

## THE MIGHT OF THE LIGHT

### How You Lose

- I. **Hosea 4:10-12-They have left off to take heed to the Lord – The big key issue here is that they quit paying attention to the Lord and what he was saying and started giving their mind to and listening to other voices, false voices, evil spirits**
  - A. 11-This whoredom (unfaithful to God) took place when they started listening to another spirit
    1. **Spiritual adultery is when you listen to and reason with and consider what any other spirit is saying – You're communing with a wrong spirit when you yield your thought life to what he is saying**
      - a. *12-ERV-My people are asking pieces of wood for advice. They think those sticks will answer them! They have chased after those false gods like prostitutes and have left their own God.*
    2. **12-A spirit of whoredom has caused them to error – They have gotten off and they were led astray and they are believing lies because they were whoring around listening to a wrong spirit**
      - a. If you listen to a wrong spirit by yielding your thoughts to what it is saying you're going to fall into deception and get off and let go of the truth and the Lord and your faith and you're going to be led astray
        - 1) **10-Left off**-Depart from, leave behind, Let go; They let go of the truth and the Lord and their faith
        - 2) **12-Err**-Go astray, To be led astray
  - B. 11-This whoredom, wine, new wine-This is listening to the wrong spirit and yielding to things that intoxicate you and make you unaware of reality
    1. This whoredom allowed the enemy to take away their heart and mind and spiritual understanding; it makes you unaware of reality
      - a. **Voice**-*Through prostitution, wine, and new wine, My people have lost their senses;*
      - b. **ERV**-*Sexual sins, strong drink, and new wine ruin a person's ability to think straight*
      - c. **NLT**-*Wine has robbed my people of their understanding*
    2. You listen to the enemy and to what he is saying and he will take the territory of your heart and mind-2 Corinthians 4:4
    3. **Beware of the new thing**
  - C. \*This is a perfect picture of how God's people can get off; rejecting the truth and listening to the wrong spirit
- II. **2 Corinthians 10:5-Anything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God you don't need to hear, you don't need to reason with, you don't need to listen to, you don't need to be around; you need to shut it off and get away from it**

- A. Cast down-Take down, throw down, with the use of force, demolish, the subtle reasonings of opponents that you are to refute, two words-first word to take, second word down
1. **You don't talk about your wrong thoughts, you don't express them, you don't ponder them or share them, you cast them down NOW**
  2. **Wrong thoughts and feelings don't need to be expressed, they need to be resisted; When you're expressing them you're yielding to them when you should be resisting them and it feels better only to your flesh – Expressing is not resisting**
  3. **Because of your ignorance you think when you express these things that it is helping because you're "getting it out" or "letting it out," but in reality you're letting more of the wrong stuff in**
- B. These thoughts and feelings and ideas are coming against the truth
1. *Voice-The weapons of the war we're fighting are not of this world but are powered by God and effective at tearing down the strongholds **erected against His truth**. We are demolishing **arguments** and **ideas**, every high-and-mighty philosophy that pits itself against the knowledge of the one true God*
  2. *MSG-We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped **philosophies**, tearing down barriers **erected against the truth of God**, fitting every loose **thought** and **emotion** and **impulse** into the structure of life shaped by Christ*
  3. *Phil-Our battle is to bring down every **deceptive fantasy** and every imposing defense that men erect against the true knowledge of God*
- C. What is it that needs to be pulled down? What is it that needs to be cast down?
1. **Strongholds**-The arguments and reasonings by which a disputant endeavors to fortify his opinion and defend it against his opponent
    - a. Bible translations called strongholds arguments, reasonings, considerations, counsels, lofty opinions, false arguments, speculations
  2. **Imaginations**-Images, Thoughts
  3. Anything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, the truth of God, the light of God
- D. What if you don't pull these things down and cast these things down? Will you win anyway?
1. If you don't cast these things down but think on them and ponder them and yield to these things that exalt themselves against the truth you're going to get off, you're going to end up believing wrong, thinking wrong and you're going to lose your faith and lose the faith fight
  2. **If you are not doing something with your mind, with what you think, with your imaginations and your thoughts and feelings then you are not even fighting at all and you are not resisting your spiritual enemy and you will be defeated and you will not have victory**
- E. This is warfare, this is serious, this is a REAL fight and it's a life or death issue-Romans 8:6

