

# Spiritual Warfare - Part 1

by Phil Beach Jr.

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*To engage in spiritual warfare, believers must prepare themselves through spiritual circumcision, celebration of Christ, feasting on unleavened bread, and a revelation of God's holiness.*

**Duration:** 51:13

**Scripture:** Ephesians 6:10

**Topics:** "Spiritual Warfare", "Authority in Christ"

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## Description

Phil Beach Jr. emphasizes the necessity of spiritual preparation for engaging in spiritual warfare, drawing from Ephesians 6 and the story of Joshua. He explains that true spiritual warfare involves understanding our authority in Christ and the importance of being spiritually circumcised, celebrating our Passover, and living a life of holiness. Beach highlights that the enemy is not flesh and blood but spiritual forces, and that Christians must be equipped with God's armor to stand firm against these forces. He encourages believers to recognize their identity in Christ and the power they possess to overcome the works of the devil, urging them to remain vigilant and spiritually awake.

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## Transcript

Sing it one more time. Thank you very much for the music and now I want to invite you, if you would please, to open your Bibles and we're going to continue the message on spiritual warfare, how to engage in it, how to overcome the powers of darkness because we're living in an evil day. The Apostle Paul tells us in the Bible, Ephesians chapter 6, verse number 10, Finally be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. We find it is very evident in the New Testament that it is taught that we are engaged in a spiritual warfare.

And being engaged in a spiritual warfare, it is very needful that we understand how to get involved in this spiritual warfare and how to be prepared for this spiritual warfare and how to be able to stand in this spiritual warfare without being overcome by the enemy. We also brought to you, now what we're going to do here very quickly, is I'm going to go over so that we have it on tape. I'm going to go over very quickly this morning's message regarding the preparation for spiritual warfare.

And these are the scriptures that we gave this morning we shared in Ephesians chapter 6, verses 10 through 13. We also shared in the book of Matthew chapter 16. Matthew chapter 16, beginning in verse number 13.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, who do people say the Son of Man is? They replied, some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. But what about you, he asked? What do you say I am, or who do you say I am? Simon Peter answered, you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. And now in verse 17, Jesus replied, blessed are you Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but my Father in heaven.

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

So here we find that Jesus Christ gave to Peter, but not only to Peter, but he gave it to the entire church. He gave the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Now the keys of the kingdom of heaven represent the authority and the power that the believer has in order to bind and loose.

Now we do not bind and we do not loose those things that we want or that we don't want, but we bind and we loose those things that are in accord to the Word of God. This basically is what spiritual warfare is all about. Spiritual warfare is not going around and confessing with your mouth what you want and then expecting God to honor your wishes.

Spiritual warfare and binding and loosing is not binding the devil from a Cadillac so that you can possess that Cadillac. Binding and loosing has nothing to do with physical natural prosperity, but biblically speaking, binding and loosing is in relation to the powers of hell regarding sin and sickness, and we have the power to bind the devil and to loose God's power so that men and women might experience deliverance in Jesus Christ. The Bible says that Jesus Christ was made manifest in order that he might destroy the works of the devil.

The works of the devil are sin. The works of the devil is murder and lust and envy and strife and hatred, and these are the things that God wants His church to begin to understand how to bind and how to loose. Now this morning, we began this message in Joshua chapter 5, and that's where you may turn if you like.

In Joshua chapter 5, we began this message, and we showed you that before you as a believer engage in spiritual warfare and enter into the wrestling match against the powers of darkness and the powers of hell, there are four things that need to take place in your life, four things that need to take place in your life as preparation for the spiritual battle. We are not wrestling with people. We are not wrestling with personalities.

Many times people think that their enemy is another Christian, when another Christian is not your enemy, but your enemy is Satan and all the legions of devils and demons that are in this world today, and the source of all true spiritual problems are Satan himself. He is the author of confusion. He is the author of fear.

He's the one who plants the seed of hatred in someone's heart against you. He's the one that plants the seeds of jealousy and the seeds of discord. He's the one that plants those bad seeds in God's vineyard.

The church is God's vineyard. The church is God's building, and it's the enemy who comes by night or during spiritual darkness. You see, when the Scriptures speak of night in the church, it refers to the time when you're sleeping.

You see, when you're spiritually awake, and you're walking in the light, and you're wrestling with God in prayer, and you're reading the Bible, and you're walking according to the desires of the Spirit of God, rather than the desires of your own flesh, you're walking in the light. And the Bible says that if you walk in the light, you will not stumble. But when you begin to close your spiritual eyes, and you begin to get lazy in God, and you begin to get away from the Bible and prayer and holiness, and you let your mind begin to get on carnal things, you begin to watch too much television, I would recommend that you don't watch any of it.

