

“The Word Weapon”

By Mrs. Sojourner

Some may wonder, why do we need to spend time in the Bible daily and get so familiar with it? Well,

Ephesians 6:17 refers to the scriptures as “the sword of the Spirit.” This sword protects us in numerous ways.

Consider: when Jesus was in the wilderness fasting for 40 days, Satan came and tempted him. How did Jesus “fight” the enemy? He quoted God’s word. God’s truth overcomes any weapon or argument the enemy uses.

Fighting with the Word of God accomplishes victories on several fronts.

1) The scriptures teach/ remind us of who our Heavenly Father is and what he has done for us, and for those who have gone before us. We learn of how he routed the enemy before Jehoshaphat when he sent singers into battle in front of the soldiers (2 Chron. 20), how he protected Paul, who was stoned, but who then miraculously got up and



Foot-
notes:

continued to spread the Word.

- 2) The more we know the scriptures, the more we learn who we are in Christ. This gives us both confidence in our Heavenly Father, that he is with us in this spiritual battle, and confidence in ourselves because of who we are in him.
- 3) The more we know and use scripture in our prayers and in our daily walk, the more we will remind the devil that not only can he not defeat us, because of Christ, but also remind him of his future.

So, let us daily fill our spiritual “cannons” with scripture so we are ready in season and out of season for whatever attack the enemy brings against us.

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...with The Sojourner

“When Evil Comes” (Teaching Sketch)

Judges 6:1-6 (NIV)



The Apostle Paul, in his letter to the Church at Ephesus covered the most important of relationships. Paul having explained godly behavior, then at the end of his letter he explained spiritual warfare.

Now, let us go to the Old Testament book of Judges, Chapter 6, and see how spiritual warfare shows up in the natural. It is through the understanding of the Old Testament books that one can gain great insight into God’s ways, man’s ways, and Satan’s ways.

Evil In The Eyes of The Lord

Now, Israel we are told, did evil in the eyes of the Lord, AGAIN! The consequence of their evil ways was the Lord allowed them to come under the harassment of a brawling and contentious people—Midian. Evil is whatever God says it is and righteousness is whatever God says is righteous. This is a matter which every per-

son needs to understand if they are to ever come to the knowledge of truth—God is sovereign.

7 Years Unprotected

Israel spent seven long years not enjoying the hand of God blessing the outcome of their endeavors.

Evil Power & Self-defense

Then, as they struggled to have a “normal” life under so great an oppression, the Israelites took drastic action. They left or were run out of their own homes and, “Prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves, and strongholds. Take great note here, they prepared for themselves “coverings.” This is the same thing Adam and Eve did in the Garden of Eden. Man, in a fallen world, often does not look to his Maker but to himself for covering. Here, again, the natural is a reflection of the spiritual. The creation, in pride, looks not to the Creator. The problem of the Isra-

Notes:

[a]
Who
prevail
with
God

Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

Scripture:

Judges 6:1-6 (NIV)

1 Again the Israelites^[a] did evil in the eyes of the LORD, and for seven years he gave them into the hands of the Midianites.^[b] 2 Because the power of Midian was so oppressive, the Israelites prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves and strongholds. 3 Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, the Midianites, Amalekites^[c] and other eastern peoples invaded the country. 4 They camped on the land and ruined the crops all the way to Gaza^[d] and did not spare a living thing for Israel, neither sheep nor cattle nor donkeys. 5 They came up with their livestock and their tents like swarms of locusts. It was impossible to count the men and their camels; they invaded the land to rav-

age it. 6 Midian so impoverished the Israelites that they cried out to the LORD for help.

Notes:

[a] Israel & Israelites — Those who prevail with God

[b] Midian & Midianites — Brawling contentious ones

[c] Amalekites — a misery wicked workman (The Israelites had to pass through their territory in Arabia to reach Canaan .)

[d] Gaza — *strong, vehement, harsh*:—fierce, + greedy, mighty, power, roughly, strong.

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elites was not solved by their own efforts. We know the scripture tells us it is not by might or by power but by the Lord’s Spirit these matters are solved.

Harvest Lost

Even the work of the Israelites was come to naught as the brawling contentious ones, the misery wicked workmen (Amalekites), and the other eastern people (today, new age philosophy), invaded their land. They lost the fruit of their labor.

Evil Spares Nothing

All Israel had was trampled all the way to a harsh, fierce, and greedy consuming land, Gaza. Their land was being made like Gaza to them.

Overwhelming Force

When the brawling contentious ones and the others came, it was as a plague of overwhelming locust.

Crying Out To God

The oppression became so great, as they looked to themselves, Israel was forced to humble themselves and pray to God. It is this course of action which needed to be done first, saving seven years of separation from God’s blessings and favor. Relying first on God will always bring God’s blessings.

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