

Finally, My Brethren, Be Strong In The Lord



Training Pac

"Spiritual Warfare" Series

INSTRUCTIONS

This TRAINING PAC has a text and a separate Workbook that contains the exercises for the text. Follow these steps:

1. Read through the entire text to obtain an overview of the text content.
2. Then reread the text while completing the exercises in the Workbook.

Contents

	Page
I. The Weapons Of Our Warfare	2
II. He's Given Us All Things That Pertain Unto Life And Godliness	3
III. Put Ye On The Lord Jesus Christ	4
IV. When Your Obedience Is Fulfilled, You're Ready To Revenge All Disobedience	5
V. It's His Armor - It's His Knowledge	5
VI. Allowing Jesus To Let Us Be In Full Obedience To Him And To His Word	6
VII. How Are We Going To Stand?	8
VIII. All We Have To Do Is Walk In It	9
IX. We're Going To Enjoy The Lord Jesus Christ All The Days Of Our Life And, When We're Finished Here, We're Going To Spend Eternity With Him	10

This has been transcribed from a taped message by Rev. Agnes I. Numer, Director of Sommer Haven Missionary Training Center, during her training seminar called "Spiritual Warfare" Series.

I. The Weapons Of Our Warfare

II Corinthians 10:3

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh.

Did you get it?

II Corinthians 10:3-6

3. For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh.

4. (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

6. And having readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

I want you to notice that this is one sentence. All right. From 4 to and including 6 are one sentence. Though we walk in the flesh, what are we doing most of the time? We're warring in the flesh, isn't that true? Now why are we warring in the flesh? Because we're not warring in the Spirit. We're either going to do one or the other.

4. (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) *(II Corinthians 10:4)*

What are our weapons? Prayer, praise, thanksgiving, intercession, the Word, fasting. What is it for? Casting down imaginations. I heard something today, and it was purely the imagination of somebody's mind. Now how did that get there? Well, we're walking in the flesh instead of the Spirit. "Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against what? – the knowledge of God."

Let's just hold this a minute. Let me read it again.

5. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; *(II Corinthians 10:5)*

Now what is causing this? We're not walking in the obedience of Christ. So, we're walking in our own flesh. We have a little trouble with that here. It's really remarkable how many people we have living here and just the little bit of trouble we have. I speak the truth because, if we had big trouble, we'd be in big trouble, wouldn't we? So it shows that we must have some walking in the Spirit – at least some of the time. Because if we weren't walking sometime, I'd think we have a very heavy battle ground. Jesus has made provision for us that we not walk after the flesh and don't war against it. Oh, God is good.

II. He's Given Us All Things That Pertain To Life And Godliness

I can't get away from one scripture that's so important in our life, and I'm going to turn to it. Maybe you'll understand why it's so important here for what I'm going to read for you. It's in II Peter, the first chapter.

- 1. Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ.*
- 2. Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God.*
(II Peter 1:1-2)

I'm going back: *"Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."* I'm going to give you something that will help you to do that. He said, "you precious people that have this precious faith that we have, you're the ones I'm going to share this with. I'm going to share it with you through the righteousness, through the grace and peace multiplied unto us, through the knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord." Now He's *"given us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue."* (II Peter 1:3)

All right, now let's go back here. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal because, through God, we're pulling down strongholds of our imaginations and the high things that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God. Why is it too difficult for us to obey God? Because we know better than He does, is that right? We don't need His knowledge; we've got lots of knowledge. It makes a problem for us, doesn't it? Because we're going to compete, we're going to try to make God compete for our knowledge. Especially if you're intellectual, you're going to have a problem with it. He says very clearly our weapons are not carnal. So here in II Peter, the first chapter, He gives us our weapons: His righteousness, grace and peace multiplied through the knowledge of Him.

- 3. According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*
(II Peter 1:3)

All right. How are we going to do away with these works of the flesh? We're going to give them to Him. Because He's going to give us in return His glory and His power. Right? That's what He says. Through the knowledge of Him. See how the enemy creates things in our minds, builds cases against God and against one another? That's his business. But if we go God's way with it, we can spoil his plan. For God's going to change our minds, change our attitudes, and we're not going to war after the flesh. I know this: God will do it quickly if we realize that He's the One that's going to pull these strongholds down. Now how's He going to do it? You're not going to compete with Him. You're not going to wrestle with Him. You're not going to tell Him how to do it and when to do it. But you're going to be obedient to His Word.

