ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course

SECTION 11 – The Armor of God & Spiritual Warfare

Lesson 42 - The Armor of God Part 2

Belt of Truth - continued

We are in a day where there is an absolute war against absolute truth. The strategy of the devil is to undermined our trust and belief in absolute truth. It's how the one world religion is going to arrive. They're going to say truth is relevant; to you Jesus is truth, but to this guy Mohammad is truth, to this guy Buddha is truth. We don't say that Jesus was a prophet; we say that Jesus is God Himself, and that He is the embodiment of truth. Truth is not as some people think, a multifaceted diamond that you look at from different angles. It's one thing; it's Jesus Christ.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Outside of Christ there is no truth. Your opinion, my opinion, the guy down the street's opinion, someone with a turban on their head's opinion, doesn't mean anything! I don't care how smart, how dumb, how good looking you are; it doesn't mean anything. The only thing that means anything is truth, and Jesus is truth. Our opinions don't mean anything. That's why you should never be impressed by some Hollywood star standing up and saying what they believe.

Everyone does not need to have their voices heard. There's only one voice that needs to be heard, because there's only one voice by which man might be saved. There's only one voice speaking the truth. There's only one voice that will split open the heavens. There's only one voice that created the heavens and the earth. There's only one voice that we need to hear and that's the voice of Almighty God; and that's the voice of Jesus.

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

You cannot separate Jesus from His Word.

You cannot separate Jesus form His Word. When you have the Word of God you have Jesus, because Jesus and the Word are one.

Hebrews 1:3 AMP He is the sole expression of the glory of God [the Light-being, the out-raying or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God's] nature, upholding and maintaining and guiding and propelling the universe by His mighty word of power. When He had by offering Himself accomplished our cleansing of sins and riddance of guilt, He sat down at the right hand of the divine Majesty on high,

He is upholding, He's maintaining, He's guiding, He's propelling the universe by the power of His Word. Scientists say the universe is expanding, and they have all kinds of theories as to why. The reason

the universe is still expanding is because God spoke. His Word is to this day expanding the universe. Truth is power. You can't separate Jesus, who is the truth, from His Word. His Word is truth. By His Word, by truth, He is propelling the universe. He's upholding it. He's maintaining it. The whole universe is being moved by the power of His Word; by the power of His truth.

Isaiah 55:11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;

It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

He gave His Word, and when God opens His mouth, and God speaks His Word, the power that propels the universe, the power that created the sun, moon, and stars, the power that created all things, the power that moves all things, that unlimited power of His Word of truth is released. When God speaks it out it will come to pass. There is no force in hell, there is no force in man that can stop the power of the force of the Word of God, the Word of truth.

God has given us as a mighty weapon the belt of truth; the belt of His Word. It's the same power that created the universe. He gave us that power to protect us from all the whiles of the devil. It doesn't matter what comes your way, it doesn't matter what circumstance, it doesn't matter what attack of the devil, it doesn't matter if every demon force in the universe comes against you, you can stand strong in the power of His Word and in the power of His truth. It's the same power that He released when He said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

How is truth used as a weapon against the devil's attacks?

He has given us an offensive weapon that we release by opening our mouths and speaking truth.

This same Word, this same truth He gave unto us as a mighty weapon; not just a defensive weapon, but an offensive weapon.

There are many people that have gotten discouraged today because they see all the lies being spewed out through the networks and through Hollywood. It seems like deception and lies are having their way. Many Christians have become intimidated. They've allowed the devil to shame them into silence. The devil knows that the power of God's truth is released when we speak it, and it has the power of the force that propels the universe. It has the power to destroy the enemy's stronghold. Did not Jesus say to us, "What you hear in secret declare from the roof tops."? (Matthew 10:27)

The Father has sent Jesus, and Jesus has sent us. The Father speaks and what He speaks comes to pass. What God speaks will come to pass and will not return to Him void. Jesus also operated this way that what He spoke came to pass. Jesus, the mouthpiece of God, has gone but He has sent us the Holy Spirit who will lead and guide us into the spirit of truth, the spirit of the Word. He will lead and guide us into all truth. He has called us to open our mouths and speak truth with the same power of heaven that flows through Him.

That's why the devil is terrified. The devil wants to keep your mouth shut. He wants you to stay tied up. He wants you to not speak truth out. He wants to intimidate and defile us. He does this in many ways. He falsely accuses us. He says we're intolerant. We don't know what that really means, but we don't want to be called intolerant. We want to seen as loving and compassionate. So the devil tells us that if we stand up against homosexuality that we're intolerant. If we stand against pornography, fornication, adultery, and all the vile things that go on we're intolerant. He tells us we need to be tolerant of these people's condition.

All this is the devil trying to shut us up. He knows if we keep speaking truth, truth has the power to destroy lies. Truth is power and has the power to destroy the strongholds of the enemy. It has the power to create and bring to pass the very things God wants to come to pass.

One of the most classic examples of this is in speaking against the homosexual community. Homosexuality is a demon spirit; that's truth. It's time we begin to stand up, and we begin to declare what it is. It's a demon spirit. It's not a mental disorder; it's a demon spirit. It's not a genetic thing; it's a demon spirit. We need to begin to speak the truth. The homosexual community has stood up and said, "If you stand up against homosexuality you're actually homophobic," which means you're afraid of homosexuals. And the implication is that if you're standing up against homosexuals, you're afraid of homosexuality because you are afraid somehow that secretly you might be one. We don't wanna be accused of being one so we don't want to be called homophobic and we just shut up.

