

# Our Battle is Not With “Blood and Flesh”

MY wife, Barbara, has made a statement more times than I can count since I’ve known her. She says, “someone is ALWAYS in spiritual authority.”

In every situation or relationship, “someone is ALWAYS in spiritual authority.” Whoever that “someone” is, speaks and acts from the position of the spirit they in accord or agreement with. Hopefully, in all situations and relationships into which God leads us (and that in itself is a major assumption worthy of our attention) – it behooves us to be in accord – in agreement – with God’s holy spirit. What I’ve learned is that when that is NOT the case, we will speak and act out of an unspoken alliance with another spirit other than God’s.

Let me repeat that...

When we are in accord with God’s spirit in our situations and relationships, we will speak and act out of the leading and therefore the authority of His spirit...people and situations line up according to that authority, and nothing withstands it. Whatever and where those situations and relationships are, the success that accompanies them has nothing to do with us – except for our obedience to show up, pay attention and share the truth as God gives us – The outcome is entirely between the other person or persons and God.

When we face people and situations in our lives that are other than full of God’s peace, we are not dealing with people and situations – they are only the “appearance.”

## 2 Cor. 4:17

For the momentary lightness of our affliction is producing for us a transcendentally transcendent eonian burden of glory,

18 at our **not noting what is being observed**, but what is **not being observed**, for what is being **observed is temporary**, yet what is **not being observed is eonian**.

The NIV reads:

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

What is Paul talking about here? “*What is observed*”—seen—is obvious: people, places and things – everything that is visible. Remember the study in which we used the analogy of looking horizontally versus looking up, vertically? We demonstrated that God’s hand is always over us, either leading us or following us around, so to speak. As

we look at everything in front of us, behind us, or to either side, we are looking at what is seen or what is observed; we are looking at the fleshly realm through our fleshly eyes. On the other hand, when we look up, to what is unseen, what is not observed—looking to God for direction—we follow His leading; we are looking at the spiritual realm through the eyes of our spirits.

There are other implications of course to this passage, which have to do with perceiving our present observable world in the “***momentary lightness of our affliction***,” versus the glory yet to come...what Paul called, our “***transcendently transcendent eonian burden of glory***.”

The key here to our study tonight is to recognize and pay attention to the realm of the spirit—where spirits exist, both good and evil—and battle there, rather than against people who are simply acting out the influence of the spirits they don’t even know they are in league with!

What is occurring in the spirit, as we interact with people and as we face situations, is where the “battle” is fought and won or lost.

### **Ephesians 6:**

11 Put on the panoply of God, to enable you to stand up to the stratagems of the Adversary,

**12 for it is not ours to wrestle with blood and flesh, but with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with the spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials.**

There can be no doubt as to the location and type of adversary we face, and the means by which we can win the battle (“IF” we “put on the God’s panoply”). It is a critical principle for us to recognize that when we face opposition from people, or circumstances appear to be an attempt to side-track us or dissuade us from fulfilling what we KNOW God has called us and is leading us to do; the opposition is not coming from “blood and flesh”—though we hear their voices and we see their faces – they are apparent and are observed; rather, our battle is ALWAYS in the celestial realm of spirit...or “spirits”—where we do not see, which is not apparent or observed...at least, not through the eyes of our flesh.

Paul goes on in Ephesians 6:13 . . .

13 Therefore take up the panoply of God that you may be enabled to withstand **in the wicked day,**

[We're IN the Wicked Day! – In **Gal. 1: 4, Paul declares** - “so that He might extricate us out of the present wicked eon, according to the will of our God and Father”]

Paul follows this up with a lengthy discussion of exactly what the panoply of God consists of. It is **so important** and necessary that it occupies the entire 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of my book, Go GOD!, along with a definition of “the stratagems of the adversary,” and a detailed description of what they look like and what their purpose is.

In Matt. 16 – Jesus began teaching the disciples about what would happen to him at the hands of men to be killed and resurrected. Peter, God bless him, says,

#### **Matt. 16:22**

By no means shall this be for Thee!"