Obedience is what we're after. All right, *"Everything that exalts itself above the knowledge of God."* Let's go into this for a few minutes. They are such foolish things, aren't they? "Well, God you know..." one thing we do – we pray wrong kinds of prayers.

What kind of prayers do we pray? "God bless we four and no more." Selfish prayers, huh? We tell God long, long prayers. Telling God what we want Him to do, and how we want Him to do it. Then we get upset if He doesn't answer our prayers. Isn't this a fact? But He said, "Let My knowledge flow through you." What else does He want to flow through us? His righteousness that takes away the works of the flesh; that will destroy the works of the flesh. Our weapons are mighty.

One weapon is obedience, is that right? Be obedient unto Him. Another weapon is to "*Draw nigh to God and He'll draw nigh to you...*" and the enemy's going to flee (James 4:7,8). When you come to the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and say, "Jesus, have Your way," something's going to happen. You're going to cast down every trick of the enemy – everything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.

III. Put Ye On The Lord Jesus Christ...

I had a friend one time. Well, she's still living, but I don't know if she's my friend anymore. But anyway, she used to call me everyday: "Agnes, pray with me." She didn't say, "Pray for me," she said, "Pray with me." I listened to it and I said, "God, I can't pray like this woman prays." I couldn't do it, because she wasn't giving God a chance on anything. She has the way she was going to pray, and God had to answer it that way. I'd stay on the other end of the line and I'd listen. I never agreed with what she was saying – never – because it wasn't by the Spirit of the Lord, it was to fulfill her desires. There's a way that God has given us to pray. He says, "Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ..." It's chapter 13, verse 14 of Romans.

13. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof. (Romans 13:13-14)

All right. That's what Jesus says. Now He said, "Don't exalt yourself against the knowledge of God." I'm not talking about the knowledge we have of God. Forget that. It may be warped; it may be all out of shape; it may be anything but the truth. I'm talking about God's knowledge running through us, through Jesus Christ.

In II Peter, the perfection God is after is to totally transform our life through the promises of God, through His godliness and through His knowledge. Now we can wander around with our little sprig of human knowledge, but He says that's what? Sensual – it doesn't get us anywhere. So let's turn it into God's knowledge – given this exceeding great and precious promise that we can be transformed into His divine nature. Is that what we're talking about in this place? All right. How do we get about it? By our warfare not being carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. Well, something's in our mind, isn't it? Well, some in our knowledge. I'm not talking about human knowledge. I'm talking about God so changing our life that we flow with Jesus by His Spirit and He transforms our life. Praise the Lord.

IV. When your Obedience Is Fulfilled, You're Ready To Revenge All Disobedience

I'm going to go back here to Corinthians. Now there's a little thing here that He says when we've corrected our disobedience, then we're ready to help other people correct their disobedience. But remember, it's against the law to use your flesh. You have to allow the Spirit of God to flow through you; otherwise, you're not going to get what God has for you. You're cheating and you don't get anything. I think everyone of us should allow the Lord to do this mighty work in II Peter in our lives until the knowledge of God is what flows through us and the wisdom of God, the counsel of God, the peace of God, the righteousness of God, casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God.

Why are we so stubborn about coming to God? Why? Could it be just ignorance, or could it be that we don't want to die in our flesh? Or could it be because we're stubborn? Could it be because we're rebellious? Or could it be that we think we know more than God? He's dealing with those tonight that know more than God. So we have to be careful to remember we're dealing with God. One thing He's requiring of us which He required of the children of Israel. He was very sad because they thought they could get by with it. We don't need to think that we're going to get by with it, because there's an exact way we're going to walk in obedience. We're going to walk in obedience with joy, realizing that the knowledge of God and the righteousness of God are going to replace these imaginations, they are going to replace this exalted spirit that thinks it's greater than God. That got satan out of heaven, didn't it? He's trying to put us all in hell with him for the same reason.

