



Sunday, November 15, 2020

MAKE A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

I. The Wealth of the Believer (Ephesians 1:1-3:21)

II. The Walk of the Believer (4:1-6:9)

III. The Warfare of the Believer (Ephesians 6:10-20)

A. Introduction

B. Instructions: how to stand fast in the battle (Ephesians 6:10-12)

C. Instruments: how to face the battle (Ephesians 6:13-17)

1. God’s Precept for our stability in Warfare (Ephesians 6:13)

2. God’s Protection for our security in Warfare (Eph. 6:14-17a)

i. He is rooted in truth—He is committed to the fight (14a)

? “Do I really want to fight him at all? Am I sincere about this spiritual warfare?”

ii. He is righteous in his testimony—He is characterized by holiness (Ephesians 6:14b)

? “Am I living the kind of life that enables me to engage in this conflict?”

iii. He is resolute where he treads—He is confident & courageous in his faith (Ephesians 6:15)

? “Am I prepared to fight?” “Am I bold in the battle, because my feet are firmly rooted in Gospel of peace?”

iv. He is **ready** for **temptation**—He is **counteractive** in the face of temptation (Eph. 6:16)

☐ “Am I able to defend myself against Satan’s attack?”

“Taking up the shield of faith” is living with active or dynamic faith. It is putting your faith into action—doing what you say that you believe.

“...wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked [one].” (Eph. 6:16) – We note that the sufficiency of this “shield of faith” in that it “quenches [or extinguishes] ALL the fiery darts of the wicked one.”

Faith diffuses the temptation as it does away with dependency upon self. This “faith” is our belief in God—what we believe to be true about God. Therefore, “faith” is stepping out into the light of Christ based upon the truths of God’s Word.

1 John 5:4 For whatsoever is born of **God** overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith.

Consider how we fight with the “shield of faith” against the tempter.

a) Be **Sober** in Thought (8)

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober [*self-controlled*], be vigilant [*on guard / alert*]; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Matthew 26:41 Watch [*be vigilant*] and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.

1 Corinthians 10:13 “There hath no temptation taken you but such as [*except what*] is common to man: but **God** *is* faithful, **Who** will not suffer [*allow*] you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear [*endure*] it.”

Acknowledge what God says in His Word about temptation. The right perspective is to THINK YOUR WAY THROUGH A TEMPTATION!

1) acknowledge what is **commonplace**

2) Acknowledge your **Creator**

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of **God** *is* pure: **He** *is* a shield [*a sure protection*] unto them that put their trust [*seek refuge*] in Him.

- 3) Acknowledge His control
4) Acknowledge His covenant
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b) Be Steadfast in Faith (9)

1 Peter 5:9 Whom resist [*to stand against or oppose*] steadfast [*being firm or stable*] in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Consider Abraham's Example (Romans 4:18-22 / Hebrews 11:17-19)

Having faith determines that God is Who He says He is and it determines that God will do what He says He will do.

c) Be Strong in the Lord (10)

1 Peter 5:10 "But the **God** of all grace, **Who** hath called us unto **His** eternal glory by **Christ Jesus**, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect [*mature*], stablish, strengthen, settle [*stabilize*] you."

2 Corinthians 9:8 "And **God** is able to make all grace [*divine help*] abound [*superabound/ in excess*] toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency [*being content or satisfied*] in all things, may abound to every good work:"

1 Peter 5:11 "To **Him** be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 1:7 "That the trial [*proving*] of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of **Jesus Christ**:"



Our WARFARE is fought with the INSTRUMENTS of God. Our protection for the spiritual battles of life continues with being READY FOR TEMPTATION. He knows how to COUNTERACT the temptations of the devil by being SOBER in thought, STEADFAST in faith, and STRONG IN THE LORD.

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!