*

*‘ Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’*

*Says the LORD of hosts.”*

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The days are coming soon when we will no longer be able to fake it. What do I mean by faking it? Often we can just fake it through life and trials. We have many benefits and safety nets in America. Thank God for them. We have enough of those kinds of things going on that we can kind of fake it. We can fake Christian victory. We've got enough access to healthcare and medicine, exercise equipment, and good nutrition, and all these other things. In a little ways we can fake it, but I'm telling you the battle is going to become stronger and so intense that we can no longer fake it anymore. We are actually going to have to rise up in supernatural strength. We're actually going to have to have the supernatural power of God every single day of our lives.

Most of us live our Christian walk without the power of God. We are not doing anything under the supernatural control; under the supernatural influence. We are not doing anything under His supernatural strength and power. But I'm telling you in the name of Jesus that the wickedness and warfare is going to increase. I don't mean to say these things to scare you. But God speaks these things to prepare us. The wickedness is going to increase so much that the only way we are going to be able to stand against the onslaught of the enemy is that we become strong in the Lord. We have to become filled with His boundless might: His mighty power.

**Luke 21:25-27** *And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; 26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.*

We are going to see the son of Man coming in the clouds after these events take place. But look at what it says: And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars. Some people believe this is after the rapture, so we need to look at Joel.

**Joel 2:30-31** *And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth:*

*Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.*

*31 The sun shall be turned into darkness,*

*And the moon into blood,*

*Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.*

Before the day of the Lord, before the day of His wrath, there are going to be events so intense on the earth that men's hearts will literally fail them because of fear. They will literally tremble for what is about to happen on the earth. It will cause people to literally drop dead suddenly all over the world from heart attacks brought on by FEAR. We in the church are going to have to learn to rise up and tap into a new level of strength, a new level of power.

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**Paul says “Be strong in the Lord.” In what areas should we not be strong?**

Don't be strong in your intellect. Don't be strong in denominationalism; don't be strong in your doctrine; don't be strong in your personality; don't be strong in the numeric size of your church.

It's not about being strong financially. Be strong in the Lord. We must walk in the power of His might; God standing up on the inside of you strong; the power of His might. I want you to get that image in your mind for a moment. The power of His might; Almighty God raising up as a mighty warrior on the inside of you. Jesus is on the inside of us, and He will rise up as a mighty warrior on the inside of us.

I prophecy to you in the name of Jesus that a new strength is coming to the body of Christ. A strength like we have never experienced before. A strength like we have never known before. It's not a natural strength. It's not a psychological strength. It's the strength of Almighty God. It's the strength of the Lord; the Captain of the Lord's host standing up as a mighty warrior on the inside of us. He said BE STRONG in the Lord.

**Psalms 91:5-8** *You shall not be afraid of the terror by night,*

*Nor of the arrow that flies by day,*

*6 Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness,*

*Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.*

*7 A thousand may fall at your side,*

*And ten thousand at your right hand;*

*But it shall not come near you.*

*8 Only with your eyes shall you look,*

*And see the reward of the wicked.*

Remember what we were just saying? That they were sitting there being afraid. That their hearts were failing them because of fear of what was happening on the earth. God said you are not going to be afraid.

He is not saying that you won't face personal challenges. He said it will not come near you, but the Bible also says that those who live Godly shall suffer persecution. He didn't say you wouldn't be attacked in your physical body, but I want you to remember this; your physical body is only a tent. This is only a housing. Who you really are is who you are on the inside; that eternal being that is on the inside of you, inside of this tent. That's who you really are. Those who are walking in this place are going to walk in such power; internal strength that no matter what happens out there it won't touch them on the inside.

Back in the days when the Soviet Union took over and there was a Russian revolution, they realized quickly that although they could physically imprison the people, the only way to

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influence the people was to win over their hearts; to influence who they were on the inside. If they could enslave their hearts and minds, then they could enslave the people.

God is saying that those who dwell in the secret place, He is going to protect them on the inside. The devil won't be able to touch who you really are no matter what happens out there. He won't be able to touch your heart.

**Deuteronomy 20:2-4** *So it shall be, when you are on the verge of battle, that the priest shall approach and speak to the people. 3 And he shall say to them, 'Hear, O Israel: Today you are on the verge of battle with your enemies. Do not let your heart faint, do not be afraid, and do not tremble or be terrified because of them; 4 for the LORD your God is He who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.'*

**Joshua 1:9** *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.*

He commanded you. He is not just making it available to you. He's not suggesting it to you. He's commanding you to be strong. That's what the voice of God is saying right now. Heaven is speaking right now to His people. "Be strong in Him." As that voice begins to radiate a new strength is going to come into the body of Christ and we are going to rise up with new power, new authority, new anointing, and new strength on the inside; to face the forces of the enemy.

**Isaiah 35:3-4** *Strengthen the weak hands,  
And make firm the feeble knees.  
4 Say to those who are fearful-hearted,  
"Be strong, do not fear!  
Behold, your God will come with vengeance,  
With the recompense of God;  
He will come and save you."*

**Ephesians 3:16 AMP** *May He grant you out of the rich treasury of His glory to be strengthened and reinforced with mighty power in the inner man by the [Holy] Spirit [Himself indwelling your innermost being and personality].*

The miracle power of God with mighty power will strengthen your inner man. Be strong in the Lord.

**Colossians 1:9** *For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding*

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**Colossians 1:10-11 AMP** *That you may walk (live and conduct yourselves) in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him and desiring 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, acquaintance, 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,*

God is about to release a new strength into His people. A new strength is coming into His people.

**Isaiah 40:29-31** *He gives power to the weak,*

*And to those who have no might He increases strength.*

*30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary,*

*And the young men shall utterly fall,*

*31 But those who wait on the LORD*

*Shall renew their strength;*

*They shall mount up with wings like eagles,*

*They shall run and not be weary,*

*They shall walk and not faint.*

I'm telling you there is a new strength coming to the body of Christ. God says to us in the book of Ephesians through the apostle Paul, "Be strong." Before we move into the armor of God and before we move to engaging the dimensions of spiritual warfare and the demonic principalities and powers, the first thing we have to do is to take a hold of the supernatural strength of God. Be strong, then you can go to war; but first you have to be strong. You have to be strong in the Lord through your union with Him.

### **For Further Study:**

**Psalm 61:3** *For You have been a shelter for me,*

*A strong tower from the enemy.*

**2 Corinthians 12:10** *Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*