Remember the might acts of God when you get stuck. God is larger than the things you see. Movement toward God is important. You cannot remain stagnant but must move or you will die. You have stayed long enough in your mountain.
Toni Hart

Spiritual Warfare and Deliverance
Prayer Study #553 J
Lesson Eleven

THE COUNTERATTACK

In the last lesson we declared war against the enemy. This last study was an epiphany for me. I realized that the Lord was preparing me for a season (yet to come) when I will attempt to mobilize the Body of Christ in this area for spiritual warfare. What that is going to look like, I don't know. Nor do I know *when* I will be released in that.

I like for you and me to run to the battle, but I must warn you from the very beginning that there is *almost* always a counterattack of the enemy when we engage in either spiritual warfare or deliverance ministry. That should not frighten us or stop us, for we know that we will win the war, if we stay faithful to the Commander-in-Chief. We must continually remind ourselves of 1st John 4:4: *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.*

I also must warn you that the kingdom of darkness does not play fair, is full of pathological liars, and is well-

organized and experienced in warring against the saints. Rick Joyner has written on this subject in his book *Overcoming Evil in the Last Days*. In the section *The Stings of Witchcraft* he gives us the stages the kingdom of darkness tries to put on us to defeat us:

The Stages of Defeat

1. DISCOURAGEMENT
2. CONFUSION
3. DEPRESSION
4. LOSS OF VISION
5. DISORIENTATION
6. WITHDRAWAL
7. DESPAIR
8. DEFEAT

Yet we can have victory through three conditions given to us in Revelation 12:11:
And they overcame him by the Blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

1. The Blood of Jesus
2. The Word
3. The commitment to follow Him regardless of the price, even if it means soulish death (ego, ambitions, plans, etc.) or physical death

Epic Battles Ahead

We are entering a time of spiritual warfare like the Body of Christ has never seen. We need to wake up and get

prepared and know that the enemy is going to make war with us, regardless of our attitude about these things.

Revelation 12:12-*Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.*

Revelation 12:17-*And the dragon was angry with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

Lessons on Warfare

In Rick Joyner's *Epic Battles of the Last Days, we find several points about the warfare we are called to fight:*

1. We must clearly define our objectives.
2. The greater the unity the greater the victory.
3. When it is time to fight, we must not hesitate.
4. We must choose our leaders carefully and then let them lead.
5. The air war must be implemented first (i.e., the war in the heavenlies through intercession).
6. We must not succumb to the scud missile diversion (i.e., criticism).
7. Our weapons must be precise (i.e., we must have specific targets).
8. There must be specialization in missions (i.e.. the 5 fold ministry).
9. One of the greatest dangers will be friendly fire (this is caused by insecurity, fear, and confusion).

10. We must be patient in beginning the ground war, but there will be no victory without it (i.e., evangelism and church planting).
11. We must not stop fighting until the victory is complete.
12. After the victory, we must watch out for those who try to join us with stale bread and old wineskins.

WHY ARE WE FIGHTING (OR WHAT IS OUR GOAL)?

We fight to bring the Kingdom of God *on earth as it is in heaven* in its fullness. We will walk in a greater measure of the Kingdom than we are walking in now. The fullness of the Kingdom, however, will not come until Jesus returns to set up His Kingdom on earth. Then the heavenly host-the angels and all those loved ones who died in Christ-will proclaim Revelation 11:15 *...The kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever.*

So, "*Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom"* (Luke 12:32).

ARE YOU A WARRIOR IN THIS BATTLE FOR THE KINGDOM?