But that's your own personal business between you and God. There's nothing good on that television. You might find a preacher every once in a while, but we're not finding too many good ones of them either.

I recommend that you keep your mind on the things of God and the things in God's Word. But spiritual darkness is when the Christian turns from God and turns from spiritual things and begins to follow the carnal desires of the flesh. And the Bible says it's during that time that the wicked one comes and he sows bad seeds.

Now the place that he sows the seeds is in your heart and mind. And when you are spiritually sleeping and when you have a spirit of slumber upon you, that's when the devil comes and he sows these seeds in your life. And you wonder why all of a sudden you become dissatisfied and you find yourself becoming jealous or you become apathetic and you're filled with complacency.

You're in a spiritual warfare and it's because the devil's trying to turn you from God. And if we don't recognize this, then what will happen is we will become a prey to the devil and he will put us to sleep spiritually and destroy our effectiveness as a Christian. And if our effectiveness as a Christian is destroyed, then Jesus said, what good is salt if it's not salty anymore? It's good for nothing.

It's not even good for the dung pile. So we have to be aware of this spiritual battle that we're in. Now in Joshua chapter 5, we discover a quick history here on where we're at as far as where Israel is at.

At this time, Israel had just crossed the Jordan River under the leadership of Joshua. The land of Canaan was the place that God promised Israel. It is the promised land.

It's the place that God promised Israel for their habitation, for their dwelling place. It represents the place where God reigns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords and He drives out all the enemies. That's what God promised Israel for Canaan.

And Canaan represents to you and I possessing the fullness of Christ. Our spiritual Canaan today is walking in the fullness of God and His Word. In such a place, God drives out all our enemies, doesn't He? God drives away our enemies.

And when the devil comes in like a flood, in that place the Spirit of the Lord rises up a standard against him, doesn't He? Sure He does. Now Israel was entering into Canaan. But before they faced their first Jericho, now Jericho was the first battle that they had to undergo entering into God's promised land, isn't that correct? Jericho was a walled city.

It was the enemy's fortified city in God's land and it had to get out. The enemy had no right being in Canaan because God gave it to Israel. But before Israel could stand up against the walls of Jericho and see a great and mighty deliverance, they had to first camp at Gilgal.

Gilgal represents the place of preparation. And I submit to you tonight that if you begin to get desirous to engage in spiritual warfare and be a real prayer warrior for God, I'm not talking about being a flippant Christian now and playing religious games and going about doing your own thing and asking God to bless you as if God was your servant. You know, today Christianity's got things backwards.

We've got God as our personal servant and we tell Him our plans and then we ask Him if He'll come bless them. Not so biblically. God is not our servant.

We are His love slaves. So I'm not talking about, nor is the Holy Spirit inviting people who are not serious about God to engage in this stuff that I'm preaching on. It's not for the lukewarm Christian.

If you're a lukewarm Christian, you can repent and get right with God and then you can jump in and get in. But you can't engage in fighting the devil as a lukewarm Christian. He'll whip you.

It's what they say down south. He'll whip you. He'll whoop you.

He'll whoop you is what they say. He'll whoop you. You've got to be clothed in God's armor or you've got to come to Gilgal first.

You see, this is significant. The Holy Spirit is so sovereign and so omniscient. That means all-knowing.

It marvels me when I get into the Word of God and see how beautiful God puts His Word together. So let's discover tonight what God had to do in Israel before Israel was qualified to stand before Jericho and engage in their spiritual battle. First of all, let's begin reading in verse 1 of Joshua chapter 5. Now when all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the coast heard how the Lord had dried up the Jordan before the Israelites until we had crossed over, their hearts melted and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites.

Now we want to point out now, and boy this excites me, when the enemy sees that you are beginning to enter in and possess God's promises, his heart begins to melt. See, the Bible says that when the enemy saw that Israel was entering into the Canaan land, their hearts began to melt. They began to tremble because they knew that the God of Israel was the God of the universe.

Praise God. When you begin to stop playing church and you stop playing Christianity, you get in and you become a soldier for God and you put on the armor of God and you put off games and you begin to get serious with God, bless God, the enemy's going to take note. He's going to notice that you are going on with God, but he'll probably try and discourage you, but you can overcome discouragement.