**III. Satan's objective is to get you to listen to him and reason with him and entertain these lies because if do you will believe wrong, lose your faith, lose the faith fight**

- A. 1 Timothy 4:1-The enemy lies to you to get you to depart from the faith; and if you give heed to what he is saying you will depart from the faith
1. Why does the enemy come and lie to you? He wants you to let go of your faith and to believe wrong
    - a. Why did the enemy come and give these teachings of devils? To cause them to turn loose of their faith and depart from it
    - b. If the enemy can get you to believe wrong he can have greater influence in your life
  2. How did the enemy get them to depart from the faith? By getting them to pay attention to what he is saying-Why did they depart from the faith, lose their faith, lose the faith fight? Because they gave heed to a wrong spirit and entertained thoughts they should have cast down
    - a. **If he can get you to listen to him and to just entertain some thoughts he can deceive you and get you to turn loose of your faith**
    - b. You lose your faith/the faith fight by listening to the wrong thing; **beware of listening to the wrong thing**
  3. **Satan is after your HEED**
- B. \*1 Timothy 2:14-Eve was eve deceived, lost your faith, believed wrong because she entertained what she should have cast down
1. Genesis 3:1-6-Eve is looking (**Saw**-Gaze at, consider, look at, give attention to) at the tree and gave the enemy opportunity to talk to her
    - a. She is out here communing with the wrong spirit and considering what he's saying and this is how you get off
    - b. She's paying attention to something she shouldn't be, she's considering something she should be considering
  2. **The biggest mistake they made is that they shouldn't have been listening to any of this; The biggest mistake you can make in the evil day is to ponder what the enemy is saying; The moment you sit there and think about it and don't resist it, you will start losing; You cannot allow yourself to consider anything that contradicts the truth of God's Word; Don't you think that it can't affect you if you sit there and listen to it**
- C. 2 Timothy 2:16-18-You got to realize how deadly these things are to stand there and listen to them
1. There are things that you can listen to that will undermine your faith-14AMP
  2. 17-There are words that if you listen to will eat you up and eat your faith up like a cancer
    - a. There are thoughts that the enemy will fire at you that are more deadly than a poisonous snake in your house, yet people don't realize it

- 1) *Romans 3:13-Their throat is an open grave; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of **asps** is under their lips:*
- 2) *Psalm 140:1-3-Deliver me, O LORD, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man; 2Which imagine mischiefs in their heart; continually are they gathered together for **war**. 3They have **sharpened their tongues** like a serpent; adders' poison is under their lips. Selah.*
- b. Romans 8:6-Can thoughts be a very serious threat to your life? Most are not treating these things as serious at all
  - 1) **Every thought-Do you think most Christians are doing this? Not even close and that's the answer to why so many people are having so many problems and losing so many battles**
3. **16-There are words that you should shun; There are some things that you shouldn't be listening to; there are words that are deadly**
  - a. Shun means to avoid it stay away from it
  - b. 18-They got a new doctrine and it's that the resurrection has already happened; This is a doctrine of devils and I'm sure they thought that they had some scripture for it, but it wasn't rightly divided word; they took a phrase here and a phrase there and twisted it around and to people who don't know the Word and don't know God it seemed right
    - 1) 18-They overturned the faith of people who listened to what they were saying; They erred because they listened to the wrong words
    - 2) There is some things that you should not listen to, even part of it; there are things that you are better off not knowing and not hearing; The world teaches now that we need to be open to other peoples opinions and appreciate other peoples beliefs and NO YOU DON'T; Adam and Eve were open to some new ideas about the tree and that's what got them in trouble
- D. Proverbs 5:1-9-What's going to keep you safe? Don't listen to, play with or entertain anything that contradicts what God told you
  1. 1-2-What if you don't attend to God's wisdom and bow your ear to his understanding? Then you wouldn't have discretion and your lips wouldn't keep light and knowledge and truth and they wouldn't have the answer to temptation
  2. 3-4-Why do you need discretion? B/C these words that the enemy is speaking are sweet and smooth, but in the end they will devour you
    - a. You need light to know what to resist and what to yield to
  3. 6-The enemy is trying to get you to wander from the path of life, lead you astray and this is how you're going to keep this from happening

