

- the power that creates all living things and renews the face of the earth – *Psalms 104:30*
- the power that divided the massive waters of the Red Sea – *Isaiah 63:11-14*
- the power that energized Samson to break his bonds and overcome 1000 men single-handedly – *Judges 15:14-15*
- the power through which the virgin Mary conceived Jesus – *Luke 1:35*
- the power through which Jesus bested Satan in the wilderness – *Luke 4:1-14*
 - liberated the oppressed (v.18) and
 - drove out demons – *Matthew 12:28*
- the power through which Jesus offered up His life on the cross and then rose in triumph from the tomb – *Hebrews 9:14*
Romans 1:4
Romans 8:11
- the power that baptized the early church – *Acts 1:8*
Acts 2:1-4
Acts 5:16

In this mortal combat – we must never give up – however many defeats we may suffer. As a fallen angel – the “prince of this world” has remarkable power – But (1John 4:4) “*You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world*”. If we resist him – he must flee from us – *James 4:7*

Spiritual Weapons of Warfare

1 Peter 5:8, James 4:7-10

Pastor Zac Nazarian | Oct 17 – 18, 2020

1 Peter 5:8

We’re all targets – and the choice is clear – be armed or be breakfast.

The question is “how do we fight a battle that is *“not against flesh and blood but, against the spiritual forces of evil”*?

Ephesians 6:12

Spiritual Weaponry

1. Faith

Ephesians 6:16

- Paul tells us to “*take up the shield of faith*”.

Matthew 17:20

- Jesus told His disciples “*Because you have so little faith*”.

Faith rooted firmly in God’s nature is a powerful weapon.

- that He is all-wise, all-loving, and all-powerful.

To have faith in such a God is to abandon ourselves wholly, joyfully, and confidently to His will.

When we wield this kind of faith – we “*extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one*”. *Ephesians 6:16b*

What are these arrows?

They are types of thoughts Satan provokes that include lies about God, ourselves, and others –

- threats to frighten us
- temptations to lure us into sin

But faith replies with the truth about God.

In this way “*we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ*”. *2 Corinthians 10:5b*

1 Peter 5:9a

2. The helmet of “the hope of salvation”

1 Thessalonians 5:8

- Hope can be defined as the desire for some future good combined with the expectation of obtaining it.

How do the two aspects of hope assist us?

- a) desire?
- b) expectation?

The power of hope manifests itself most clearly when we’ve been spiritually wounded. How? see *Philippians 3:14*

3. “The breastplate of righteousness in place”

Ephesians 6:14

Love is one of the materials of which the breastplate is made.

1 Thessalonians 5:8

What does love have to do with righteousness?

How does our love for God keep us free from Satan’s enticements?

1 Corinthians 13:7-8

4. Prayer

Ephesians 6:18

In whose name do we pray? What does it mean?

5. Worship

Why is this such a powerful spiritual weapon?

6. The Word of God

Ephesians 6:17

7. Look closely at Paul’s description of the armor in *Ephesians 6*

8. “....in the Spirit”

Ephesians 6:18

What kind of power does the Holy Spirit bring to our aid in spiritual warfare?

- the power that moved “*over the waters*” in the beginning *Genesis 1:2b*