"...bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." One of the greatest things that we have to overcome is our pride. Who wants to acknowledge they are not great as God. No, we all think we're as great as God, and that's why we don't need Him. But the Lord is saying when your obedience is fulfilled, then you're ready to revenge all disobedience.

7. Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that as he is Christ's even so are we Christ's. (II Corinthians 10:7)

So no one can't be better at Christ than somebody else can be better at Christ; we have to walk in obedience to what the Lord gives to us. Paul is saying here, "Don't do any boasting." That's pride and that's supposed to be gone, you know. Let's turn to Ephesians Chapter 6. Now remember we have come into the knowledge of God and our warfare is not carnal, but mighty. Oh, thank You, Jesus.

V. It's His Armor – It's His Kingdom

I had one of the girls come to us one time from Hollywood. Every day she took a walk down the road. I said, "What are you doing?" "I'm putting on the whole armor." I said, "What?" I hear it being taught everywhere: put on the whole armor. So every day you have to put it on. What if you miss a part of it? You're in trouble, aren't you? She would every day take her walk. She went through all the procedure putting the whole armor on. You could see her going down the road putting the whole armor on. You put]

on the Lord Jesus Christ and it says He puts the whole armor on. Yes, He does. (Ephesians 6:11)

It says:

*10. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.
(Ephesians 6:10)*

Now where do we get the power of His might? By casting down all the imaginations, whether they're the enemy or the flesh. Tear them down by obedience. Obedience unto Christ. You tear them down. You tear down everything that exalts itself above God – the knowledge of God and you allow God's knowledge through Jesus Christ to take His place in you. Much simpler that way, isn't it? He does away with all the stuff that hinders us. You don't know anything, you don't hear anything, you don't see anything –you're in Jesus. You have His armor on. You see, this is His armor; it's not our armor. This is He. We come to Him. He forgives us. He cleanses us. It's His righteousness that's going to keep us from all these other things. It's His knowledge that's going to direct our life and do away with this pride that wants to exalt itself higher than God. None of us can be higher than God. Oh yes, it says, *"greater works than these shall you do."* (John 14:12) Then we get puffed up. "God said it, and I'm going to do it." No, you're not going to do it. You're going to come under obedience, to the cross and to Christ. It's going to take away all these imaginations and everything that exalts itself above the knowledge of God.

I don't think we understand what He's saying here. We get all these million books, and we read them and we read them and we read them and why are we reading them? To get the knowledge of God. That's true, isn't it? But that isn't the way we get the knowledge of God. We get the knowledge of God through coming to Jesus Christ – His coming inside of us and us walking in real obedience to His Word by His Spirit.

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord." All right. Now we've got rid of the imaginations. We've gotten rid of the things that exalt themselves above God. Now He says, *"Christ in you, the hope of glory."* (Colossians 1:27) and *"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord."* It's not our knowledge.

VI. Allowing Jesus To Let Us Be In Full Obedience To Him And To His Word

In John 17, Jesus prayed a prayer that we might be one with Him, one with the Father, one in the Spirit. How are we going to be one with God and not have God's knowledge? What do you think? I don't think we can be one with God without having God's knowledge. I don't think we can be one in His wisdom without receiving it from God. It's the same way with knowledge and understanding. Oh, we've got millions of books; they're fine, if you need books. But if you let Jesus do it, you have the books of Heaven. You have the full resources of the Father: Pulling down the strongholds of the enemy through the Word, by the Spirit, intercession, fasting, prayer, worship, praise – allowing Jesus to let us be in full obedience to Him and to His Word. Then nothing is going to be there exalting itself above God. Now let's go on. "Finally, my brethren," – now we're ready to be strong in the Lord. What have we gotten rid of? Is everybody listening? We've gotten rid of some things; do you know what they are? Shall we read it again?

II Corinthians 10. *"We cast down all the imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and we bring into captivity every thought."* Now think about it. Not even a thought that belongs to the flesh or the devil. That's what it says. I'm not interpreting it... *"and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."* *"Having a readiness to revenge all disobedience."* You're ready to do battle. Your obedience is fulfilled. Now you can do the battle.

