



SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 5-6
- Matthew 11:11-13
- Matthew 26:50-54

SPIRITUAL VIOLENCE

- The Army of God
- Violence
- Force

I have no doubt that the words themselves will invoke strong emotions, and you may not like them. They often settle in your soul in a certain place, very likely in the location reserved for where negative feelings go to dwell. The words are 'violence' and 'violent.' 'Violence' describes a type of behavior, often involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or even kill. It is an unpleasant or destructive force used for intimidation, oftentimes unlawful. Synonyms that describe 'violent' include brutal, savage, cruel, sadistic, barbarous, murderous, bloodthirsty, ruthless, inhumane, heartless, and merciless. These certainly reside in the home reserved for negative emotions. Even its antonyms prove where violence undoubtedly lives in your soul: gentleness, kindness, and mildness.

Today, I will also include a few other thoughts to help add to your frame of reference. I wish to reframe violence in your mind, not to eliminate the above, just add to it. And, I'll use this bible passage to show both sides of the violence coin, how it's actually a double-edged sword. "THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN SUFFERS VIOLENCE, AND THE VIOLENT TAKE IT BY FORCE." How I defined it above certainly conveys the proper understanding of "violence" in this verse; the kingdom of heaven is being violated by destructive forces. But "the violent", who take it by force, is something different. It best describes the necessary actions of spiritually violent men who MUST use violence to fiercely defend the kingdom against destructive forces, those who also wrestle ferociously to establish the kingdom of heaven on earth. Yes, proper descriptors for these men live in positive emotions territory. Think ferocious, intense, vehement, fervent, ardent, zealous, and fierce. Spiritually fierce men defend the kingdom; ferocious men take the kingdom by force.

These warriors protect the kingdom and then overtake it! How? The Scripture says... by force! What kind of force? It's not what you think. It's not brute force. It's not physical force. It is spiritual force! Sure, at times it appears like fire from heaven; but other times it overcomes the unlawful violence against the kingdom by turning the other cheek. And then there is the intense violence of meekness, the most ferocious spiritual force of all. This is the power to do nothing when you have the power to do everything.

PROPHETIC SEED:

"The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while the priests continued blowing the trumpets." Joshua 6:9 NKJV

PROPHETIC FRUIT:

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force." Matthew 11:12 NKJV

THE ARMY OF GOD

1. Out with the old men of war; in with the new...

A. The Old Guard

(1) Time again for circumcision!

(a) Circumcise the sons of Israel again the second time...

1. "At that time the Lord said to Joshua, "Make flint knives for yourself, **and circumcise the sons of Israel again the second time.**" So Joshua made flint knives for himself, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the hill of the foreskins." Joshua 5:2-3 NKJV

(b) Why? The men of war (who came out of Egypt and who were circumcised) are now dead.

1. "And **this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them:** All the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all **the men of war**, had died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt." Joshua 5:4 NKJV

(c) The old men of war had been circumcised; the new men of war were not YET circumcised!

1. "For all the people who came out **had been circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness**, on the way as they came out of Egypt, **had not been circumcised.**" Joshua 5:5 NKJV

(d) Remember, they crossed the Jordan on the 10th day of the first month, 4 days before Passover.

1. "Now the people came up from the Jordan on **the tenth day of the first month**, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho." Joshua 4:19 NKJV

(e) You MUST be circumcised to eat the Passover! (See Exodus 12-13)

1. "...**For no uncircumcised person shall eat it.** One law shall be for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you." Exodus 12:48-49 NKJV

(2) God is looking for men of war who will obey...

(a) The warriors for God who exited Egypt were disobedient and they all perished.

1. "For the children of Israel **walked forty years** in the wilderness, till all the people **who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the Lord**—to whom the Lord **swore that He would not show them the land** which the Lord had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, "a land flowing with milk and honey." Joshua 5:6 NKJV

(b) Disobedience was the chief reason that the people could not enter the promised land.

1. "For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? **And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.**" Hebrews 3:16-19 NKJV

2. "Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, **lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.**" Hebrews 4:11 NKJV

(c) The Next Generation

1. "Then **Joshua circumcised their sons whom He raised up in their place;** for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way." Joshua 5:7 NKJV

(3) The First Passover in the Promised Land

(a) This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you! .

1. "So it was, **when they had finished circumcising** all the people, that they stayed in their places in the camp till they were healed. Then the Lord said to Joshua, "**This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.**" Therefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day. Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, **and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight** on the plains of Jericho. **And they ate of the produce of the land on the day after the Passover**, unleavened bread and parched grain, on the very same day." Joshua 5:8-11 NKJV

(4) The supernatural gives way to the natural...

(a) Once Israel consummated their residency in the land, the supernatural provision ended.

1. "**Then the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten the produce of the land; and the children of Israel no longer had manna**, but they ate the food of the land of Canaan that year." Joshua 5:12 NKJV

B. The New Guard

(1) A new army of the Lord, one armed with spiritual violence!

(a) Joshua encounters the Commander of the army of the Lord...

1. "And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, **a Man stood opposite him** with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" So He said, "**No, but as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.**" And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?"" Joshua 5:13-14 NKJV
2. "...*John, ...**fell down to worship before the feet of the angel ... Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant... Worship God."***" Revelation 22:8-9 NKJV

(2) Holy Ground

(a) The Commander gives Joshua the same order that Moses received at the burning bush.