23 Now, being turned, He said to Peter, "**Go away behind Me, satan!** A snare are you to Me, for **you are not disposed to that which is of God, but that which is of men.**"

Jesus gave no place to Peter, even though Peter was the one speaking and standing right in front of Jesus. This is a perfect illustration of battling principalities and powers and not flesh and blood. In this case, Jesus apparently looked right through Peter to the spirit Peter had given expression to (without even knowing it!), and addressed the spirit—"satan" (lower case)!

#### **Gal. 1:16**

15 Now, when it delights God, Who severs me from my mother's womb and calls me through His grace,

16 to unveil His Son in me that I may be evangelizing Him among the nations, **I did not immediately submit it to flesh and blood,**

17 neither came I up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I came away into Arabia, and I return again to Damascus.

#### **Romans 8:14**

11 Now if **the spirit of Him Who rouses Jesus from among the dead** is making its home in you, He Who rouses Christ Jesus from among the dead will also be vivifying your mortal bodies because of **His spirit making its home in you.**

12 Consequently, then, brethren, **debtors are we, not to the flesh,** to be living in accord with flesh,

13 for **if you are living in accord with flesh, you are about to be dying.** Yet if, in spirit, you are putting the practices of the body to death, you will be living.

**14 For whoever are being led by God's spirit, these are sons of God.**

15 For you did not get **slavery's spirit** to fear again, but you got the spirit of sonship, in which we are crying, "Abba, Father!"

16 **The spirit** itself is testifying together with **our spirit** that we are children of God.

**Messenger of light...**

**"Fraudulent apostles, false prophets, Test the spirits (1 John), 2 Cor. 11...Evil conversations are corrupting kind characters."**

### **Daniel 10:13**

<sup>1</sup> In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, a revelation was given to Daniel (who was called Belteshazzar). Its message was true and it concerned a great war. The understanding of the message came to him in a vision.

<sup>2</sup> At that time I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. <sup>3</sup> I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over.

<sup>4</sup> On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river, the Tigris, [Daniel was awake, with his eyes wide open...AND there were others with him, as we'll soon see] <sup>5</sup> I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. <sup>6</sup> His body was like topaz, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude.

<sup>7</sup> I, Daniel, was the only one who saw the vision; those who were with me did not see it, but such terror overwhelmed them that they fled and hid themselves. <sup>8</sup> So I was left alone, gazing at this great vision; I had no strength left, my face turned deathly pale and I was helpless. <sup>9</sup> Then I heard him speaking, and as I listened to him, I fell into a deep sleep, my face to the ground.

<sup>10</sup> A hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. <sup>11</sup> He said, "Daniel, you who are highly esteemed, consider carefully the words I am about to speak to you, and stand up, for I have now been sent to you." And when he said this to me, I stood up trembling.

<sup>12</sup> Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. <sup>13</sup> **But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one**

**days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there**

**with the king of Persia.**<sup>14</sup> Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.”

What part of Daniel’s experience had to do with blood and flesh? Who did the angel who was dispatched to Daniel battle for EXACTLY the same period of Daniel’s fast!? Even Michael, the archangel, “**one of the chief princes**” had to lend a hand!

## **PART 2 -**

### **Ephesians 2:2**

1 And you, being dead to your offenses and sins,

2 **in which once you walked, in accord with the eon of this world, in accord with the chief of the jurisdiction of the air, the spirit now operating in the sons of stubbornness**

3 (among whom we also all behaved ourselves once in **the lusts of our flesh, doing the will of the flesh and of the comprehension**, and were, **in our nature, children of indignation**, even as the rest),

[Here is a battle that IS with blood and flesh, but it is not with others; this battle rages inside us! People who say the enemy is giving them thoughts or playing with their minds, I can find no scriptural basis for. We are clearly in charge of our own minds, until we put on the mind of Christ, and experience the *renewal* of our minds, which Paul writes about...but that’s another subject. Suffice for now to stress that when it comes to our own inner lusts, thoughts, desires or ruminations, we aren’t battling with anyone or anything but our old nature.]