Praise God. How many experience faith when God's Word is placed in our hearts? I do. I get excited about God's Word.

Someone once asked me, Brother Beach, how come you always get so excited when you preach? I said, because God's Word excites me. Then I said, how come you never get excited when God's Word is preached? May I say it's because it doesn't excite you? I didn't say that, but I was tempted to. I was tempted to.

Verse number two, at that time the Lord said to Joshua, make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again. So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeah, Heroloth. Verse eight, go down to verse eight.

And after the whole nation had been circumcised, they remained where they were in camp until they were healed. Number one, Gilgal represents spiritual preparation before entering into spiritual warfare. And our first spiritual operation that takes place when we camp in Gilgal is we experience a spiritual circumcision.

We experience a spiritual circumcision. Now in Romans chapter two, Romans chapter two, verse 28, a man is not a Jew if he is only one outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly, and circumcision is circumcision of the heart by the Spirit, not by the written code.

Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God. So our first point is you must experience a spiritual circumcision as preparation before you enter into spiritual warfare. Spiritual circumcision is that work which the Holy Spirit does whereby He goes into your heart and He rolls back the fleshly life, He rolls back the fleshly life of carnality, and He gives you a new heart, a heart that seeks to follow after the Lord.

Now I know this is hardly a summary. It sounds like I'm preaching the sermon again. Well, I am.

I won't make any excuses. Number two, verse 10, on the evening of the 14th day of the month while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover. Now, once we experience spiritual circumcision, number two, we must also experience the spiritual celebration of our spiritual Passover.

Now, we know that the Bible tells us that in 1 Corinthians chapter 5, verse 7, 1 Corinthians chapter 5, verse 7, it says, get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast, as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. In order to properly be able to stand against your Jericho, which is wrestling against the powers of hell, you must not only experience a spiritual circumcision in your heart, but you also must experience celebration of Jesus.

You must learn how to live for God on a daily basis and learn to derive your joy and your happiness from God alone. All of these things are prerequisites for spiritual qualification or spiritual readiness. Number three, verse number 11, the day after the Passover, that very day they ate some of the produce of the land, unleavened bread and roasted grain.

Thirdly, you must be brought to the place where you learn to feast upon unleavened bread. Now, unleavened bread represents living a life of holiness, a life of righteousness. Now again, in 1 Corinthians chapter 5, 1 Corinthians chapter 5, Paul speaks about unleavened bread and shows us the meaning of unleavened bread to the Christian.

1 Corinthians chapter 5, verse 8, therefore let us keep the festival not with old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast or unleavened bread, the bread of sincerity and truth. You must, as a Christian, learn to walk every day in sincerity of motive and in truth. There seems to be a absence of this many times, but if we want to be qualified spiritually, to engage in spiritual warfare, we must come to the place in our Christian life where, number one, we are spiritually circumcised and our fleshly carnal life is rolled back and we are given a heart that seeks the Lord.

Number two, we must become filled with the celebration of Christ. He must become our joy. He must become our hope.

He must become our satisfaction and our reason for living. And then thirdly, we must feast on the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, which means we need to begin to walk righteously and in holiness. And all these things are done as we yield ourselves to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The Bible says it's not by power, it's not by might, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord. Zechariah 4.6. This means that the work of God in relation to spiritual circumcision and spiritual celebration of Christ and the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth is brought to us by the power of the Holy Ghost. It's not something that we conjure up.

It's something that comes to us by a supernatural impartation via the Holy Ghost, and all we do is we yield ourselves unto God. We become obedient to God. We obey His Spirit.

We say no. The Bible says the grace of God has appeared unto all men, teaching us that we are to deny and say no to ungodliness and worldly lusts, and live a holy and a sober and a righteous life in this present ungodly world. How many interprets Christianity as doing that? Sometimes I wonder what kind of Christianity people believe in.

They talk about Jesus, they go to a church, they say they believe in God, but yet they don't live by the Word of God. As Titus says, with their mouth they profess to know God, but in action they deny Him, being abominable and disobedient in everything they do. I can't understand it.

Christianity is obeying God by the power of the Holy Ghost, not by legalism. And our fourth work of preparation that must be done in our life before we're qualified to stand up against the powers of hell is found in verse 13 of Joshua chapter 5. Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, Are you for us or for our enemies? Verse 14, Neither he replied, but as commander of the army of the Lord, I have now come.