Now, *"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord."* Remember, there is one way that we're going to lose all those imaginations. One way that we're going to have the knowledge of God. We're going to rise up in the knowledge of God and let all the other stuff go away. Now we're ready to do something.

*10. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.
(Ephesians 6:10)*

All right. Now, let's go to Isaiah, Chapter 11. We might as well bring it all in. It all flows together; you can't do without all of it. Isaiah Chapter 11.

- 1. And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:*
- 2. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;*
- 3. And shall make Him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of His ears:*
- 4. But with righteousness He will judge the poor, and reprove with equity the meek of the earth: and He shall smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips shall He slay the wicked.*
- 5. And righteousness shall be the girdle of His loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reins.*

(Isaiah 11:1-5)

All right. Now let's go back to Ephesians 6.

*10. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.
(Ephesians 6:10)*

Did I read that in that verse?

- 2. And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;*

(Isaiah 11:2)

Now we're ready.

- 10. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.*
- 11. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*
- 12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

13. *Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

(Ephesians 6:10-13)

VII. *How Are We Going To Stand?*

All right. How are we going to stand? How are we going to do it? *"Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the works of the flesh."* Put on the whole armor. Take unto you the whole armor – take Jesus. Amen. With His whole armor. It's His armor, it's not yours. It's He. It's not you. You're going to let Him do it. But you're going to walk in obedience. Amen.

11. *Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

12. *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

(Ephesians 6:11-12)

Now what chance do we have? We don't have any. Unless we're strong in the Lord and filled with the power of His might. Ready for battle. Ready to go. Something has to happen to us. But He's describing what you're up against. But you're not going to be afraid, because you've got the whole armor on. You've got Jesus inside of you and the power and the glory of His kingdom.

13. *Wherefore take unto you the armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand.*

(Ephesians 6:13)

What are you going to do about it? You can't do anything about it except stand.

Stand therefore having your loins girth with truth,

If you don't have truth, you can't stand.

14. *Stand therefore, having your loins girth about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;*

15. *And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*

(Ephesians 6:14-15)

He says in Isaiah, *"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper, and every tongue that rises against thee in judgment, thou shall condemn, for this is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their righteousness is of me."* (Isaiah 54:17) "Their righteousness is of Me." We're going to have that shield of faith. What are you going to do with it? "By faith, of whom the world was not worthy." They walked by faith. But what we have today is so mighty, because this is the day of the fullness of the Gospel, the fullness of the Father, the fullness of the Spirit, the complete transformation of our lives. "Thank You, Lord, all those darts can't affect us."

17. *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit,
which is the word of God:* (Ephesians 6:17)

With the helmet of salvation on, what happens to the imaginations of our mind? We cover it up? No. Before you can be strong in the Lord, you have to be in full obedience. Amen. Now we're coming to prayer. We've got all this because you have Jesus inside of you – everything is at our disposal.

18. *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and
watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*
(Ephesians 6:18)

Not "we four and no more." But all the saints, and Paul says, "Please remember to pray for me."

19. *And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my
mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,*
20. *For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly
as I ought to speak.* (Ephesians 6:19-20)

You have to remember Paul was never heard before. But he was preaching Christ in us, the hope of glory. Christ in us. So when you think of putting on the whole armor, remember Romans 13:14. Mark it in your Bible. It might help you.

14. *But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh,
to fulfill the lust thereof.* (Romans 13:14)

Now we're going to get ready for something. What are we getting ready for? We're getting ready to stand. You're going to stand. You're not going to go backward. You're not going to have this imagination of the mind and the exaltation of self above God – that's all been taken care of. We're getting ready to intercede for the nations; getting ready to walk in the power of the resurrected Christ, having come into full obedience to that which Christ would have us to do.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord...

VIII. All We Have To Do Is Walk In It

We're living in the last days. We have the privilege no other generation has ever had. We have the privilege of coming to the fullness of the Father, into the fullness of the Son, into the fullness of the Spirit, that we may walk with Him in the fullness of obedience, by the Spirit of the Lord. God has it for us, for He's making us ready to move in the power of His Spirit, in the power of His might.