4 **yet God**, being **rich in mercy**, because of His vast love with which He loves us

5 (we also being dead to the offenses and the lusts), vivifies us together in Christ (in grace are you saved!)

6 and rouses us together and **seats us together among the celestials**, **in Christ Jesus**,

7 that, in the oncoming eons, He should be displaying the transcendent riches of His grace in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

“**Among the celestials in Christ Jesus**” is a spiritual realm, not one of blood and flesh. There is our focus.

### **Ephesians 1:3**

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who blesses us with **every spiritual blessing among the celestials**, **in Christ**,

13 In Whom you also -- on hearing the word of truth, the evangel of your salvation -- in Whom **on believing** also, **you are sealed with the holy spirit of promise**

...

17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may be giving you a **spirit of wisdom and revelation** in the realization of Him,

**[WHY would Paul pray for God to give the ecclesia of God a spirit of wisdom and revelation?...]**

18 the **eyes of your heart** having been enlightened, **for you to perceive** what is the expectation of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of the enjoyment of His allotment among the saints,

[notice, it's not our minds Paul addresses here, as in "the eyes of your mind." No, it's through the eyes of your heart, once enlightened, where *real* perception is gained]

19 and what the transcendent greatness of His power for us who are believing, in accord with the operation of the might of His strength,

20 which is operative in the Christ, **rousing Him from among the dead and seating Him at His right hand among the celestials,**

21 **up over every sovereignty and authority and power and lordship**, and every name that is named, *not only* in this eon, but also in that which is impending:

22 and subjects all under His feet, and gives Him, as Head over all, to the ecclesia which is His body, the complement of the One completing the all in all.

## **Colossians 2:10**

10 And you are complete in Him, Who is the Head of every **sovereignty** and **authority**,  
How do we know he's not talking about earthly sovereignties and authorities? Look at the language: Who IS the Head – present tense. Is Jesus now, or was he when Paul wrote this, the head of ANY earthly government? He WILL be, but He was not then and is not now.

Even Jesus called Satan, the Chief of this world:

## **Hebrews 1:13-14**

13 Now to which of the messengers has He declared at any time, "Sit at My right, till I should be placing Thine enemies for a footstool for Thy feet"?

14 Are they not all **ministering spirits commissioned for service** *because of those* who are about to be enjoying the allotment of salvation?

## Ephesians 3:10

10 that now may be made known to **[whom?] the sovereignties and the authorities**  
**[spirits...where?] among the celestials**, [how?] **through the ecclesia**, [and what is it that's now  
being made know for the first time?] the multifarious wisdom of God,  
11 in accord with the purpose of the eons, which He makes in Christ Jesus, our Lord;

& 6; Col. 1; Ro 8

Mat. 3 (the **spirit of** God descending);

Mat. 8 - He cast out the **spirits** with a word,

12 and Luke 11:

24 "Whenever **the unclean spirit** may be coming **out from a man**, it is passing through  
waterless places, seeking rest, and not finding it. Then it is saying, 'I will be returning into my  
home whence I came out.'

25 And coming, it is finding it unoccupied, swept and decorated.

26 Then it is going and taking along with itself **seven other spirits more wicked than itself**, and  
entering, it is dwelling there. And the last state of that man is becoming worse than the first."

Mat. 26 — 41 Watch and pray, lest you may be entering into trial. The spirit, indeed, is eager; yet the  
flesh is infirm."

27:50 - lets out the **spirit**.

"spirit of": Ro 8(?);

Mark 1:23 (an unclean **spirit**),

7:25 - unclean **spirit**

9:17 - having a dumb **spirit**.

13:11 - but the holy **spirit**.

Luke 7 - and wicked **spirits**,

8 - cured of wicked **spirits**

**Mark 9:38-42** And lo! a man from the throng exclaims, saying, "Teacher, I beseech Thee, look  
on my son, for my only begotten is he!

39 And lo! **a spirit is getting him**, and suddenly he is crying out, and it is tearing and convulsing  
him, with froth, and is departing with difficulty from him, bruising him.