Then Joshua fell face down to the ground in reverence and asked him, What message does my Lord have for his servant? The commander of the Lord's army replied, Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. Fourthly, we must get a revelation that God is on the throne and that Christ is the ultimate victor over the devil and he is fighting our battle. We must see Jesus as the victor.

We must have a revelation, and this is all under the fourth point. We must see Jesus as the victor. We must have a revelation of the sword that proceeds out of the Lord's mouth, which is the Word of God.

We must have a revelation of His holiness. That's why when Joshua said to the angel of the Lord, Is there anything that you would like to tell me? The angel said, Yes, take your shoes off. In other words, God wants us to know He is holy.

Now, I'm not talking about this kind of holiness where girls don't wear pants and don't wear makeup. I'm talking about a holiness that makes God separate from people and from anything in this world. That's true holiness.

And when you get a revelation of that holiness, you're going to walk softly before the Lord, and you'll conduct yourself in a Christian way. And lastly, under this fourth point, we must get a revelation that our

sufficiency is in Him and not ourself. When you're all ready to fight the battle, then you've got to realize it's not going to be your power that's going to win the battle.

You've got to trust in the Lord and in the power of His might. We cannot put the cart before the horse, church. We cannot become so excited and so zealous about these keys that God has given us, the keys of the kingdom, and we can't become so elated that we go around and say, Bless God, I've got the keys of the kingdom, and I can bind, and I can loose, and I can do this, and I can do that.

You can do nothing, except you abide in Him, the Scripture says. And it is absolutely necessary that we find our spiritual Gilgal. If you are at all seeking to go on with the Lord, the Holy Spirit will lead you to a spiritual Gilgal in which He will do these things in your life.

If these things have not been worked in your life, then you need to ask the Holy Spirit to bring you to a spiritual place where these things can be done in your life so that you can be prepared and ready to stand against the adversary of your soul clothed in the armor of God. You see, Gilgal represents the place where God confirms His covenant in our heart. He confirms His covenant in our heart.

He establishes it in our heart. He makes us steadfast and unmovable in the things of God, and there we become persuaded that we are God's, not saying we're gods, that we belong to God. Got to be careful with that.

You say you're gods, and people think you're saying you're a god. It's the place where you become persuaded that you are God's property, and that you are fully His, and that your only reason for living is to serve Him and to love Him and to honor Him and to glorify Him in whatever you do. So many Christians go so many years without even coming to this place, don't you agree? They just seemingly live in a wilderness.

They never get out of the wilderness. Now, this morning we mentioned that the wilderness represents wandering as a Christian in disobedience. You see, when God calls Israel to wander in the wilderness, they did a lot of walking and went nowhere.

And when we're in disobedience, when we're in rebellion against God, when our life is not submitted to Him, then we go into a wilderness and we seemingly do a lot of stepping but don't go anywhere. Isn't that what is characterized by disobedience? You just don't make any progress in the Lord when you're disobedient. You can't be rebellious or want your own way all the time.

See, you've got to be willing to let the Lord make you pliable and soft. See, we're supposed to be clay. And you know what happens when clay gets away from water? It becomes hard.

And when clay gets hard, it can no longer be molded. And you know what the Lord has to do when we can no longer be molded? He has to mush us. You say, well, I never want that to happen to me.

Then you stay in God's presence and in God's Holy Ghost and in the water of the Word. See, and the water of the Word keeps you pliable as God's clay so that He can keep molding you without too much effort. I want the Lord to always be able to just touch me and I'll move.

I don't want Him to have to go like this and say, oh, He's too hard, because then I know what's going to happen. He's going to have to arrange some kind of circumstance in my life in order to break me, because hard clay is no good to a potter. A potter wants to be able to make the clay in the fashion that pleases him,

right? And God wants to make you the way He wants.

But when we get strong and stiff-necked and rebellious and we want things our way, we're like hard clay in the Master's hand. And it saddens Him, because we no longer are pliable. We're no longer sensitive to Him.

And in such a state, He has no choice but to break us. Joshua chapter 5, the place where God prepares us for our spiritual warfare. Now, we're only going to go into this briefly tonight, and of course, we're going to continue to preach on this as the Holy Spirit leads.

And we've got a whole bunch of parts to this message, various different aspects of spiritual warfare. But we'll begin tonight by going into Joshua chapter 6 and begin to discuss the things in Joshua chapter 6 and begin to learn about the spiritual warfare. Joshua chapter 6, verse 1. Now, Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites.

No one went out and no one came in. Now, we must remember that Jericho represents that which does not belong in God's land. Jericho represents a fortified city of the enemy.

