

# The Combat-Ready Christian



*“take unto you the whole armour of God”*

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- ❧ *Eph 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*
- ❧ Hand-to-hand combat, exploiting weaknesses
- ❧ *Mat 7:25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.*
- ❧ Encounters with rain, floods and winds.
  - ❧ Rain brings with it high annoyance and leaks
  - ❧ Floods bring a sense of being overwhelmed
  - ❧ Winds test the structures in our life, what we have built

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- ❧ Preparation must be made for what lays ahead to become a victorious overcomer.
- ❧ God's plan and desire is for us to be overcomers.
- ❧ *Rev\_2:7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who **overcomes** I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." '*
- ❧ *Rev\_3:5 He who **overcomes** shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.*

# The Combat-Ready Christian



- ❧ The victory does not come to the one who is
  - ❧ Strongest
  - ❧ Fittest
  - ❧ Or smartest
- ❧ The victory comes to the one who
  - ❧ Want to win
  - ❧ Have disciplined their minds
  - ❧ Maintain a scriptural mindset
- ❧ *Pro\_23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you.*

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- ❧ When things are fine, we can relax. When a crisis hits, there is rarely notice.
  - ❧ The unprepared Christian will panic
  - ❧ The prepared believer will be able to switch to “overcome” mode fairly quickly, because they knew this day would come and made ready.
  - ❧ *Mat 7:24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:*
  - ❧ The overcomer took the time to listen, act and prepare
- ❧ Crises rarely announce themselves.
  - ❧ It is the very naive person who imagines no crises befalls the believer and therefore preparation is unnecessary.

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- ❧ Scripture shows us how to prepare for a broad range of attacks and crises so we are not caught unaware.
- ❧ Christians have proven themselves “experts” at helping in the aftermath of world crises like floods, hurricanes and famine, acting quickly and efficiently to bring supplies to the needy.
- ❧ Indeed, it is secular walls, roadblocks and red-tape that hinder the resources which have arrived **faster** than their ability to switch **mindsets** from red-tape to catastrophe.
- ❧ The weakness has always been in the mind, not the strength in the arm, and we have the mind of Christ, always ready in a crisis to supply need.

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- ❧ The prepared believe is mainly on the attack, not in a bunker.
- ❧ The bunker is a place for tending to the wounded.
- ❧ The bunker is not a field of operation for the troops to gather!
  - ❧ The believer who has a bunker mentality imagines they are safe in their own bunker.
  - ❧ What they have instead done, is place themselves in a nice, easy to find location, and not even in defensive mode, but in hiding mode.
  - ❧ Your bunker can become your “death trap”.

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- ❧ *Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*
- ❧ There is no armour for the back, only the front.
- ❧ Stopping, panicking and hiding in a crisis can kill you
  - ❧ *Heb 3:17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness?*
  - ❧ *Exo\_16:3 And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! ..."*
- ❧ The victory does not go to the faint-hearted and fearful
- ❧ The victory goes to those who "*want to win*".



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- ❧ The first thing we need is a Bible-grade mindset. The same as a military grade mindset.
- ❧ *Jos 5:13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?"*
- ❧ *Jos 5:14 So He said, "No, but as **Commander** of the **army** of the **LORD** I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?"*
- ❧ *Jos 5:15 Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is **holy**." And Joshua did so.*

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## ❧ The right mindset

❧ *95% of people die in the first three days of survival situations without it. (Seal training guide)*

❧ *Breaking down mentally is the main cause of failure and death.*

## ❧ We are to have a better mindset than this.

❧ *2Ti\_1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

❧ *That is why we seek to memorize this verse. It trains the mind.*

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- ❧ The first issue is our inner voice that speaks to us.
  - ❧ This will never work
  - ❧ I just can't make it
  - ❧ Others are always lucky
  - ❧ I can't do it
  - ❧ It will never happen
  
- ❧ Notice the words never, can't and always.
- ❧ The negative mindset seems true, but it impacts the future to MAKE it true. Negativity is "*self-fulfilling*".

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- ❧ God's preparation workbook. Exercises and all!
- ❧ 2Co 10:3 *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh.*
- ❧ 2Co 10:4 *For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,*
- ❧ 2Co 10:5 *casting down **arguments** and every high thing that exalts itself against the **knowledge** of God, bringing every thought into **captivity** to the **obedience** of Christ,*
- ❧ 2Co 10:6 *and being ready to **punish** all **disobedience** when your obedience is fulfilled.*
- ❧ This is all about getting control of the mind.

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- ❧ Do you want to be an overcomer?
  - ❧ Are you OK with Egypt and bondage?
  - ❧ Are you OK with dying in the desert?
  - ❧ This is the first question
  - ❧ This is the deciding question
- ❧ Are you willing to take control of your mind?
  - ❧ Are you at home with negativity?
  - ❧ Do you enjoy judging others?
  - ❧ This is the second question
  - ❧ This is the actions needed to follow through on question 1.
- ❧ This is the first step in preparing the overcomer.

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- ❧ *Psa 1:1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;*
- ❧ *Psa 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.*
- ❧ *Psa 1:3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.*

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- ❧ *Jer 17:7 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD.*
- ❧ *Jer 17:8 For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will **not** fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will **not be anxious** in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.*
- ❧ *Rev 3:21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.*
- ❧ *Rev 3:22 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' "*