40 And I besought Thy disciples that they should cast it out, and they could not."

41 Now, answering, Jesus said, "O generation **unbelieving and perverse!** Till when shall I be

with you and bear with you? **Lead your son here to Me."**

42 Yet, while he is still approaching, **the demon tares and violently convulses him**. Yet Jesus rebukes the unclean spirit, and He heals the boy and gives him back to his father.

**10 - the spirits are subject to you**

Luke 13 (having a **spirit of infirmity** eighteen years);

**23:46 - am I committing My spirit."**

24:37 & > beholding a **spirit**, ... a **spirit** has not flesh

John 14, 15, 16 (the **spirit of truth**);

**20:22 - "Get holy spirit!**

Acts 5:16 - unclean **spirits**,

**Acts 5(Ananias), (spirit of the Lord, 11:12 - Now the spirit said to me**

Acts 8:7, >20 - unclean **spirits**, they came out)

Acts 16:7; 8 - a python **spirit**

17 - Athens, his **spirit** was incited

Acts 19:10; wicked **spirit** said to them, "Jesus, indeed, I know,

Acts 23:8 - For Sadducees, indeed, are saying there is no resurrection, nor messenger, nor spirit; yet Pharisees are avowing both.

Ro 1: the **spirit** of holiness,

5:5 - the holy **spirit** which is being given to us

Ro 11 (spirit of stupor);

1 Cor. 2 (the **spirit of humanity**), 12 (discrimination of **spirits**)

1 Cor 15 - Adam a vivifying **Spirit**.

2 Cor. 3 (the **spirit of the living God**),

4 (the same **spirit of faith**);

2 Cor. 7:13 - Titus, for his **spirit** has been soothed

**11 - 4** For if, indeed, he who is coming is heralding another Jesus whom we do not herald, or you are obtaining **a different spirit**, which you did not obtain, or a different evangel, which you do not receive, you are bearing with him ideally.

Gal. 4 (the **spirit of His Son**),

6 (in a **spirit of meekness**);

Phil 1:19, 3 (service in the **spirit of God**);

1 Thess. 5 - your unimpaired **spirit**

2 Thess. 2 (the **spirit of His mouth**);

1 Ti 4:1 - heed to deceiving **spirits**

**2 Ti 1:7** for God gives us, **not a spirit of timidity**, but of **power** and of **love** and of **sanity**.

He 12:9 - the Father of **spirits**



1 Pe 1 (the **spirit of** Christ in them made evident),  
 1 Pe 3:19 - the **spirits** in jail also  
 4 (the **spirit of** glory and power);  
 1 Jo 3 - the **spirit** which He gives us  
 4 (the **spirit of** God: every spirit);  
 Rev. 4:5 - the seven **spirits** of God  
 Rev. 11 (half the **spirit of** life out of God),  
 Rev. 13 - to give **spirit** to the image  
 16:14 - three unclean **spirits**, as if frogs (for they are **spirits**)  
 He 10:29 - the spirit of grace

### **Obedience establishes authority.**

- Abraham – spoke to the Lord in Genesis 18, re: Sodom 6 times, from 50 to 45, 40, 30, 20, 10
- Moses, see **Exodus 23:12-18**:  
 Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favor with me.’”<sup>13</sup> If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”  
<sup>14</sup> The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”  
<sup>15</sup> Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.”<sup>16</sup> How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”  
<sup>17</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”  
<sup>18</sup> Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”
- Joshua
- Adherence of the nation of Israel to the Law...prosperity, health and long life
- Every prophet (Samuel, Isaiah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Nehemiah, Ezekiel . . .)
- Jesus...The capstone of the corner. “The inaugurator and perfecter of [the] faith.” (Hebrews 12:2)
- Peter, John and the other apostles
- Paul

### **Disobedience revokes authority**

- Abraham – Lot, Ishmael
- Moses – “speak to the rock” We looked at this in a previous study, but let’s look at it again today:

**Numbers 20:8**

“**Take the staff**, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. **Speak to that rock** before their eyes and it will pour out its water.