- a. Stay far away from here and don't go near the door of her house; DON'T GO NEAR IT, DON'T ENTERTAIN THE THOUGHTS AND LIES
  - b. There is some places you just can't allow your mind to go; there's some places you can't let your mind go near
  - c. It's easier to not go by her house, then go into her living room and say no, it's easier to say no in her living room then it is her bedroom
- E. THIS IS HOW YOU LOSE-You start listening to and entertaining something that you got no business listening to
- 1. **You didn't just start believing wrong all of the sudden; you started listening to something you should have been resisting and then after that you believed wrong**
  - 2. **Proverbs 1:33-You can't be safe as long as you are willing to entertain lies**
    - a. What if you don't hearken to God and listen to him, but instead listen to a wrong spirit? Would you be safe anyway? NO
  - 3. John 10:1-5-You won't follow him and get off and be deceived and led astray if you don't pay attention to what he says; The voice that you pay attention to is the one that you're going to follow
    - a. We're talking about this thief (liar) getting you to follow him
    - b. **Know**-To turn the eyes, the mind, the attention to anything; To pay attention to; Look at, behold
    - c. John 8:12-If you pay attention to the truth and follow the truth you won't walk in darkness

#### IV. The faith fight is a real fight-1 Timothy 6:12

- A. The spiritual fight and the faith fight has not been real to many people, but it is a real fight; We are in a war
  - 1. People are taken back and caught off guard and some fly off the handle when the experience a little opposition and like it's a shock or a surprise to them that they would experience any opposition – Hello! You're in a fight and you have an adversary
  - 2. **The good faith fight is a real fight; it's not imaginary; your faith is going to be challenged and tried**
    - a. Is there really an adversary that is really doing everything he can to get you to let go of your faith? And if he can will you experience real defeat? Is there real pressure in the form of real thoughts and real feelings that is really trying to get you to let go of your faith?
  - 3. If nobody is going to get your faith, then you're going to have to fight to keep that from happening
    - a. You try to get the faith out of us and you're going to run into a fight; You try to get me to doubt God and not trust God and I'm going into fight mode and I bristle and I take a stand and turn into a wall

- B. True spiritual warfare is all about beliefs and your opponent is trying to get you to believe wrong (It's to the enemy's advantage to keep the body of Christ confused about what the fight is and what we are supposed to be fighting; the fight is not what some have made it out to be)
1. **Every attack the enemy makes against is to negatively affect your faith so that he can have an open door to affect your life**
    - a. **It's about your faith so don't make it about circumstances (that would be warring after the flesh)**
    - b. The pressure and the opposition you experience is not about circumstances and negative situations, it's about your faith and the question is what affect did those natural things have on your faith?
    - c. You need to not be fixated on the results and the circumstances and the situation you are and instead be fixated on your faith
      - 1) It's easy to be fixate on what's going on in this natural realm and think you're fighting a bunch of stuff that's natural and if you're doing that you're not fighting a faith fight
  2. **Every war is over control, then the dust settles and the war is over the winner is the one who has control; How does the enemy control people on this planet? Through the mind; the mind is the door way to the heart and with the heart man believes**
    - a. Proverbs 23:7, 4:23, Romans 8:5-6-If the enemy can get a man thinking wrong and believing wrong he can influence that man
      - 1) What if he can't get him thinking wrong and believing wrong? He'll have no influence over that man
    - b. **Your beliefs govern everything and that's why the war is over what you believe**
      - 1) **True spiritual warfare is a battle of beliefs and because it's a battle of beliefs it has to do with thoughts because that's how you come to believe something and the thought was revealed to you through words and ideas**
    - c. What we believe is the biggest part of what we are and it governs every aspect of our lives and that's what the struggle in the Earth is over and that's what the enemy and his evil spirits are working night and day to do, is to prevent people from seeing the light and believing the truth or get people who have seen the light and believe it to turn loose of it – THAT IS TRUE SPIRITUAL WARFARE
      - 1) The devil can't make people do anything, but when people come to believe these things, their beliefs begin to govern every aspect of their lives and they are believing wrong because the devil lied and they didn't resist it and stand against it
- C. Fighting the good fight of faith is connected to laying hold of or possessing eternal life and anything that falls under the scope of zoe

