

The Combat-Ready Christian



“take unto you the whole armour of God”

The Combat-Ready Christian



- ❧ God has given us everything we need to overcome
- ❧ We require a desire to win and the right mindset
- ❧ *2Ti_1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*
- ❧ We begin by getting a strong hold on our minds and emotions so we are not ruled by fear in a crisis
- ❧ Crisis WILL COME, rain, floods, wind and we will be ready!
 - ❧ Rain will be annoying and test our perseverance
 - ❧ Waves will make us feel overwhelmed
 - ❧ Wind will test what we have built

Adopted



- ❧ We are an heirs in the household of God
- ❧ *Rom 8:17 and if children, then **heirs** – heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*
- ❧ We share in His name, Spirit, Authority, Power and Counsel
- ❧ God Himself hears your prayers
- ❧ *Joh 16:26-27 In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; **for the Father Himself loves you**, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God*

Who Can Be Against Us?



- ❧ *Rom 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?***
- ❧ *Rom 8:32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us **all things?***
- ❧ *Rom 8:33 **Who** shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.*
- ❧ *Rom 8:34 **Who** is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.*

Sharing in the Victory



- ❧ Rom 8:35, 37 **Who** shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Yet in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through Him who loved us.
- ❧ Crisis, Testing and Persecution will come and go yet in the midst of it all, **we still have the victory!**
- ❧ Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,
- ❧ Rom 8:39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Standard Battle Preparation



- ❧ Some things are done repeatedly to train
 - ❧ Boot camp – learning the basics
 - ❧ Parade and formation – showing up and getting in place
 - ❧ Marching practice – learning discipline and to obey the orders of authority
- ❧ *Heb 6:1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation ...*
- ❧ *Joe 2:1 Blow the trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; For the day of the LORD is coming, For it is at hand:*

Standard Battle Preparation



- ❧ *Joe 2:7 They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like men of war; Every one **marches** in formation, And they do **not** break ranks.*
- ❧ *Joe 2:8 They do **not** push one another; Every one marches in his own column. Though they lunge between the weapons, They are not cut down.*
- ❧ *Joe 2:11 The LORD gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; Who can endure it?*

Standard Battle Preparation



- ❧ Bad attitudes and habits must stop. Shake them off!
- ❧ One cannot be a soldier of the Lord while enslaved to competing habits that prevent obedience and action.
- ❧ We must repent of all rebellion that stands in the way.
 - ❧ *Deu 29:19 and so it may not happen, when he hears the words of this curse, that he blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart' – as though the drunkard could be included with the sober.*
 - ❧ *Deu 29:20 "The LORD would not spare him; for then the anger of the LORD and His jealousy would burn against that man, and every curse that is written in this book would settle on him, and the LORD would blot out his name from under heaven.*

Standard Battle Preparation



- ❧ Back to basic training, repetition over time.
- ❧ Repeated actions become part of our subconscious, like muscle memory.
- ❧ *Jos 1:8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.*
- ❧ After basic training, when the repetition stops, the training fades and we relax. So goes the victory! We can lose:
 - ❧ **Discipline** – staying on track
 - ❧ **Repetition** – instinctive reaction
 - ❧ **Zeal** – the desire and fight to win

Standard Battle Preparation



❧ Back to basic training, repetition over time.

❧ Reading the Word of God

Deu_8:3 ...He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.

❧ Thankful in all things

1Th 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

❧ Praise

Heb_13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, ...

❧ Pray without ceasing

1Th 5:17 pray without ceasing,

More Advanced Preparation



- ❧ Regular, repeated, unceasing exercise (make it part of you)
 - ❧ *Heb 5:12 For though **by this time** you ought to be teachers, you need someone to **teach you again** the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food.*
 - ❧ *Heb 5:13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe.*
 - ❧ *Heb 5:14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of **use** have their senses **exercised** to discern both good and evil.*
- ❧ If you need a refresher, **take it!**
- ❧ If you are out of shape, get back into **routine!**

Permanent Routines to Develop



❧ Reading the Word of God

❧ Get a daily reading booklet

❧ “Our Daily Bread” or “Every Day with Jesus”

❧ Get a “Through the Bible in a Year”

❧ Get a daily “Bible reading schedule”

❧ **Begin thanking God** the next time you have a tough time. Thank God that He will lead you through and remember what God has done for you and others in the past.

❧ **Offer the sacrifice of Praise**, in the next trial because God is working behind the scenes where you cannot see

❧ **Pray without ceasing** – for others

Permanent Routines to Develop



❧ Wait upon the Lord, Walk with God in the Spirit

- ❧ *Isa_40:31 But those who wait upon the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.*
- ❧ *Gal_5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.*
- ❧ *Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*
- ❧ *Gen 5:24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.*
- ❧ Walk with God, for someday God will come and take you too