

HOW TO WAR IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM

2nd Corinthians 10:4-5

We are commanded by God **NOT** to fight the devil. However, we are commanded to fight **STRONGHOLDS**. Fighting strongholds is an entirely different situation than fighting the devil. Unfortunately, many people have misunderstood the difference between the devil and demonic strongholds.

The devil is God's enemy. He is the prince of the air who governs the trends of the world. He is the spirit that resides and works in the people who **REFUSE** to obey God.

Ephesians 2:2 says, "Yes, in the past you lived the way the world lives, following the ruler of the evil powers that are above the earth. That same spirit is now working in those who refuse to obey God."

Demonic strongholds are areas of darkness within the mind or personality of an individual that causes ongoing spiritual and emotional behavior problems. Receiving King Jesus as your Personal Lord and Savior does not negate the possibility of you being bound by strongholds.

EVERY believer battles with emotions, thoughts and habits that conflict with their relationship with Christ. These mental, spiritual, emotional and physical problems are strongholds. These strongholds weigh people down from reaching their full potential in Christ. Strongholds are identified in many ways.

A **PORN** addiction is a stronghold. Being addicted to **ALCOHOL** is a stronghold. **RELIGION** is a stronghold. **ADULTERY** is a stronghold. I can go on and on. Anything that **DOMINATES** the human will and keeps you from reaching your full potential in God is a stronghold.

THE WAR YOU ARE SUPPOSE TO FIGHT IS AGAINST YOUR STRONGHOLDS, NOT THE DEVIL.

WARRING IN THE SPIRIT

2nd Corinthians 10:4-5

2nd Corinthians 10:4 says, *"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of **STRONGHOLDS**; Casting down **IMAGINATIONS**, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God and bringing into captivity **EVERY THOUGHT** to the obedience of Christ."*

There are four weapons we can use while warring in the spirit. These weapons are not of the world. They are of the Kingdom of God. These weapons will destroy demonic strongholds if used **PROPERLY**.

- The first weapon is **WORSHIP**.
- The second weapon is **WORDS**.

- The third weapon is **WISDOM**.
- The fourth weapon is the **WORD OF GOD**.

WEAPONS TO UTILIZE

WORSHIP IS A WEAPON. Worship is not singing a slow song in church. It is not an emotional experience where tears are shed and knees are bowed. That is the **EXTERNAL** act of worship. The **SUBSTANCE** of worship is **SACRIFICE**...giving up what you want in exchange for what God needs.

Abraham took his son to the land of Moriah to offer him as a sacrifice as an act of worship to God. Abraham worshipped God by giving up what he wanted in **EXCHANGE** for what God needed. God needed Abraham's faith.

Jesus died on the cross for our sins as a **SACRIFICE** to His Heavenly Father. Jesus sacrificed what he wanted, which

was His life in exchange for what His Heavenly Father needed. His Heavenly Father needed humanity to be redeemed from sin to death. When you worship God in spirit and in truth you will break the strongholds over your life.

WORDS ARE A WEAPON. Life and death is in the power of the tongue. **WHAT** you say matters. **HOW** you speak matters. Your future revolves around the words you speak. When you speak words of hopelessness, despair, depression and negativity you **STRENGTHEN** the strongholds in your life.

Think about it. Have you seen a person break the power of addiction while **STILL CLAIMING** to be an addict? Most likely not. Have you seen a person break the yoke of adultery while **STILL ENTERTAINING** seducing conversations? Most likely not.

The words you speak and the words you believe will determine if you stay bound to your strongholds or delivered by your strongholds.

WISDOM IS A WEAPON. Wisdom teaches you how to break strongholds. In the book of Proverbs, King Solomon taught us how to break the strongholds of poverty, ignorance and so much more. King Solomon was the wisest man to ever walk the earth.

His wisdom on wealth breaks the stronghold of poverty. For example, Proverbs 13:11 says, "*Money that comes easily disappears quickly, but money that is gathered little by little will grow.*"

People who choose to apply Proverbs 13:11 to their life will break the stronghold of lack and poverty. Wealth is not accumulated instantly, it is attained over time. When you apply the Wisdom of God, strongholds will be broken.

THE WORD OF GOD IS A WEAPON. God's Word in totality is the ultimate weapon. If you study the Word of God consistently you will equip yourself to destroy **ANY** stronghold that is in your life. The power of God's Word destroys every demonic hindrance.

When the devil tried to tempt Jesus in the wilderness Jesus did not argue with him. He **QUOTED** and **STOOD** on His Word and the Word did the work. People who quote God's Word **WITHOUT** standing on it will not see the impact of this weapon.

You must **LEAN** and **STAND** on God's Word to receive and see its full impact. In-spite of opposition, criticism, slander and mockery you must stand and become unmovable on what He says.

Utilizing at **LEAST** one of these weapons will enable you to break the stronghold's in your life. However, if you use all of these weapons you will **PREVENT** the stronghold's from taking hold to your life.

For more wisdom go to www.thewisdomstore.com