1. If you don't fight the good fight of faith you won't possess what's yours
2. There's some stuff you're called to and some stuff calling you that to possess you have to fight the good fight of faith
  - a. You're not called to be sick any more than you were called to be dead spiritually; you are called to healing and healing is calling you, but to lay hold of it you're going to have to fight the good fight of faith

**V. This is 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 is connected to you possessing what God has promised you; if you ponder and think about and yield to these wrong thoughts and feelings you will end up believing wrong, losing your faith and you won't possess what God promised to you**

- A. What God gives to you and does for you is by grace and it is received through your faith (**right believing, believing the truth**)
  1. Romans 4:16, Ephesians 2:8, Romans 5:2-Faith is what gives you access to God's grace and to what God wants to give you by grace
    - a. **You don't earn it with your faith, you access it with your faith – No faith = No access**
  2. 2 Peter 1:4-There are things that God has give to you that are yours but you don't see them or have them naturally and yet they are yours and you couldn't say they are not yours because God has given them to you
    - a. Numbers 13:2-In God's heart and mind it's their land and yet they don't have it naturally; you couldn't say it wasn't theirs because God said "which I give unto you," and so if God gave it to them then it's theirs and not the giants' and yet they don't have it (naturally)
    - b. God gave it to you when he said it, not when it showed up
      - 1) Genesis 1-God said it and it was so and then He saw; it's so the moment God said it
      - 2) When did Abraham become the Father of many nations? When God said it; He was the father of many nations long before he was the father of many nations; When Abraham went to possess that promise there was a fight waiting for him
  3. **Faith is what gives you access to the things that are yours**
    - a. **You're not earning it with your faith because you can't earn something that already belongs to you**
      - 1) EX: You can't earn something that's yours – It already belongs to you
      - 2) EX: You can't earn your money in the bank, that money was already earned and if you could die of starvation if you don't go access what's yours and what belongs to you by the proper means
    - b. You can't earn what God already gave to you

