

THE NATURE OF OUR WARFARE- MATTHEWA.DANIEL.

Last month we looked at our weapons of warfare, it is only appropriate to discuss the warfare we are so adequately equipped for. God gave us the power to defend ourselves and take the offence to our enemy when needed. Ignorance of the rules of engagement has littered the landscape with too many causality. Once you are born again, this is only the beginning, things don't just happen, there are things you must do to possess them. If this is all you learn from this, my task is done.

Warfare in the life Jesus

Satan tempted Jesus and when he failed, he left for a season. Jesus regularly commanded evil spirit to leave individuals. Some of the demons he cast out did not want to leave a particular region. Satan entered into Judas before he betrayed Jesus. Satan wanted to have Peter but Jesus prayed for him. The bible recorded that Satan was responsible for the killing of Jesus and that if he knew what it would accomplish, he would not have done it. The story of Jesus concluded with his attainment of all power in Heaven and on Earth and his putting that power at our disposal to preach the gospel and to make disciples of all.

Warfare in the life of Apostle Paul

This man represented the best example of what happened after Jesus left and hence a glimpse into what a typical Christian should be today. He met with Jesus (born-again experience), became blind and had his eyes opened (symbolic of discipleship), got baptised (attained power) and engaged his God-given assignment. He preached, planted churches, per-

formed miracles regularly and opened up new territories to the gospel. He comforted some demonic opposition; resisted violently, beaten, left for dead, cast out evil spirit from a possessed girl, jailed, put under house arrest, and finally killed. He finished his assignment. Irrespective of the extremes at play: a sect that sees Satan in everything around them and those that believe that he cannot do anything to them without reading the terms and conditions, spiritual warfare is a reality.

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The battle is spiritual and takes place in our minds everyday. He to whom you subscribe will dictate what happens to you. Satan is always trying to condemn us and fill us up with wrong and sometime negative thoughts and these are reinforced by the impulses that barrage our gates of the eyes, ears and mouth. Sometimes, when he does not succeed with you, he goes for any weak person or group of people around you. Jesus won when he went on the cross and resurrected the third day; he has now furnished us with superior weapons to defend and to engage our enemy daily. My biggest concern is for Christians who are “carnal” and pander to their flesh daily whilst professing that Satan cannot do anything to them. This is a big contributing factor to the casualty in the body of Christ. Satan is under our feet when we are properly integrat-



ed to the body of Christ and Jesus being our head. This positions us in the place to stamp on his head when he tries to tickle our feet, he will always try and if you are Christ's, you will always win. That is why we are called overcomers. Shalom. *Suggested reading: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts.*

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