Something is happening all over the world. II Peter, Chapter 1, says He's bringing us into His love, into His perfect love that our natural is going to fade away. We're not going to fade away; these things are going to fade away from us. The love of God is going to be manifested to the degree they are going to see the glory of God. The sum total of all of these is, *"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might."* Amen.

Do you have a little better understanding? Tonight, I was going through some papers. I know full well God wasn't going to give it to me the way I was trying to find it. So I shut the book and opened up to what He put on my heart all day.

4. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but they are mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;

5. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

5. And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

(II Corinthians 10:4-6)

What's our problem? Disobedience. We must come in line with the Father and the Son. Jesus made every provision for us. What we have to do is walk in it. Let Him tear down all these other things. You don't have to be tormented by the devil. What's the matter with you? Jesus said we have the mind of Christ. If we don't have it, it's not His fault, and we better get it if we're going to walk with Him, if we're going to go and help other people. We're going to know how to stand with Jesus in His full armor in us. Jesus' full armor in us. It's exciting. Filled with His power, filled with His glory. What do you think is going to hurt you? Are you going to run and hide? No you're not going to. You're now in readiness to avenge disobedience. You're ready to go to battle. I hope you understand. We don't need to give place to the devil, but we need to make sure we've kicked him out with a swift kick, that he'll not come back again. And out of our mind.

God has for you a miracle, a creative miracle in your mind, if you want it. He's given us His peace; it's ours, if we receive it. But He says we have to get rid of the other lords. "But they're our friends, Lord." They have to become our enemies and we have to boot them out and lock the door, close our mind, and let Him transform our life and put within us the mind of Christ, which is full obedience to the Father.

You know we're living in a day that we ought to jump up and praise God and think about what a job He has for us to do. We have the privilege of taking this world the love of God – the mighty glory of God – Christ in us.

*IX. We're Going To Enjoy The Lord Jesus Christ All The Days Of
Our Life And, When We're Finished Here,
We're Going To Spend Eternity With Him*

Where did I read here...let me see if I can locate it quickly. Thank You, Jesus.
II Peter 1:3-4.

3. According as His divine power hath given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue.

4. Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5. *And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;*
 6. *And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;*
 7. *And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.*
 8. *For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*
 9. *But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.*
 10. *Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for it ye do these things, ye shall never fall:*
 11. *For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*
- (II Peter 1:3-11)*

Isn't that mighty? And it's ours if we allow Him to bring us into obedience that our mind might be the mind of Christ. I know this is not milk; I know it's meat. We don't have time to put you on the bottle for a long time. We have to get you up, so you can run in the fullness of the Spirit of God. I didn't choose you; God chose you. I didn't choose anybody because of their billions or who they are, but I believe you're what God wants, if you let Him take your life and give you a new mind, new body, make you a new creation, a new creature in Jesus Christ. The old Adam is passed away, the new Adam has come to live with us and He isn't going to pass away. We're going to enjoy the Lord Jesus Christ all the days of our life, and when we're finished here, we're going to spend eternity with Him. Isn't that wonderful? Do you understand this language? Pretty simple, isn't it? Or is it too simple for us? It's not too simple, is it? It's just the simple Gospel – so mighty, so mighty, but the simplest person can understand and allow Him to change our life. Amen.

Let's take hold tonight of Jesus. Let's be obedient to Him so that He can remove these things from our life, that we might have the mind of Christ; that we might walk in the knowledge of God; that we might walk in the righteousness of God, to bring us into His glory. I think it's awesome what God has in store for us. I think we ought to run into it. Amen. Run into it and know that He is going to perfect us in Him. It's the worst time in the world to live. The evil of this world is so horrible. The evil men are horrible. The very worst of everything is happening now. But so is the very best – the very best is happening now. The prophets looked into it, but they couldn't enter it. We have the glorious privilege tonight of allowing Jesus to rule and reign in us, unhindered by this evil world. We don't have to be hindered tonight. What we need is to draw nigh to Him, and He will draw nigh to us. Be strong in Him and in the power of His might. He's going to do the rest. Amen. God bless you.