

IMPACTFUL CHRISTIAN LIVING - ACTS 16:16-34

Prayer - (v.16-17)

Satan's opposition to prayer.

Divination - the act of obtaining secret knowledge, especially related to the future, by demonic means.

Note: devil comes as an "angel of light," (2 Corinthians 11:14).

Mary and Martha – (Luke 10:41-42) And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

"Pray without ceasing!" (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

"Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon their knees." -William Cowper.

Prayer is a form of submission to God, and an act of resistance! (James 4:7) Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Spiritual Warfare – (v.18)

(2 Corinthians 10:3-6) For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 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, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

Lesson: Stop attacking people, attack the source! Ephesians 6:10-20.

God's armor/Our prayers - Both are required to exercise authority over the enemy!

Paul did not rebuke the *demonic spirits* in his name, but in the Name of Jesus!

“The Lord rebuke you!” (Jude 9)

James 2:19 - demon's tremble before His name!

Vocal Faith - (v.25-26)

(Psalm 27:13-14) I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!

Do not allow the devil to steal your voice of faith!

(Psalm 30:11-12) You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

Witness – (v.27-29)

(v.30, 31) Note: the simplicity of Paul's witness.

(v.32-34) three evidence of a changed life. 1) Benevolence (v.33a). 2) Obedience (v.33b). 3) Joy (v.34).

We do not have to be perfect, just present.

What have we learned today?

(Zechariah 4:6-7) "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts. 'Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"'"