

The Weapons of our Warfare

I had been invited to speak at an Aglow event and personally, I felt the leadership was not as spiritually perceptive as they needed to be. It seemed like expectations were low and that many had come simply expecting the usual to take place. If we are not careful, we settle for less than the new and fresh that God has prepared for us. Do not let the familiar lull you to sleep.

By Saturday evening of the event, I felt tired. It had been a long, fun day, yet as I walked into the room, Holy Spirit said, “Be alert.” He repeated Himself several times, getting my full attention.

As worship began, immediately I could tell that something was not in alignment and a real war was evident. Where there had been a strong anointing on the worship team, now there was a tangible competition amongst the team. Things seemed to go downhill from a worship time that never even left the runway.

As I stood to speak, the level of resistance coming toward me was strong. I had never experienced anything like it. I had everyone pray in the Spirit. I was amazed as I heard the strength of the Spirit come out of me. It was not a lover tongue that was romantic and soothing. It was a strong warrior tongue to contend with the demonic in the room.

We have many weapons to be used in our daily walk. Rest is a great weapon to use. It greatly confuses the enemy! Worship is another powerful weapon. Turning our focus on the Lord causes Him to be empowered over all things. The Blood, the Name, and His Word are other powerful tools that cause Heaven’s help to come to us. Praying in tongues is releasing the governmental language of Heaven. It causes angel armies to be activated.

In 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 the Apostle Paul says:

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

The Message translation of that portion of scripture reads like this:

The world is unprincipled. It is dog-eat-dog out there! The world does not fight fair. But we do not live or fight our battles that way—never have and never will. The tools of our trade are not for marketing or manipulation, but they are for demolishing that entire massively corrupt culture. We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. Our tools are ready at hand for clearing the ground of every obstruction and building lives of obedience into maturity.

God has supplied all we need through Christ to shift situations in our neighborhoods, towns, states, and nations.

Several years ago, Asher Intrater, Revive Israel, told Jane Hansen Hoyt, President and CEO of Aglow International, that Aglow was not ready for the anti-Christ spirits that were coming. Today, we see them all around us and Aglow IS PREPARED. We have been positioned, mantled, and have grown as lovers, warriors, and statesmen in the Kingdom. Like the men of Issachar, we know what to do and when to do it.

At the wrap up meeting at the above Aglow event, not one person in leadership had recognized any problems during the meeting. It left me with the following question, how do you teach discernment? One simple suggestion is to cultivate your relationship with Holy Spirit and to stay alert. He will help you in all things.

Definition

- **Discern** – to separate or distinguish between
- **Discernment** – Spiritual perception, the quality of being able to grasp and comprehend what is obscure

Practical Applications

1. Discernment (sensitivity to the Spirit) is vital for leaders. All leaders should be able to tell if what is taking place is of the soul or of the Spirit. Talk about times you have discerned that something was of the soul rather than the Spirit.
2. In Watchman Nee's book, *The Latent Power of the Soul*, he says that the soul has life; however, the Spirit is able to impart life to others. What comes from the soul can only reach the soul. On the other hand, what comes from the Spirit imparts life to the listeners. (John 6:63 - It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are Spirit, and *they* are life.) Discuss what this means to you.
3. Have you ever been in a meeting and felt something was off (out of alignment spiritually)? Discuss this. If you were leading that meeting, what would you have done if you sensed the meeting was off?
4. What are some intentional steps you can take to ensure each leader's discernment is keen and attentive to what the Holy Spirit is speaking, instead of just being lulled by the familiar steps of a meeting?