**Exodus 17:6**

<sup>5</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pass before the people and take with you some of the elders of Israel; and **take in your hand your staff with which you struck the Nile**, and go.

<sup>6</sup>"Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and you shall **strike the rock**, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink."

- Sampson – lust will cost us more than we would have wanted to pay
- Saul is a great example. In his first test, Samuel said wait for me...and he didn't. Worse yet, Saul didn't do what Samuel told him the Lord wanted him to do..."what is the bleating of sheep I hear?"
- Most of Israel's kings when Israel and Judah were divided, and Judah's followed suit before the destruction of Jerusalem, which Jeremiah and Ezekiel prophesied
- The nation of Israel as a whole from not long after they left Egypt!

**How to walk in spiritual authority:**

**Matthew 12:28;**

22 Then was brought to Him a demoniac, blind and mute, and He cures him, so that the mute man is speaking and observing.

23 And amazed are all the throngs, and they said, "Is not this the Son of David?"

24 Now the Pharisees, hearing it, said, "This man is not casting out the demons except by Bezeboul, the chief of the demons."

25 Now, having perceived their sentiments, He said to them, "Every kingdom parted against itself is being desolated, and every city or house parted against itself shall not stand.

26 And if the Satan is casting out the Satan, he is parted against himself. How, then, shall his kingdom stand?

27 "And if I, by **Beezeboul**, am casting out demons, by whom are your sons casting them out? Therefore they shall be your judges.

**a name of Satan, the prince of evil spirits** ... “lord of dung or of filth;” may have been the Ekronites’ “lord of flies” which the Israelites transferred to Satan out of contempt.

“**demons**” is commonly rendered “**devils**,” just as Satan is commonly rendered, “**the**

***devil.*** “Devil” is derived from the Greek *diabolos* (prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely), but it has been incurably corrupted by being applied to demons. *Diabolos* means *slanderer*. Satan is not the only adversary or false accuser, but the “chief” adversary of God and Christ, and the supreme slanderer of man.

*We may need to take up a study of Satan, because there is much confusion about who he is, where he came from, where he resides, and where he ends up.*

28 "Now if, by the spirit of God, I am casting out demons, consequently the kingdom of God outstrips **[moves ahead of]** in time to you.

29 Or how can anyone be entering into the house of the strong one, and plunder his gear, if ever he should not first be binding the strong one? And then he will be plundering his house. To me, this last verse establishes a principle worthy of our operating today: that is, to “bind ‘the strong one’”...forbid its manifestation in your presence. You do this, just as Jesus did. THEN you are in spiritual authority...CHRIST’s

**Matthew 5:37** – Actually the whole chapter...sermon on the mount.

37 Yet let your word be 'Yes, Yes,' 'No, No.' Now what is in excess of these is of the wicked one.

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."

### **Matthew 10:20**

18 Now before governors and kings also shall you be led on My account, for a testimony to them and to the nations. [notice that “you will be led – you won’t have to do this or seek it out...you will be led, and it’s on “My account”. It will be before “governors and kings” – these are earthly, not spiritual. Different terms are used for spirits (sovereignties, authoriries, etc.)] 19 "Now, whenever they may be giving you up, you should not be worrying about how or what you should be speaking, for it shall be given you in that hour what you should be speaking,

**20 for not you are speaking, but the spirit of your Father is speaking in you.**

### **Eph. 4:21-23**

21 since, surely, Him you hear, and by Him were taught (according as the truth is in Jesus),

22 to put off from you, as regards your former behavior, the old humanity which is corrupted in accord with its seductive desires,

23 yet to be rejuvenated in **the spirit of your mind**,

24 and to put on the new humanity which, in accord with God, is being created in righteousness and benignity of the truth.

### **Ephesians 5:1-21**

**1 Become, then, imitators of God, as beloved children,**

2 and be **walking in love**, according as Christ also loves you, and gives Himself up for us, an approach present and a sacrifice to God, for a fragrant odor.

3 Now, **all prostitution and uncleanness or greed -- let it not even be named among you**, according as is becoming in saints --

4 and **vileness and stupid speaking or insinuating**, which are not proper, but rather thanksgiving.

