

THE WEAPON OF TRUTH Part #2

Part 2 - The Battle for Truth as Individuals

I. Introductory Remarks & Review.

Isaiah 59:4-5 - 4 No one calls for justice, nor does any plead for truth. They trust in empty words and speak lies; They conceive evil and bring forth iniquity.

5 They hatch vipers' eggs and weave the spider's web; He who eats of their eggs dies, And from that which is crushed a viper breaks out.

Last week: Even in the church, those who stand for a strong adherence to Biblically sound doctrine are ridiculed and labeled as legalists, who are not flowing with the Spirit.

We live in a culture and an era that is inundated with falsehood and lies.

- Not many are pleading for truth.
- Those who do are mocked and ridiculed as being extremists
- That is, in a politically correct society that is based on falsehood and lies.

Last week:

I began talking about the Battle for Truth in our culture.

I spoke concerning the battle for truth in the church.

- And how both the historical and the charismatic or more contemporary churches are under spiritual attack from the enemy concerning truth.

The enemy knows that if he can get us to bite at his lies and falsehood just as he did with Eve in the garden, he has gained a position to stand in which he can launch major attacks against us.

By walking in truth, we take his place of standing away.

John 8:44 - You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

Satan has nowhere to stand when he is confronted with the Truth.

Ephesians 6:13-14 - 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.

14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

If we are to stand in an evil day we must put on the belt of truth and walk in the uncompromising truth of God's Word.

Put on the belt of truth, use it as an effective weapon against the enemy.

Today, I want to talk about "*The Battle for Truth in our Personal Lives*"

- **How we as believers must put on the weapon of truth and use it against the enemy.**

II. Putting on the Weapon of Truth

I want to give you some **effective keys and principles** that will enable you to wear the belt of truth as God has designed it.

It takes more than just having the belt of truth available, you must wear it effectively if you are to defeat the enemy and walk in faith and victory.

1. You Must Come Under the Covering Of A Bible-Centered Church

Proverbs 18:10 - The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe. (secure)

Since the church is the pillar and ground of truth, as we saw in the previous message,

- It is a place where you should be **protected from lies and deceit** from the enemy...
- Learning how to **walk in the truth of God's word**.
- You must, however, submit yourself.

Hebrews 13:17 - Obey those who rule (Lead**) over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.**

2. You Must Have a Teachable Spirit

You can be in a church that adheres to the Biblical principles of sound doctrine and truth and still miss it personally.

- There is a **tremendous battle for truth** in our personal lives as believers.
- Satan **doesn't like** being shut out.
- He will do **everything he can** to maintain a foothold in your life.
- **By having a teachable spirit**, you keep yourselves **open to the truth of God's Word**.

Hosea 4:6 - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

We must realize that we have strongholds that have been formed through years of listening to the lies of the devil.

- We have many false concepts that have been **embraced** through life.
- Be willing to tear down the false concepts.
- **Replace them with the truth of God's word**.

Psalm 33:4 - For the word of the Lord is right, And all His work is done in truth.

Romans 3:4 - Certainly not! Indeed, let God be [a]true but every man a liar. As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged."

If we want **victory** in a certain area, our thoughts must be brought into conformity and agreement with **the word of truth**.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 - 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not [a]carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, **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,

Isaiah 55:9 - "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

3. We Must Allow The Word Of Truth & The Spirit Of Truth To Expose Our Sin

Psalm 51:5-6 - 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. 6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.

Our flesh and our carnal nature will resist the truth.

- **Just as David** did until the Lord used the prophet Nathan to deal with him.
- He tried to cover and excuse his sin.
- But God used Nathan to speak the word of truth to him.

We can't hide from God because He is intimately acquainted with all our ways.
We must begin by being open and honest with God.

Does Satan find unconfessed & unrepented sin in your life when he visits?

If not, then he has no place to stand.

If so, then he has a place to stand and keep you in defeat.

4. We Must Build Two & Three Cord Relationships

It is one thing to confess our sins and faults to God!

- It is another thing to confess our sins and faults before another individual.
- I believe there is a great release from the bondage of sin when we can be truthful about ourselves in this manner with another individual.
- **I believe God desires for us** to have this liberty.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - The Value of a Friend - 9 Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.

James 5:16 - Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

5. The Word and Spirit Of Truth Must Lead Us Rather Than Our Emotions

Psalm 25:5 - Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.

John 16:13 - However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

Many Christians fail to walk in faith and victory simply because they are led by their emotions rather than **the Spirit of Truth**.

As a result, they become tangled in a web of destruction.

- ***They make major decisions in life*** based on their emotions rather than **Biblical principles of truth** or genuine Spirit led guidance.
- People in this position are so tangled up; they are useless as effective tools for God.

Think of **the victory we could have** if our major decisions in life were based on **the truth of God's Word** rather than our own thoughts and emotions which fall short of **God's intended purpose** for our lives.

Let God be true and every man a liar. The heart is deceitful above all things.

Jeremiah 17:9-10 - 9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?

10 I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

Sometimes, ***just because God doesn't stop you*** from doing something, people tend to think it is alright and is even God's will and purpose.

Through **the practice of truth** over a time you can spin yourself out of Satan's web of deceit and destruction.

John 8:32 - "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

6. You Must Keep the Commandments

1 John 2:4 - He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

CLOSE:

I have given you six important principles that will help you to continually walk the truth God desires for your personal lives.

I believe if you do this, you will have rendered Satan ineffective in your lives by pulling the rug out from under his feet.

He will have nowhere to stand and direct his attacks, because there is no truth in him and when you are walking in truth, you have taken his position of attack away from him.

This is why the apostle John said he had no greater joy than to see his children walking in truth.

3 John 1:4 *I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.*