Jericho represents anything in our life or in the life of the church or in the life of someone that we know that is Satan's work. You see, the Bible says that we've been bought with a price. The Bible says that we belong to God.

Our spirit belongs to God and our body belongs to God. Now, if this is God's property, should the devil's works be fixed in me? Should there be Jerichos inside of me, walled cities that don't belong there where the enemy lives? Should the enemy be lurking within us or within the church? Should the enemy have fortified cities in the body of Christ? Should the enemy be roaming around inside a spiritual Jericho, there sowing all kinds of discord and envy and strife? No! Jericho needs to be destroyed in God's house. But what did the Scripture say? Jericho was tightly shut up.

When the devil gets his works fixed in you or me, if we allow him to fix his work in us, it becomes strong. It becomes fortified. It becomes almost unmovable.

So when we approach spiritual warfare, we have to realize that many times the powers of hell and the spiritual Jerichos are very strong and very fortified. We can't expect things to happen immediately. We can't expect things to happen instantly.

Today's Christians have nearly lost the secret of perseverance and patience. The reason why is because we're living in a generation, and I say this very often while preaching, we're living in a generation when everything is quick. If you want a hamburger, you just run down to McDonald's and get a hamburger.

Fast food, fast food restaurants, fast food supermarkets. If you don't want to wait in line at a big supermarket, you just find a little quick check, and you run in and you run out. If you've got to change your oil and you don't have time, you just find an oil changing place that guarantees in ten minutes you can have your oil changed with a new oil filter too.

I mean, we've got to the place where we just don't have to wait. Impatience characterizes the spirit of this age. Impetuousness characterizes the spirit of this age.

But when you get involved in God's business and you get involved in spiritual warfare, you've got to get that impatience out of you. You've got to pray and ask God to get it out of you. You're not going to be a soldier for Jesus and be impatient.

Church, God wants to teach us that when we approach spiritual fortified cities and we approach the powers of hell, we can't be under the influence of quick, quick, quick. I want it done quick. We've got to learn that God has a way of doing things, and it's always through patience and long-suffering and endurance.

The New Testament, the entire New Testament is filled with exhortations to endure, to be patient, to be long-suffering, not to faint. Isn't it? Sure it is. Why do you think that's true? Because when you get enlisted in the Lord's army, it takes time sometimes to see the Lord's works manifested.

And people fail miserably when they go and enter into spiritual warfare thinking that once they speak it, it's all going to be taken care of. That is erroneous. That is incorrect.

That is not in the Bible. There's so many errors floating around. As a preacher, it grieves my heart.

We've got a gospel today being preached by people where just say it and then just forget about it. And if you say it again, that means that you have doubt. That is so foolish.

Jesus said, pray, and once you're done praying, pray again, and once you're done praying, pray again. Don't stop praying. Keep praying.

The widow who was under the influence of an evil king, what does the Bible say? She just simply prayed once and then said, no, I won't pray again because God's going to do it. No, she prayed continually, non-stop, day and night. This idea just naming it with your mouth is not true.

You've got to grab hold of God's promise, and you've got to pray, and you've got to intercede, and I'm getting ahead of myself now, but nevertheless, you've got to have patience. Don't think it's a sin if you ask the Lord over and over again for something if you know it's His will. It's not a sin, and just because it doesn't happen, it doesn't mean that you were filled with unbelief.

It doesn't mean that you have sin in your life necessarily. It could mean that, but it doesn't necessarily mean that. Jesus prayed for someone, and he wasn't totally healed.

Jesus had to pray again. Remember the man who was healed of blindness, and Jesus said, what do you see? And he said, I see trees. Jesus prayed for him twice.

Now, I'd like to see anyone accuse Jesus of unbelief or sin. Why did he have to pray twice? Because that's what God wanted. Very easy.

Sometimes God doesn't answer us to test us, to see whether or not we're going to continue to believe and ask. The Bible says, ask, seek, and knock. Do you know what that represents? That represents once you know the will of God, you continue with everything that you have inside of you to seek for until it comes to pass.

You just don't say it once and then walk away and say, praise God, it's done. Hallelujah. Don't mention it anymore.

That's not faith. That's not true. See, if you want to understand what faith is, you have to go to the Bible and understand faith biblically.

See, the greatest thing that I see today in the church that is causing a lot of Christians to go into error is they do not go to the Word in order to understand certain terms, but they listen to people and they allow men to interpret and to define what terms are. Like, what is faith? You go to the Bible and you find every person in the Bible who God said had faith and then see all the circumstances in their life. Does having faith mean that you'll never have trouble? Some people think that's true.