5 For this you perceive, knowing that no paramour at all or unclean or greedy person, who is an idolater, has any enjoyment of the allotment in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

6 **Let no one be seducing you with empty words**, for because of these things the indignation of God is coming on the sons of stubbornness.

7 Do not, then, become joint partakers with them,

8 for you were once darkness, yet now **you are light in the Lord**.

9 **As children of light be walking** (for the fruit of the light is in **all goodness and righteousness and truth**),

10 **testing what is well pleasing to the Lord**.

11 And **be not joint participants in the unfruitful acts of darkness**, yet rather **be exposing them** also,

12 for it is a shame even to speak of the hidden things occurring, done by them.

...15 Be **observing accurately**, then, brethren, **how you are walking**, not as unwise, but as wise,

16 reclaiming the era, for the days are wicked.

17 Therefore **do not become imprudent**, but **understand what the will of the Lord is**.

18 And **be not drunk with wine**, in which is profligacy, but **be filled full with spirit**,

19 speaking to yourselves in **psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing music in your hearts to the Lord**,

20 **giving thanks always for all things, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ**,

21 **to our God and Father, being subject to one another in the fear of Christ**.

“We do well to be willing to learn from one another...especially our spouses!”

**Romans 15** – Lots of references to spirit here...holy spirit, spirit of God. Look at this, though:

30 Now I am entreating you, brethren, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and **through the love of the spirit**, to struggle together with me in prayers to God for me,

31 that I should be rescued from the stubborn in Judea, and my dispensation for Jerusalem may be becoming well received by the saints,

32 that I may be coming to you with joy through the will of God, and I should be resting together with you.

### **Luke 4:18:**

13 And, concluding every trial, the Adversary withdrew from Him until an appointed time.

14 And Jesus returns, in the power of the spirit, into Galilee. And the fame concerning Him came out down the whole of the country about.

15 And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

16 And He came to Nazareth, where He was reared, and, according to His custom on the day of the sabbaths, He entered into the synagogue and rose to read.

17 And handed to Him was a scroll of the prophet Isaiah, and, opening the scroll, He found the place where it was written,

18 **"The spirit of the Lord is on Me, On account of which He anoints Me to bring the evangel to the poor.** He has commissioned Me to heal the crushed heart, To herald to captives a pardon, And to the blind the receiving of sight; To dispatch the oppressed with a pardon.

19 To herald an acceptable year of the Lord..."

20 And furling the scroll, giving it back to the deputy, He is seated. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were looking intently at Him.

21 Now He begins to be saying to them that "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your ears."

### **Ephesians 6**

11 Put on the panoply of God, to enable you to stand up to the stratagems of the Adversary,  
**[Notice Paul does not write "If they come," at the end of the sentence. Why would He this, as a heads-up, to the ecclesias? Paul wrote from personal experience. He knew what these young Christians faced. He had been up against the adversary himself. Even today, the battle is on and the stratagems are part of this wicked eon over which the chief of this world rules]**

12 for it is not ours to wrestle with blood and flesh, but with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with the spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials.

13 Therefore take up the panoply of God that you may be enabled to withstand in the wicked

day, and having effected all, to stand.

14 Stand, then, girded about your loins with truth, with the cuirass of righteousness put on.

15 and your feet sandaled with the readiness of the evangel of peace;

16 with all taking up the large shield of faith, by which you will be able to extinguish all the fiery arrows of the wicked one.

17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is a declaration of God.

## **2 Timothy 1:**

10 Now you fully follow me in my teaching, motive, purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance,

11 persecutions, sufferings, such as occurred to me in Antioch, in Iconium, in Lystra:

persecutions such as I undergo, and out of them all the Lord rescues me.

## **1 Corinthians 2**

1 And I, coming to you, brethren, came not with superiority of word or of wisdom, announcing to you the testimony of God,

2 for I decide not to perceive anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

3 And I came to be with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling,

4 and my word and my heralding were not with the persuasive words of human wisdom, but with demonstration of spirit and of power,

5 that your faith may not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.