

Tactics of Victory

We are all called to overcome even as Jesus overcame and sat down in triumph over His enemies. God in His loving wisdom has put us into a fight which is a fight of faith. The battle has of course been won already at the Cross...yet Jesus is waiting till all His enemies are made a footstool beneath His feet.

We are engaged in the battle whether we realise it or not. What we do and say each day is all part of the context of this great battle that is being waged in the heavenly realm. Our words are weapons of great power yet most of the time we do not realise this at all. Satan however, does realise it!

This post is not to be about Satan our enemy, but about us. We are the apple of Father's eye, we are His prized possession and He intends for us to overcome the foe. This blacksmith who blows in the coals, God has created. He has put us into the same arena, the same realm as this fallen cherub, that we might overcome him. His(Satan's) weapons and wisdom are far greater than anything man can combat since man fell from his position as ruler of all the Universe.

I shared recently about shame and the new man that we are. Shame is one such mighty weapon of Satan that has shot many righteous sons down. But I want to encourage myself and all my brethren that this weapon is working for us a far greater weight of glory! The weapons of Satan, that always seem to overcome us, are working for us instead. Every negative thing he desires us to fall into shall instead cause us to arise in Christ our life, and appropriate by faith the opposite characteristic.

We are always led to triumph over evil. Overcome evil with good,- Paul said. Of course if someone does any evil act against us, we are to respond in the opposite spirit, for we are of another Spirit than evil. However, when that evil is in

the form of thoughts, **it is not always easy to discern that it is not us thinking them.** This is the “*be renewed in the spirit of your mind*”, that Paul was talking about in Ephesians when he wrote

Eph 4:17 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,

Eph 4:18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

Eph 4:19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Eph 4:20 But you have not so learned Christ,

Eph 4:21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:

Eph 4:22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

*Eph 4:23 **and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,***

Eph 4:24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. nkjv

What does that mean to be renewed in the spirit of your mind? In the context above, it means to be continuously renewed in the spirit or deep place or attitude of your mind to the truth. The truth you have learned is not simply about Jesus Christ, but Jesus Christ in you! Not dead letter truth, but living word truth. Christ your new life truth. You and He being one spirit truth. Be being renewed in the spirit of your mind to The Truth of the New Creation that **you are now...**no longer thinking those old thought patterns which are the **deceptions** of Satan through the flesh's desires.

*the old man which grows corrupt according to the **deceitful** lusts;*

*G539-apate*ː- delusion: – deceit (-ful, -fulness), it comes from *G538-apatao*ː -(Strong) to cheat, that is, delude: – deceive. (Thayer-to cheat, beguile, deceive)

G1939 epithumia– desire, craving, longing, lust//to set the heart upon, that is, long for

Can you see how subtle the enemies tactics are against us? The Old Man is defined as growing corrupt according to the deceitful lusts. To long for something is not necessarily wrong. But the longings of the Old Man are a delusion..they cheat us and deceive us for we never can be satisfied by getting our desire as long as we think we are still that Old Man.

Satan knows that we are a New Man. He knows we belong to Christ Jesus. But he wants us to continue to think and imagine and speak Old Man thoughts and words and deeds. All his efforts are to that end. When he accuses, he accuses the actions of the Old Man, whether they are words or deeds or lack of deeds. He knows he cannot do a thing against Christ Who is our New Man. So instead, all his warfare is against the Old Man—that, by the way friend does not even exist in reality anymore! It is all propaganda and false flag events. Your Old Man- the old “I” is dead and buried- gone! Your Old Man is not you...you are the New Man- Christ in you!

Arrows of shame aimed at your mind took root in the thinking of your Old Man way before you encountered the Love of God in Christ Jesus. When you were only a little boy or girl, Shame came and put it’s mark on you. It told you you were separate from all others and you had better measure up in this world or you will look a fool to everyone. It continuously propagandised your mind. “Be good, be good,- don’t be bad,” is a mantra of the Old Man. He does not even realise that he chants it incessantly. It is a life principle of all those outside of Christ..”Be good to get what you want”...or....”Be bad

to get what you desire"...Either way, it is all of the Old Man who grows more and more corrupt like it's inventor and master-Satan.

As I said, Satan knows that in reality we are ONLY a New Man. He knows that in reality there are NOT TWO OF ME in this body...the Old Man and the New Man. He knows that. He also knows whether we live according to the New Man or not. Every time we feel condemned or accused and defeated...it is Satan pointing at our Old Man, telling us we **are** that Old Man.

Yet Paul says "be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."

Renewed- rejuvenated- made young again in the mind. Something that is old, like a wine-skin becomes tough and hardened and not very usable. It needs to be softened and renewed again. Youth have quick sharp minds. Paul says, be being renewed. This is the work of the Spirit in our spiritual mind. Ask Him to give you a spirit of wisdom and a spirit of revelation in the knowledge of Him. He is the New Man. It is the knowledge of the New Man (you in Christ and Christ in you) that He will enlighten your eyes to see and know.

He does all this through the Word of God, which is

"living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb 4:12

The Lord wants us to overcome and He has equipped us to do it. He is with us to the end of the Age...not up in a heaven somewhere beyond the galaxies...but in you, in your spirit! He has given Himself to you, to always be your Teacher, your Friend, your very SELF. He is teaching us that we are in Him.

The truth is in Jesus...and we have heard Him by the spirit and come to Him by faith.

We walk by His faith, trusting always that He shall do all things well for us and for God's purposes. There is no defeat that is not working for us. There is nothing that happens to us that is without reason. God is our life.

Recognise that when any thought comes that is blaming and condemning you, making you feel inferior as a person...it is not from God, not from your heart...but is a whisper from the dark heart of Satan.

Reject it steadfast in the Faith. That arrow is in a dead Man. You are not any longer that man. You are a New Man in Christ Jesus- totally pleasing to the Father.

This is putting on the New Man who is renewed in knowledge. The New Man carries within Him all knowledge...not the head knowledge of the world- but the spiritual- life and Love knowledge of the Father...the knowledge of the Father!! Oh shout for joy! The New Man is Jesus Himself, but it is now YOU! No one knows the FATHER except the son and the one whom the son reveals Him to...that is you brother, sister...In the New Man we have access to the Father by ONE spirit...your spirit!!

This renewed knowledge **is** the heart and mind of Jesus Christ, **now your heart and your mind!**

What knowledge is that? Read everything Jesus said in John about Himself and His relationship to the Father...it is all about your relationship and your self. Read all that Paul wrote of Christ in us and us in Him. All those things Paul taught in the Churches, laboring to birth Christ in them that He be fully formed in them. The mystery , which is Christ in you...HIM WE TEACH.

Christ in you is what Paul taught everywhere, for Christ is the New Man that has overcome sin and death and all the

tactics of the enemy. I am, and You are, that Man!