- 1) Romans 5:18, Titus 2:11-Salvation and righteousness has been given the sinner and they can't earn it because God already gave it to them and yet if they don't access it with their faith they will die and go to hell – Faith gives them access to it
  - c. Healing, prosperity, peace, joy, good relationships, money, protection is yours and you can't earn it because Jesus already earned it and gave it to you and it's yours and it's by grace, but without faith you WILL NEVER access it – Faith gives you access
    - 1) Faith doesn't give you a right to it, Jesus gave you the right to it when he gave it to you, faith gives you access to it
- B. Anything that affects your faith will affect the access you have to what is already yours by grace
1. If you possess with your faith what God has given to you by grace, the enemy can't stop you taking possession of it, but by one means and that's to affect your faith, to get you out of faith and to get you to believe wrong, to believe lies, and not the truth;
  2. **If He can affect your faith he can hinder your access to grace**
  3. **If he can affect your faith and get you believing lies he can keep you from possessing what's yours b/c faith is what gives you access**
- C. When you go to possess with your faith what God has given to you by grace there's going to be a fight waiting for you
1. Faith is a fight so to access and possess what God has given you by grace you're going to have to fight the good fight of faith-1 Timothy 6:12
    - a. **It's not God who is trying to deny you access, it's the enemy and your fight is not with God to earn something from him, your fight is with the enemy who's trying to deny you access by affecting your faith by giving you thoughts and feelings contrary to the truth**
    - b. If you give heed to these lies and entertain them and don't cast them down it's going to affect your faith and you will lose the faith fight and that's how he defeats you-1 John 5:4
    - c. **It's not that God doesn't want to give you the victory, but it's understanding that what God does for you he does by grace and if you something affects your faith (like yielding to these wrong thoughts) then it's going to affect what God is able to do for you by His grace**
  2. **Jesus did the work and it's finished and it's yours but that doesn't mean the enemy is just going let you possess what's yours uncontested; he's going to do everything he can to affect your faith so that you can't possess what's yours**
    - a. 1 Timothy 6:12, 2 Peter 1:4-Lay hold (possess) eternal life; God has given unto us all things that pertain to LIFE and godliness, by grace, and we have to possess it with our faith when we go to do that we're going to encounter some resistance



3. It is yours but that doesn't mean there's not going to be some resistance from the evil one and that resistance is in the form of thoughts and feelings and suggestions and if you cower under that resistance and don't fight the good fight of faith you WON'T possess what's yours
    - a. It is yours but that doesn't mean that there's not going to be a fight and it's a faith fight because believing is what gives you access
    - b. Whether or not you have victory is not just determined by how you prayed, but how did you fight after your prayer was finished ("I did believe I received when I prayed" – Yes but you're losing the fight)
  4. **God's people aren't possessing what's there's because they are losing this fight, the faith fight**
    - a. Some don't know there is a fight, some don't think you have to fight, some don't know how to fight, some are confused about what the fight is, some don't want to fight
    - b. That land is theirs, God gave it to them by grace and yet they never enjoyed it because they didn't fight the good fight of faith
- D. If you don't win the faith fight by casting down and resisting these wrong thoughts and feelings it is a certainty you will lose your faith, let go of your faith and you will not be able to access what God wants to give you by grace and you won't possess what's yours
1. Numbers 13-B/C they pondered the wrong thoughts they lost their faith and lost the fight and never possessed what God promised to them
    - a. **Somebody said unbelief kept them from possessing? True, but why did they get into unbelief and lose their faith? Because they didn't do 2 Corinthians 10:3-5**
    - b. **This is how you end up deceived and in the dark and believing wrong and thinking wrong because you yielded to a thought you should have resisted, you considered something you shouldn't have consider, you paid attention to something you should have paid no attention to at all**
  2. **They were heeding the wrong things, they were listening to and communing with a wrong spirit, they were expressing thoughts and feelings they had when they should have been resisting them and that is why they got off and into unbelief and lost their faith-Numbers 13:28-14:4**
    - a. Are these things they are seeing real? Yes. Are these thoughts they are having real? Yes. Are these feelings they were having real? Yes. But all those thoughts and feelings are exalting themselves against the truth of God so they need to be cast down and not expressed
    - b. Joshua and Caleb certainly had similar thoughts and feelings, but they cast them down and that's why they didn't lose their faith and that's why they didn't lose the faith fight and that's why they possessed what God promised them

