

Spiritual Warfare

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God (v. 4).

IV. The task of Christian Ambassadors—these are our responsibilities and our mission as Ambassadors for Christ.

A. Readiness—Our first task is two-fold:

1. to be prepared and ready, which was the subject of the previous section, and
2. to always be ready to represent Jesus and communicate His gospel message to anyone, at any time, anywhere (1 Peter 3:15). This is our primary task and the reason for our preparation—our mission (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

So, let's break down our primary task and mission. What is the task of a prepared, equipped, ready Ambassador for Christ? We'll look at three ways or aspects of fulfilling our mission: contending for the Faith (true, original Christianity), communicating God's message, and spiritual warfare.

B. Contending for the Faith—the original gospel message (Jude 1:3)

C. Communicating God's gospel message of reconciliation to Him as ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-21)

D. Spiritual Warfare—warring against spiritual darkness (Ephesians 6:12; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5). Spiritual warfare is two-fold:

1. "Casting down speculation and every lofty thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God"
2. "Bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ"

When we encounter other people in our spiritual warfare, people who make themselves enemies of the gospel and of God's Word, our primary task is to destroy their bad arguments, lies, deceit, attacks, arrogant speech, insults against Christianity, and any such thing "that exalts itself against the knowledge of God" (v. 5).

When we deal with ourselves and other Christians who love Jesus, our first task in spiritual warfare is to bring each and every one of our thoughts, every line of thinking, every priority, ambition, desire, and endeavor in subjection and obedience to Jesus Christ (v. 5 again).

V. Conclusion

Ambassador challenge: Say "Jesus" every chance you get.

Apologetic nugget: People claim to be accepting and tolerant of anything and everything nowadays, except the name of Jesus.

Affirmation of biblical wisdom: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ as if God were making his plea through us, 'Be reconciled to God'" (1 Corinthians 5:20). God's ambassadors are Agents of

Reconciliation. What does God want more than anything? He wants people to be reconciled to Him. (see 2 Peter 3:9)

Application for your life: Share Jesus. Earnestly contend for the Faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. Share the gospel, which is the only message that brings salvation and reconciliation to God.

Why am I telling you this in this study? I don't know where you are in your walk with God, but I know this. Christianity is a life of walking out Christlike Christian service. This is what we call ministry. Every Christian is a minister and has a ministry, a purpose and mission God wants to accomplish in and through your life as you surrender to Him and commit to doing His will. Evangelism, sharing the gospel, is the first and easiest ministry that anybody can do, from the newborn Christian who just got saved 30 seconds ago, to the seasoned pastor, bible scholar with a lifetime of ministry experience.

So that's our starting point. That has to be the starting point. We are ambassadors for Christ!

Assignment: Listen to "How to Share Your Faith" by Greg Koukl on YouTube

Homework: Make a list of 10 "pre-Christians" that you can begin to pray for the salvation of each and every person on your list and commit between you and the Lord to also pray for Him to show you and begin to look for ways and opportunities to share Jesus with them and invite them to Jesus.

WATCH VIDEO: Spiritual Warfare https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfE8tS0wfpHdKpF-3qFv_flon1QQpLjmt