I've talked to them. They think that any kind of displeasure that comes to a Christian is because of their unbelief. As if if we had perfect faith, we would never have any problems.

If that's true, then Paul was filled with unbelief because Paul was the great apostle of faith, but yet he was perplexed, he was naked, he didn't have any food. Did you know that? The Bible says Paul went hungry sometimes. Great faith in God didn't protect Paul from being beaten and stoned.

You got some people telling you that if you have faith, nothing will hurt you. That's not true. Jesus had more faith than anyone and they plucked his beard.

What makes you greater than him? You see what I'm saying? We've got a perverted idea of what it means to have faith. Peter had faith. He was crucified upside down.

What happened? I thought if you have faith, everything's going to be all right. Health, wealth, and prosperity is what they say. That's what faith will get you.

That's not what it got Paul. So how can that be true faith? If you want to know what faith is, find in the Bible what faith is. If you want to know what righteousness is, look in the Bible.

You've got to go back to the Word of God, church. That's what I'm telling you tonight. Go to the Word.

Go to the Word of God. We're going to entitle this series of messages, Spiritual Warfare, and we're making tapes so if you can't come, I'm just going to, unless the Holy Spirit tells me not, I'm just going to continue it Wednesday. And then from Wednesday, I'm going to go to Sunday.

And then if I don't get it done Sunday, I'm going to go Sunday night. I'm just going to get this thing all the way until the Lord releases me from it. I believe it's an important message that the Lord has given us and I believe it can change your life.

Do you believe that? Amen. Spiritual warfare is a very, very interesting and intriguing subject and we need to be aware of these things. So as we read in Joshua chapter 6, verse 1, Jericho was tightly shut up.

We can't expect anything or everything to happen immediately, but we can expect God to answer when He's ready in His time. Now, verse 2 says, Then the Lord said to Joshua, See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its kings and its fighting men. Now, verse 2 tells us that when we approach spiritual warfare, we must realize that God has delivered into our hands the power that comes from Christ to overcome the works of the devil.

Even though Jericho is tightly shut up, and even though Jericho is fortified and strong, yet the fact is God has delivered Jericho into our hands. We do not have to bow to Jericho. We do not have to submit to Jericho.

We do not have to run from the powers of hell, but we can stand in the Lord's might and in the power of His Spirit, and we can see God deliver Jericho into our hands. We don't have to be fearful. We don't have to be timid.

We don't have to draw back as the Israelites did that were in sin and rebellion. You remember the generation that had to wander in the wilderness. When they heard about the giants in Canaan, what did they say? Oh, we can't overcome.

We are too weak. You see, when people live in sin, they're intimidated by the devil, and they're afraid of the devil. But when people have the spirit of Joshua and Caleb, which is those who follow the Lord holy, they see God as their victor, and they believe that with God all things are possible.

They believe that all things can be overcome through the power of God. That's the difference between someone who's filled with faith and someone who's filled with unbelief. Someone who has faith, believes God's Word, understands the will of God, and doesn't give up until God brings about His promise.

Someone that's full of unbelief looks at the hardships and looks at the wild, fortified cities of the devil, and instead of saying, Praise God, we can take you in the name of the Lord, they draw back and become Christian pansies, and just go around and just sort of, Oh, woe is me. I'm just, oh, I just, we just can't overcome. The enemy's too strong for us.

Hogwash. The enemy's not too strong for us if we stand in the Lord and in the power of His might. Amen? So the Lord delivered Jericho into their hands.

Okay, this is a good place to stop. My daughter's crying now. This is a good place to stop, and I believe we're going to stop here, but I want to encourage you, if you cannot continue to come, I want to encourage you to get these messages, because starting our next message or our next time together, we're going to get into the two ways to bind the devil, through intercessory prayer and through waiting on God, and we're going to show you what intercessory prayer is and what it is not.

A lot of people have a misconception about intercessory prayer. Intercessory prayer is not some kind of an Eastern mystical thing where you go around, as Brother Lowry does. He illustrates it, but it's a very definite way of praying in the power of the Holy Ghost.

So I want to encourage you to continue to get in and read Joshua chapter 5 and Joshua chapter 6, and if you can't get the, if you can't come, then we want to encourage you to get the messages. They're available at any donation, if you have 50 cents, if you have a couple dollars, whatever you have. So we'll just continue this the next service.

Amen.

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Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/30/SID30239.mp3>

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