- 1) You can see it in the verses-The unbelieving bunch would say something and Joshua or Caleb would cast it down
- E. The ones who didn't want to fight never possessed what God promised
1. **Many Christians don't want to fight; they want to possess what's theirs uncontested; They want to pray and they want it to manifest instantly and when it doesn't they go off the rails and get in fear and unbelief and they don't want to fight these thoughts, feelings and lies**
    - a. *EX: We prayed and it hasn't changed; that's because you're in a fight and the enemy is doing everything to affect your faith and he knows if he can amplify the fact that it hasn't changed you'll let go of your faith, because that's worked on you in the past*
  2. **Do you want to fight? Do you love to fight? –You got to love to fight (Rocky: "I'm a fighter Adrienne.")**
    - a. A boxer doesn't go into the ring dreading the fight, dreading the thought that punches are going to be thrown at him, he loves to fight; believers wake up in the morning dreading the fight and you won't win a fight that you're dreading
    - b. **Most people don't like to fight b/c they aren't fighting right; they're sitting there being bombarded and pummeled praying and asking God to do something about the devil and there's no verse in the NT that says pray to God and he'll do something about the devil**
  3. In Numbers 13 there's a whole bunch of people who don't want to fight; not just naturally they don't want to fight the good fight of faith
- F. \*The most important thing is not the result, the most important thing is "are you winning the fight?" and many aren't getting the results they believe they should because they are not winning the fight and they've allowed things to affect their faith and get their faith
1. The fight is not natural, it's spiritual and it's a faith fight and the fight is all about you staying in faith and believing right when the enemy is trying to get you to let go of your faith and believe wrong
    - a. It's not a circumstance fight, you're not fighting sickness, you're not fighting lack Jesus gave you victory over those things and your fight is not natural and your weapons are not carnal; the fight you're in is the fight to hold onto your faith and retain your faith and believe right and believe the truth no matter what happens and if you're doing that you're winning the fight no matter what the circumstances say
    - b. People have gotten the idea that they are responsible for taking their faith and making their healing come to pass or making the money show up, but that would make the fight natural and not spiritual
    - c. They are looking at the giants and the walls and the indwelt cities and they are making the fight natural, but it's not natural it's spiritual and they are losing the faith fight and that's the only fight that matters

2. Some are lying to the themselves about their own faith and they are saying, "I am in faith, I am believing," all the while they sit there and sulk in despair and toil in torment and have no peace and no joy and the truth is they are not in faith and because you can't be in faith and hold onto your faith while you listen to the lies of the devil all day
  - a. **There's joy and peace in believing right and if you'll pay attention to the warning signs you'll sense when you're getting off and believing wrong; in situations where you've lost your joy and have no peace and you're frustrated and angry and sorrowful, those are warning signs and they are letting you know you're off, you're believing wrong, you're thinking wrong, you're losing the fight and you need some light and truth and you need to begin to deal in light and truth-(Romans 15:13)**
  - b. **This is why you have no access to what you know is yours and to what you know you should have**
  - c. You're not going to win that fight if you entertain wrong thoughts and the lies of the devil
- G. Romans 4:16-21-It's impossible to win the fight of faith and not let go of your faith when think on, ponder and listen to the lies of the devil all day
  1. Why is he not staggering? Why is he not wavering? Why is he not in unbelief? He staggered not because he consider not, he was strong in faith because he considered not
    - a. The enemy is trying to get him to believe wrong by getting him to consider something contrary to the truth, but Abraham just won't do it and that's why he didn't let go of his faith and possessed what God promised him
    - b. Considering things contrary to the truth is going to eat away at your faith until you no longer have any and that means you lose the faith fight and don't possess what God promised you
    - c. You get to this fully persuaded faith place of total trust and total rest by considering not; You consider not long enough and you're going to get fully persuaded and that's the place where nothing moves you, no report, no thought, no feeling, no circumstance, no devil
  2. **If you are considering stuff you shouldn't be considering it shows you that your faith is weak**
    - a. **So the measure for your faith is not what you can quote like a parrot or the face you can put on in front of your Christian friends, but rather how much stuff did you consider and think about today that you shouldn't have**
    - b. **Strong faith won't consider anything that contradicts the Word**
      - 1) **2 Corinthians 4:18-Faith doesn't consider or pay attention to what it sees, how it feels, or anything that contradicts the truth**