The devil's proud and masterful. He tries to get us to back away and stop speaking truth. He tries to make us feel ashamed of speaking truth, to make us feel embarrassed of speaking truth, to make us feel like somehow we shouldn't feel that way. He tells you that if we stand up and call things unholy, if we stand up and tell people to repent, if we stand up and say that judgment is coming because of sin, then we are out of touch. He accuses us of being irrelevant to society. We don't want to come across like that or be called religious, so we back off preaching truth.

The devil wants to keep the servants of God quiet. As long as the men of God who are the great leaders of our day do not stand up and speak truth, lies prosper. The devil has shut their mouths and they fail to speak out truth. Wickedness increases and prospers when the men of God, when the children of God, fail to open their mouths and speak out truth. I'm telling you if the big names are not going to do it, God's going to raise up nobodies from nowhere who will speak the truth.

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward
That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your old men shall dream dreams,
Your young men shall see visions.

That word prophesy there means to declare the Word of the Lord. God is going to open the heavens. He's going to pour out the spirit of revelation. He's going to raise up a generation of fearless warriors that'll open their mouths in every situation, in any place and speak truth. The power that created the

heavens and the earth, the power that upholds and repels the universe is going to come out of their mouths to destroy the strongholds of the enemy.

What are the effects of speaking the Word of truth?

Speak truth, and when you speak it, it will not only war in the spiritual atmosphere, but it will actually begin to recreate the way you think.

Open your mouth and speak truth. Truth is power and is a mighty, incredible weapon in your hands and in your mouth. When you speak truth out it will change you on the inside. We are God's mouthpiece. We need God's help to open our mouths in the last days and speak the truth. Don't speak it with the spirit of judgment, but speak it with mercy.

Proverbs 16:6 In mercy and truth
Atonement is provided for iniquity;
And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.

Proverbs 20:28 *Mercy and truth preserve the king, And by lovingkindness he upholds his throne.*

Hebrews 4:12-13 AMP For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.

13And not a creature exists that is concealed from His sight, but all things are open and exposed, naked and defenseless to the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do.

5 things that the Word of Truth Does

Number 1: The Word penetrates; Truth penetrates.

Acts 5:30-33 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him. 33 When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them.

They heard this, they were furious, and plotted to kill Peter. He preached truth and that truth pierced and penetrated. This is why we get a reaction when we say Jesus is the only truth. That Word penetrates. Go into public and say the name Jesus in a holy form and watch what it does. People do you even mind if you say God because that can be any god, but when you say Jesus, it pierces, it penetrates. The Word of truth pierces and penetrates. That's why God wants it on our lips. He wants it to pierce and penetrate.

Number 2: The Word exposes.

Mark 2:5-8 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." 6 And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

8 But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?"

He just came out and exposed them. The power of this weapon of warfare is that when you speak the truth it will pierce and penetrate. When you speak the truth it will expose what's really going on. It will expose the hidden agendas. It will expose the hidden motives. It will bring the things into light.

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.

He said to confess. God wants the wrong motives exposed. God wants it brought to the surface. God wants it brought into the light. That's the power and the purpose of the Word and the purpose of truth. We're always wanting to hide just like Adam and Eve in the Garden after they sinned. They hid themselves because they didn't want to be exposed, but God came right up to them and exposed them.

He gave us the Word of power, and when we don't open our mouths and speak the truth with clarity, and by doing it expose the wickedness and the sin so that they may have an opportunity to repent, when they die and go to hell their blood is on our hands. The Word exposes. That's why it's absolutely insane, this psychological Christianity that doesn't want to make anyone uncomfortable. You can't preach Jesus without confrontation, because this Word is confrontational by nature. This Word is exposing by nature; this Word is penetrating by nature. If it's not penetrating, if it's not exposing, it's not the Word of truth, it's not the Word of revelation. It's some religious feel good nothing that has no eternal value.

Number 3: The Word judges.

John 12:48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

Have you ever considered that one of the reasons we're to speak out the truth is so that those who reject God will have no excuse? The Word judges.

There are two types of judgment in the New Testament. One means to sit as judge and have final decision. The other one means to discern. We're not sit as judge, and we're not the final judge. God is. We aren't passing final sentence. What we are to do according to the Bible as a spiritual man is to judge, to discern, all things. (1 Corinthians 2:15) Here the word judge means to discern. The Word exposes. The Word judges all things. We're all going to be judge by the Word.

Number 4: The Word brings things to light.

Hebrews 4:13 AMP And not a creature exists that is concealed from His sight, but all things are open and exposed, naked and defenseless to the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do.

Everything is brought to light by the Word. It brings to light the fruitless deeds of darkness. We have the power of the Word to expose us, to bring to light the junk that's on the inside of us. It purifies, it cleanses us, and it becomes a mighty weapon. Truth becomes the mighty weapon, and that weapon exposes. When we speak the truth it brings to light the strategies of the enemy. It brings to light the works of the enemy. It destroys the strongholds of the enemy.

Number 5: The Word leads to Godliness.

Titus 1:1 NIV *Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ to further the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—*

If you don't have truth, you won't be led to Godliness. Truth is a defensive weapon. You shall know the truth and the truth will make you free. It will fortify you. Truth is your shield and your buckler. His Word is truth.

Truth is also an offensive weapon. Truth robs the enemy of his only weapon, which is deception. Eve was deceived in the Garden. The devil's only weapon is deception. Once we are deceived, it is then in our power and our authority that we yield giving him power and authority here on the earth. It only comes from deception, and if we walk in truth we rob the devil of his only weapon.

Gird up your mind with truth. Be a lover of truth; not your own opinions or feelings, but truth. Don't go to the Word of God to find out what you believe. Go to the Word of God to discover truth. You shall know the truth and the truth will make you free.

For Further Study:

2 Corinthians 11:10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no one shall stop me from this boasting in the regions of Achaia.

Ephesians 4:15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

1 Timothy 2:3-4 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.