

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A CARNAL WORLD

2 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 10:1-6

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

S.W.A.T.

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

developing and maintaining your new life in Christ.

Part 3

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:
Service, Dedication, Maturity, Discipleship

Introduction to the Text;

2nd Corinthians 10:1-6

The Bible Makes No Apology

Regarding the issues that plague this world. Jesus Christ Himself declared that we are living in a world at war.

Jesus lets us in on a spiritual bombshell in Mark 9:29 when He told His disciples that there are demonic powers that are so strong that they can only be defeated by prayer.

The Bible says; Lucifer was once the greatest created being that God had ever made. **The Bible says;** Lucifer sinned by choosing to deify himself as a god. **The Bible says;** that since his fall, he has been the source of evil.

John 10:9-10

I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

2 Cor. 10:1-6

Now I, Paul, myself am **pleading** with you by the **meeekness** and **gentleness** of **Christ** - who in presence am **lowly** among you, but being absent am **bold** toward you. 2 But I **beg** you that when I am present I may not be **bold** with that **confidence** by which I intend to be **bold against** some, who think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not **war** according to the flesh. 4 For the **weapons** of our **warfare** are not **carnal** but **mighty** in God for (1) **pulling down strongholds**, 5 (2) **casting down arguments** and (3) **every high thing** that exalts itself **against** the knowledge of God, (4) **bringing every thought** into **captivity** to the **obedience** of Christ, 6 and (5) **being ready to punish** all **disobedience** when your **obedience** is fulfilled.

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

1.) **Is not predicated upon you**

v. 1-2

1a.) **We are not empowered by us**

v. 1

1b.) We are not **in this for ourselves** v. 2a

1c.) We are not **under our own authority** v. 2b

2.) You are engaged in a **supernatural war** v. 3-4a

2a.) We battle **in our humanity** v. 3a

2b.) But we battle **with our new nature** v. 3b

2c.) Because we battle **from the victory** v. 4

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

3.) **Only divine protection can save you** v. 4b-6

3a.) **Against internal struggles** v. 4b

4b for (1) **pulling down strongholds**

Christian; you are engaged in an epic, eternal life and death struggle with unseen powers.

Strongholds ὀχύρωμα **ochuroma**, *okh-oo'-ro-mah*; An enemy fortification, a castle, a well protected - fortified "passion" that has become an encampment of the enemy.

Here's the Shocker - It's tolerated by you.
(its an act of treason against your soul)

These enemy encampments are at war with God's plan.

Originating either as a do-it-yourself project or a man-made assault against our minds.

Example: a DIY project is most often a worry or an anxiety issue that causes us to fear, breeding insecurities,

We try to attack worry and anxiety with human logic or reason.

But that will never do. because worry is seated much deeper than human reason.

Matt. 6:19-21,25-34

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also....** :25

"**Therefore** I say to you, **do not worry** about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? :28 **"So why do you**

worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; 29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? :31 **Therefore do not worry**, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. 34 **Therefore do not worry** about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Our human nature will set its concerns upon what we deem as our treasure.
??? Are our concerns eternal-based or earthly-based treasures ???

Faith in God is the Only Cure for Anxiety and Worry.
(sure you can take a pill, but it will not last)

these strongholds are things we allow to "entertain" or "preoccupy" us that are contrary to God.

3a.) Against **internal struggles**

v. 4b

A Personal Note Here

I want to make this really, really clear.

I personally believe that these 2 **verses 4-5** - - literally saved my life as a young Christian.

4 For the **weapons** of our **warfare** are not **carnal** but **mighty** in God for (1) **pulling down strongholds**, 5 (2) **casting down arguments** and (3) every **high thing** that exalts itself **against** the knowledge of God, (4) **bringing every thought** into **captivity** to the **obedience** of Christ,

I wasn't born a Christian and neither were you, no man is. But in my B.C. days, my past – My life without God was so vivid and powerful, that once I became a Christian, then I could see what was really going on. That revelation condemned me. That realization crushed me. I saw myself worse than wicked. –
I could not forgive myself for years as a Christian.

There could be (strongholds) enemy encampments in our lives.

Things that you know God hates, yet you're allowing that thing(s) to have a room in your spiritual home.

(**application: - - pause to consider each issue**)

Status? Authority? Power? Appearances? Wealth? Pleasure?
Gratification? Ambition? Immorality? Imaginations? Memories?

But How Do I War Against Strongholds?

pulling down

καθάρσεις **kathairesis**, *kath-ah'-ee-res-is*; absolute demolition, complete extinction, total destruction, to crumble down. The absolute and total deconstruction. An overwhelming use of power against **an enemy encampment**.

Eph. 6:10-12

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**.

Eph. 6:13-18

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 **(#1)** girded your waist with truth, having **(#2)** put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and **(#3)** having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 **(#4) 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 **(#5)** take the helmet of salvation, and **(#6) the SWORD of the Spirit, which is the word of God**; 18 **(#7)** praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.

Sword μάχαιρα machaira, *makh'-ahee-rah*; a specific weapon of the centurion for engaged, hand to hand combat. designed to a length of approx. 18" for confirmed lethality.

Specifically Designed To Kill By Application

Use The Bible Very Specifically – Not Generally

>>>> **The Cross, The Christ, The Call** <<<<

————— *End of Study* —————

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