

# 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
- ✧ We are an heirs in the household of God
- ✧ *Rom 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*
- ✧ *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.*

# Standard Battle Preparation



- ❧ We need Godly habits instilled through training and repetition.
  - ❧ Prayer
  - ❧ The Word
  - ❧ Giving Thanks and Praise
  - ❧ Walk in the Spirit
- ❧ 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

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❧ The Combat Ready Christian knows their sides.

❧ *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 Commander of the army of the Lord, is the Lord. That was Jesus, pre-incarnate.
- ❧ Joshua recognized His Lord and fell on His face,
- ❧ We do not command ourselves. We are at His disposal, available to do our Commander's will.
- ❧ Many believers are confused about who their commander is and even what army they belong to.
  - ❧ Some see themselves as their own commander. *"I decide!"*
  - ❧ Some see God as the enemy. *"Don't tell ME what to believe!"*
  - ❧ Some see other believers as the opposing army. *"The church is off the rails, bad, sick or is in the wrong!"*

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- ❧ Instead of following their own Commander and walking in rank, they wage war on others with sinful hearts.
- ❧ *Luk 9:52 and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him.*
- ❧ *Luk 9:53 But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem.*
- ❧ *Luk 9:54 And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?"*
- ❧ *Luk 9:55-56 But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them..."*

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- ❧ Instead walking in rank and standing side-by-side, they wage war on their own fellow soldiers.
- ❧ *Mar 9:38 Now John answered Him, saying, "Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we **forbade** him because he does not follow us."*
- ❧ *Mar 9:39 But Jesus said, "Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me."*
- ❧ *Mar 9:40 For he who is not against us is on our side.*
- ❧ Those in a hurry to stop others from ministering because they are in a different camp are in error.

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- ❧ God desires that we look to bless others, not obstruct them.
- ❧ 1Co 13:13 *And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is **love**.*
- ❧ 1Co 14:3 *But he who prophesies speaks **edification** and **exhortation** and **comfort** to men.*
- ❧ Eph 4:15 *but, speaking the truth in **love**, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ –*
- ❧ Act\_8:4 *Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the **word**.*
- ❧ Love, edification, the Word

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- ❧ When the goal is not love toward the Church, we are off the mark, because Jesus loves the body of Christ, His own body.
  - ❧ *Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,*
- ❧ When judgment and criticism becomes more important than love, one no longer edifies the body.
- ❧ When the whole word of God is not the point of preaching, then it is another word that has taken its place.
- ❧ The word of men or demons has then taken its place.
  - ❧ *1Ti\_4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,*

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- ❧ Rick Joyner in his book “The Final Quest” described this where Christians would change sides and shoot at fellow believers. Others were simply unprepared.
- ❧ *The leader of this army was the accuser of the brethren himself. The weapons carried by this horde were also named. The swords were named Intimidation; the spears were named Treachery; and the arrows were named Accusation, Gossip, Slander and Faultfinding... Unforgiveness and lust were sent in advance of this army to prepare for the main attack.*
- ❧ *“Only a small number were fully dressed in their armour. Many had only one or two pieced of their armour on; and some did not have any at all. A large number were already wounded”*

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- ❧ *“The leader of this army was the accuser of the brethren himself. The shocking part of this vision was that this horde was not riding on horses, but primarily on Christians! Most of them were well-dressed, respectable and had the appearance of being refined and educated, but there also seemed to be representatives from almost every walk of life.*
- ❧ *These people professed Christian truths in order to appease their consciences, but they lived their lives in agreement with the powers of darkness. As they agreed with those powers their assigned demons grew and more easily directed their actions.”*  
(Rick Joyner, “The Final Quest” Pgs 16-18, 1996 Morning Star Publications)

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- ❧ The plan of Satan is to bring division in churches and in every area of relationships; churches with churches, Pastors with Congregations, Husbands and Wives, Children and Parents.
- ❧ Rejection and Bitterness are always right on the forefront.
- ❧ The strategies of Satan is to use standard tools that come with the accuser of the brethren like Faultfinding, Intimidation, Accusation and Treachery. Yet each strategy must find a willing soul to give that attack power. The strategies depend on others who are in agreement and are willing to make the attack. Thus the *demons "ride on the backs of Christians."*

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- ❧ This can be effected by a lack of understanding and ignorance of the word of God and the works of God.
- ❧ *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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- ❧ *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;*
- ❧ Walk in the counsel of the ungodly
  - ❧ This is not taking accounting advice. This is when the believer actually adopts the counsel of sinners against God's own counsel.
  - ❧ The advice and counsel of the wicked has become more important, believable and actionable than God's word.
- ❧ Stand in the path of sinners
  - ❧ This is taking on the worldview of the sinner, seeing things their way and walking on their path.

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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;*
- ❧ Sit in the seat of the scornful. This is speaking in active scorn toward other believers, for doing things believers do such as
  - ❧ Believing the word of God, (*Creation, Pro-life, Salvation*)
  - ❧ Preaching the word of God
  - ❧ Blessing the people of God
  - ❧ This is where scorn is heaped upon fellow believers
- ❧ These people do not even know the scorn they sit in!

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- ❧ This is **treason** and treachery, for people who should be part of the Army of the Lord, to instead help mobilize the attack against fellow believers.
- ❧ Treason defined in US Law
  - ❧ *“Treason in the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort.”* US Constitution Article III, Section 3
- ❧ It is not for us to judge others, gossip, or to be part of the problem, but we can certainly make sure that assisting our enemy is never named among us.

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- ✧ It is in knowing the word of God and living it that we stand against Satan and his army.
- ✧ We do not use the weapons of Satan, Intimidation, Fear, Treachery, Slander, Accusations, Lust, Scorn or Faultfinding
- ✧ We use the weapon of our warfare, the Word of God
- ✧ *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.*
- ✧ *Eph 6:17 And take ... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;*