

Sermon Notes from Pastor Greg Morrow 8-30-09
BATTLE OF THE MIND
EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS AN ASSIGNMENT (DESTINY)

TEXT

EPHESIANS 6:10-17

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. 13 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 girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 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 take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

NKJV

PASSAGE DESCRIBES THE BATTLE OF THE MIND

MANY DON'T BELIEVE THOUGHTS ARE IMPORTANT

-Because they don't see immediate consequences

-Seedtime & Harvest (Genesis 8:22 "While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest.....shall not cease)

REAL CASUALTIES (harvest)

BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS, FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, HEALTH PROBLEMS,
DEPRESSION, LOW SELF ESTEEM, IMMORALITY....

IF WE ARE GOING TO WIN THE BATTLE OF THE MIND WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT IT

GOAL IS THAT EVERYONE WHO DESIRES TO LEARN WOULD LEAVE WITH A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO BE VICTORIOUS IN THE BATTLE OF THE MIND

3 THINGS: WEAPONS OF ENEMY, ARMOUR OF GOD, HOW TO USE OUR ARMOUR

WEAPONS OF THE ENEMY

KNOWING YOUR ENEMY IS KEY TO VICTORY IN ANY BATTLE

Enemy's motive- John 10:10 "steal kill destroy"

How? 2 Corinthians 2:11 "Lest satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices [strategies, that which is planned out]"

"tactics of devil are not a secret, he is not a creative being, his tactics are predictable, and knowable"

WORD REVEALS ENEMY'S DEVICES

Genesis 3:1-6

Luke 4:1-13

Revelation 12:9 "So that great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, call the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world....."

WEAPONS: THOUGHTS, IDEAS, AND SUGGESTIONS

DESTRUCTION COMES INTO OUR LIFE WHEN WE ACT ON THOUGHTS

Destruction came into Eve's life.....

Ex. One of your family members does something you don't like....could rob an evening.....if continues could destroy a relationship

Ex. Workplace...they treat you so bad....just walk out.

UNDERSTANDING OUR ARMOUR

Ephesians 6

Helmet of salvation
Belt of truth,
Breastplate of righteousness,
Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
Shield of faith
Sword of the Spirit

SOME HAVE THOUGHT THAT EACH PIECE HAD SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

1 Thessalonians 5:8 "but let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation."

BIBLE IS SIMPLY ILLUSTRATING THAT WE ARE IN A BATTLE

ARMOUR IS WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THOSE TRUTHS

Armour is our knowledge of God's Word

TO WIN YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT.....

Righteousness,
Faith
Love
Salvation
Gospel of Peace

Ex. Righteousness

VICTORY COMES THROUGH USING ARMOUR (OUR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD)

USING OUR ARMOUR

THE PROPER USE OF OUR ARMOUR ALWAYS RESULTS IN VICTORY

3 victory statements in Eph 6

stand against

you may be able to withstand

able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

THREE STEPS TO USING ARMOUR

IDENTIFY

DETERMINE IF THE THOUGHT IS A FRIEND OR FOE

If thoughts do not agree with armour view them as dangerous

QUENCH

"Quench" -To extinguish

1) A fire is extinguished as we cut off or remove its fuel source. The fuel source of thoughts its attention.

"The lifespan of a thought is determined by how much attention it receives" DJ

more you entertain thoughts the more they grow.

HOW? QUENCH? -REDIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE WORD

(what does the Word say about this issue)

CAPTURE

"Learn how thoughts take you captive and you can learn how to take them captive

Thoughts bring friends

EX. In relationships -they don't care about you....remember when they said this...year ago they did this..

CAPTURE THOUGHT WITH KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD

EX Matt 19:19 "Love your neighbor as yourself" (If I did what they did how would I want..)

EX John 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you; that you love one another; as I have loved you" (how did Jesus love me?)

EX 1 Corinthians 5:14 "For the love of Christ compels us.." (My actions are not motivated by their actions towards me, but Christ actions towards me are my motivation)

EX CONSEQUENCES Proverbs 18:21 "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit."

USE YOUR VOICE

Ephesians 6:17 "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God"

2 different Greek words for word Logos (written word)
Rhema (spoken word)

Speaking the Word of God finalizes the victory

"Confession is Satan's defeat"

CONCLUSION

FOR THE REST OF OUR CHRISTIAN LIVES WE WILL BE FIGHTING THE BATTLE OF THE MIND

AS WE UNDERSTAND; THE WEAPONS OF OUR ENEMY, OUR ARMOUR, AND HOW TO USE OUR ARMOUR WE CAN STAND VICTORIOUS

CHALLENGE:

BEGIN TO PRACTICE A GOOD THOUGHT LIFE IN ISSUES THAT ARE NOT LIFE AND DEATH

AS YOU DEVELOP THE HABIT IT WILL BECOME A PART OF YOU.

PRAYER

INVITATION