(Women, Galatians 3:28 tells us that you are as much called to this battle as men: **"***There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ."*)

Characteristics of a Good Soldier

1. **He knows and obeys the voice of the Commander**. *Verily, verily I say unto you, he that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbed up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entered in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calleth his own sheep by name and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him, for they know not the voice of strangers.* (John 10:1-5)
2. **He knows how to submit to authority**. *Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.* (Hebrews 13:17)
3. **He is single-minded and not entangled with the things of this world**. *No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.* (2nd Timothy 2:4)
4. **He is spiritually fit, trained and equipped.** *But refuse profane and old wives' fables and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little, but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.* (1st Timothy 4:7-8)

5. **He endures suffering and hardships for the sake of the Gospel.** *Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.* 2nd Timothy 2:3 - *When the going gets rough, take it on the chin with the rest of us, the way Jesus did.* The Message - *Take [with me] your share of the hardships and suffering [which you are called to endure] as a good (first class) soldier of Christ Jesus.* AMP
6. **He will not walk in fear: 2nd Timothy 1:7-** *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*
7. **He will not be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: 2nd Timothy 1:12b-***I am not ashamed for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.*
8. **He will be strong in the Lord: 2nd Timothy 2:1 (AMP)-***So you, my son, be strong (strengthened inwardly) in the grace (spiritual blessing) that is (to be found only) in Christ Jesus.*
9. **He will endure hard times: 2nd Timothy 2:3 (AMP)-***Take [with me] your share of the hardships and sufferings [which you are called to endure] as a good (first class) soldier of Christ Jesus.*
10. **He will study the WORD for God's approval: 2nd Timothy 2:15 (KJV)-***Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
11. **He will see perilous times: 2nd Timothy 3:1-5 (NLV)-***You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will*

love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control; they will be cruel and have no interest in what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act as if they are religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. You must stay away from people like that.

12. **He will suffer persecution: 2nd Timothy 3:12-** *Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.*
13. **He will preach the Word: 2nd Timothy 4:2-4-** *Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth and be turned aside to fables.*
14. **He will do the work of an evangelist: 2nd Timothy 4:5-***But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*
15. **He will persevere in testing: 2nd Timothy 4:6-7-***For I am already being poured out as drink offering and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought*

the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith.

16. **He will long for the appearing of Jesus the Christ and, because of this, he will receive a crown of righteousness: 2nd Timothy 4:8-***Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me in that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

As we approach the Second Coming, we will see the genuine believers become more and more warlike as they follow the Commander-in-Chief. Jesus Himself said, ***"AND from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."*** To accomplish His purpose on earth, i.e., to bring the Kingdom of Heaven to the earth, the Lord calls out a people in every generation. There is something very significant about the generation of believers on the earth today. The last generation (which I believe is being birthed on the earth during this period we live) is called the Benjamin Generation. Herbert Lockyer tells us, "Benjamin was the last, the bravest and the best-beloved tribe of all the tribes of Israel," and he reminds us that his tribe was given the holy city, Jerusalem (Joshua 18:28). The Benjamin generation will walk in a 5 fold blessing and anointing and will be the generation that does the greater works. If this is all true about Benjamin, then I think it reasonable to think that the present generation, from young people (although some of these will be the older portion of the Benjamin Generation) to older believers, is the Joshua Generation.

This generation will come out of Egypt (the materialistic and sensuous world system, emphasizing wealth and sex), cross the Jordan, which types dying to self, slay the giants (i.e. anything such as abortion, sex trafficking, illegal drugs, and pornography, religion, sexual perversions of all kinds, and governmental systems such as communism, etc), and enter into the promises and blessings of God typed by Canaan, *the promise land.* Of course we will not walk in the fullness of all this until Jesus comes to set-up His millennial Kingdom on the earth. But, it is extremely important that we engage in warfare NOW, and make His enemies His footstool (Psalm 110:1, Matthew 22:44, Mark 12:36, Acts 2:35, Hebrews 1:13, Hebrews 10:13).

WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER TO THIS?

1. The commandment of the Lord: Joel 3:9-10: *Proclaim this among the nations, Prepare for war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up; beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears; let the weak say, I am strong.*
2. The state of the Church: Joel 3:14: *Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision, for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.*

Remember words from the Holy Scriptures that have to do with warfare:

Matthew 10:34b …***I came not to send peace, but a sword.***

Exodus 15:3: *The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is His name.* (The Lord is in us who have received Him so the warrior is also in us!)

Psalm 24:8: *Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.*

Revelation 19:11: *And I saw the heaven opened and behold, a white horse, and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war*.