

FAITH – A POWERFUL FORCE

Faith is a gift from God, a strong Spiritual force – powerful and so important to God that He made it part of our Spiritual Armor, our shields of faith, which repels the fiery darts of the enemy. He said “without it [faith], it’s impossible to please him.” (Hebrews 11, Romans 4:20-21)

The Enemy attacks our minds and thoughts to undermine our confidence, to steal our hope and joy, and to destroy us and our Faith. Evil was totally conquered by Christ and we can turn evil aside the following ways:

If the Enemy has fiery darts, we have swords and arrows and every Spiritual Weapon! We have talked about The Word of God combating lies and fiery darts but these are also powerful.

1. Rejoicing in Tribulation and Count It All As Joy

Our Trust and Faith gives us the ability to do this. “He inhabits the Praise of His people.” The knowledge that He is always good and far greater than any enemy. (Psalm 32:11, Psalm 34:4-7)

2. Practice His Presence

He comforts those who mourn and binds up the brokenhearted. “Draw nigh to Him and He draws nigh to us.” The weapons of our warfare is in our worship! (Psalm 34:18)

3. Self-Emptying

All things we cling to or won’t relinquish or release. Those things weigh us down, burdens we were not meant to carry or sins that entangle us. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

4. The Name of Jesus

Use it, speak it powerfully and prayerfully! He holds all Dominion, Power, and Authority and at His Name every knee shall bow ... Call His Name, it is ours if we are His! We overcome by the Blood of the Lamb and the Word of our Testimony! (Revelations 12, Acts 4:12, Philipians 2:9)

The thoughts that the enemy sends our way all involve Defeat, Hopelessness, Doubt, Giving up, & Fear!

Fear is a bitter and mortal enemy – Why?

-It divides our minds – Faith, Fear, and Love can not co-exist! It takes us from Truth and standing in Faith. It becomes obsessive and about “what ifs.”

-Collections of Fearful thoughts become STRONGHOLDS!

-It is absence of Faith in some area – not connecting with the Love of God so we are experiencing greatest defeats and difficulties.

-It involves TORMENT!

-It is not from God or of God, and He is so set against it He said DO NOT DO IT 365 times!

He calls us to Faith that sees the invisible, believes the impossible, & does the incredible. (Hebrews 11)

When you have done all you know to stand, and all you know to do – STAND FIRM!!! Stand firm in your HOPE, PATIENCE, FAITH, and in The Peace of God! (John 14:1-27, Ephesians 3:17, Romans 5:5) Let not your heart be troubled or afraid. Let Hope and Peace flow from God into your heart and then into your minds to guard them. This peace of God, and from God, helps us to stand strongly and firmly in Faith until Victory comes!

Verses

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Romans 4:20-21

Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, **21**being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

Psalm 32:11

Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

Psalm 34:4-7

I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them.

Psalm 34:18

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Hebrews 12:2

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Revelation 12:11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony

Acts 4:12

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Phillipians 2:9-11

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Ephesians 3:16-19

that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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*. 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. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.