

# Freedom

## Preamble

- Story of being bound or restricted
- Man living for the Lord, witnessing but having nightmares and dark spiritual things - later found out he was still embracing some cultural things from his past that opened the door
- Remember praying for a young man who said he always feels intimidated and unsure of himself - after prayer he was so surprised that something heavy had lifted off him
  
- Anxiety - Constantly thinking about the issues, being anxious or worrying over things - Not having the peace of God ruling in your thoughts, heart, unable to sleep easily
- Fears - The dark, being alone, afraid of the future, afraid of certain types of people, fear of dogs, fear of
- Nightmares and dark spiritual attacks
- Limited ways of thinking

## Introduction - Freedom In Christ

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. **Galatians 5:1**

Let me be clear, the Anointed One has set us free-not partially, but completely and wonderfully free! We must always cherish this truth and stubbornly refuse to go back into the bondage of our past. **Galatians 5:1 TPT**

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! **2 Corinthians 5:17**

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. **Colossians 1:13-14**

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. **Colossians 2:15**

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. [32] Then you will know the truth,

and the truth will set you free.” [36] So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. **John 8:31-32,36**

### **Freedom Defined**

1. The power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants.
  - Absence of subjection to domination, power of self-determination
2. Not being imprisoned or enslaved.
  - Unrestricted and able to move easily.
3. Not being subject to or affected by (something undesirable)

The Lord your God will drive out those nations before you, little by little. You will not be allowed to eliminate them all at once, or the wild animals will multiply around you. **Deuteronomy 7:22**

### **We are in a battle and have to contend with Spiritual warfare**

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. [11] Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. [13] Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. [14] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, [15] and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. [16] In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. [18] And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. **Ephesians 6:10-18**

- Finally be strong in the Lord - It's relational and comes from the Lord
- The devil always has schemes - Be aware and stand firm against them
  - One of the great challenges is whether we align with God or with Satan
  - Will we be accusers of the Brethren or Intercessors standing in the Gap

Be self- controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing

firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. **1 Peter 5.8-9**

- The enemy is a schemer
- He is an opportunist
- He looks for the weak and the susceptible - That's what lions do, they look for those straggling away from the pack and takes them out.

'One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people.

He said, "My son, the battle is between two wolves inside us all.

"One is Evil – It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

"The other is Good – It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: "Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."

- Our struggle is not against people - Don't make people the enemy but look beyond to what is happening spiritually
  - The moment we make it about us and them we begin on a downward spiral
  - See in the Spirit what is happening
  - Don't use the weapons of the enemy
  - Don't accuse or self protect or isolate from people
  - Our struggle is against spiritual forces. - Pray and deal with the matter in the Spirit realm
  - We must be far more spiritual than we are natural in our outlook and understanding
- Put on the full armour of God -
  - So clear that we must learn to put not the FULL armour that will protect against the schemes of the enemy
  - With the armour on - You still need to stand your ground and after having done everything, Stand.. stand therefore
  - This speaks of contending and standing firm in God's promises

### **The Armour**

- Belt of truth - Buckled round your waist, truth holding up everything

- Breastplate of righteousness - Righteous in Christ and in my behaviour
- Feet fitted with the readiness of the Gospel of peace - Shalom, peacemakers
- Shield of Faith - Hold onto promises, don't be moved by what you see, this will quench arrows of the enemy
- Helmet of salvation - Hope of our salvation
- Sword of the Spirit - which is the Word of God - in our hearts and on our mouths
- Pray in the Spirit on all occasions
- Use all kinds of prayers, including making requests, thanksgiving

### **Ephesians 6 - Passion Translation**

Now my beloved ones, I have saved these most important truths for last: Be supernaturally infused with strength through your life-union with the Lord Jesus. Stand victorious with the force of his explosive power flowing in and through you. [11] Put on God's complete set of armour provided for us, so that you will be protected as you fight against the evil strategies of the accuser! [12] Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of demon-gods and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage. [13] Because of this, you must wear all the armour that God provides so you're protected as you confront the slanderer, for you are destined for all things and will rise victorious. [14] Put on truth as a belt to strengthen you to stand in triumph. Put on holiness as the protective armour that covers your heart. [15] Stand on your feet alert, then you'll always be ready to share the blessings of peace. [16] In every battle, take faith as your wrap-around shield, for it is able to extinguish the blazing arrows coming at you from the Evil One! [17-18] Embrace the power of salvation's full deliverance, like a helmet to protect your thoughts from lies. And take the mighty razor-sharp Spirit-sword of the spoken Word of God. Pray passionately in the Spirit, as you constantly intercede with every form of prayer at all times. Pray the blessings of God upon all his believers. **Ephesians 6:10-18 TPT**

### **Application**

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. [17] For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. [18] So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on

what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

**A. Turn from of all dark ways** - Repent, Ask for forgiveness

But if we freely admit our sins when his light uncovers them, he will be faithful to forgive us every time. God is just to forgive us our sins because of Christ, and he will continue to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **1 John 1:9 TPT**

- Anything the Holy Spirit has brought to mind this morning
- Things you know are traps in your life
- Do not live in Sin any more
- It's time too turn

**B. Walk in the light** - Do not intentionally Sin

If we claim that we share life with him, but keep walking in the realm of darkness, we're fooling ourselves and not living the truth. [7] But if we keep living in the pure light that surrounds him, we share unbroken fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, continually cleanses us from all sin. **1 John 1:6-7 TPT**

- Choose to live in the light
- Ask yourself - will this bring more light into my life? Will Jesus be pleased by thoughts, actions?