1. "Then the Commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, "**Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy.**" And Joshua did so." Joshua 5:15 NKJV
2. "Then He said [to Moses], "Do not draw near this place. **Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.**"" Exodus 3:5 NKJV
3. "Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, **what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,**" II Peter 3:11 NKJV
4. "**When you come into the land...Three years [the fruit] shall be as uncircumcised to you. It shall not be eaten. But in the fourth year all its fruit shall be holy, ...in the fifth year you may eat its fruit, ...its increase: ...**" Leviticus 19:23-25 NKJV

(b) Prophetic Precedent

1. Other areas this happens:

- a) **Y'shua's Baptism:** "When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw **the Spirit of God descending like a dove** and alighting

upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, **“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**” Matthew 3:16-17 NKJV

- b) **Y’shua’s Transfiguration:** “While he was still speaking, behold, **a bright cloud overshadowed them;** and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, **“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”**” Matthew 17:5 NKJV
- c) **John acknowledges the kingdom:** “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”” Matthew 3:2 NKJV
- d) **Y’shua acknowledges the kingdom:** “From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.””Matthew 4:17 NKJV

2. After the transfiguration (the sneak peek at glorified man), Peter is instructed to tell no one!

- a) “Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, **“Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen** from the dead.”” Matthew 17:9 NKJV

3. It is time! *“And so we have the prophetic word confirmed...* II Peter 1:19 NKJV

- a) “For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we **made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.** For **He received from God the Father honor and glory** when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: **“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”** And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.” II Peter 1:16-18 NKJV

(3) Military Stripes (Spiritual Violence of the US Military)

(a) US Army Motto: “This We’ll Defend”

- 1. “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be **ready to give a defense** to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you...” I Peter 3:15 NKJV

(b) US Navy (no official motto) Motto: “Ready to Lead, Ready to Follow, Never Quit.”

- 1. “And **the things that you have heard from me** among many witnesses, **commit these** to faithful men who will be **able to teach others also.**” II Timothy 2:2 NKJV

(c) US Navy Seals Motto: “The only easy day was yesterday!”

- 1. “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. **In the world you will have tribulation;** but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”” John 16:33 NKJV

(d) US Air Force (the Prayer Force!) Motto: “Aim High... Fly-Fight-Win”

- 1. “**Rejoice** always, **pray** without ceasing, **in everything give thanks;** for this is **the will of God** in Christ Jesus for you.” I Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV

(e) US Marines Motto: (Semper Fidelis) “Always Faithful”

- 1. “But **without faith it is impossible to please Him,** for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that **He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**” Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

C. The Precedent—the obedience of the new men of war

(1) A look back...the long game—

- (a) The original men of war did not obey... the next generation are REMINDED that they’d better

1. **“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night,** that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” Joshua 1:8 NKJV
- (b) Notice the order of business...
 1. **“So the priests who bore the ark stood in the midst of the Jordan until everything was finished** that the Lord had commanded Joshua to speak to the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua; **and the people hurried and crossed over. Then it came to pass, when all the people had completely crossed over,** that **the ark** of the Lord and the priests **crossed over** in the presence of the people.” Joshua 4:10-11 NKJV
- (2) We are looking for men of war to cross over!
 - (a) Men who will be Spiritually Violent...
 1. NOTE: **“And the men of Reuben, the men of Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh crossed over armed before the children of Israel, as Moses had spoken to them. About forty thousand prepared for war crossed over before the Lord for battle, to the plains of Jericho.”** Joshua 4:12-13 NKJV
 - (b) Here is the exact action plan... (Joshua 6:3-14)
 1. Gather your men of war: **“You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days.”** Joshua 6:3 NKJV
 2. **“The armed men went before the priests** who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while the priests continued blowing the trumpets.” Joshua 6:9 NKJV
 3. **“Then seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark of the Lord went on continually and blew with the trumpets. And the armed men went before them. But the rear guard came after the ark of the Lord, while the priests continued blowing the trumpets.”** Joshua 6:13 NKJV
- (3) **WARNING:** (see: [Post Mortem Imperative](#)) Don’t ever forget what God has instructed. If you do, bad things happen!
 - (a) Don’t ever go back—don’t ever rebuild what God has destroyed.
 1. **“And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed** when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the Lord; they **shall come into the treasury** of the Lord.”” Joshua 6:18-19 NKJV
 2. **“But they burned the city and all that was in it with fire.** Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord.” Joshua 6:24 NKJV
 3. **“Then Joshua charged them at that time, saying, “Cursed be the man before the Lord who rises up and builds this city Jericho; he shall lay its foundation with his firstborn, and with his youngest he shall set up its gates.””** Joshua 6:26 NKJV
 - (b) Don’t rebuild your Jericho!
 1. **“Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable**

idolatries. In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you." I Peter 4:1-4 NKJV

2. "For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has **forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.**" II Peter 1:9 NKJV

(c) Go forward...(last verse of Joshua 6)

1. "So **the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame spread** throughout all the country." Joshua 6:27 NKJV

D. 16 weapons needed for the new army of God!

(1) Notable examples of Spiritual Violence and Spiritual Force

(a) The violent take it by force...we all have more at our disposal than John!

1. "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has **not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.** And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, **and the violent take it by force.** For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John." Matthew 11:11-13 NKJV

(b) Herod and the worms (See: [Fire, Worms & Warring Angels](#))

1. "So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. And the people kept shouting, "**The voice of a god and not of a man!**" Then **immediately an angel of the Lord struck him,** because he did not give glory to God. And **he was eaten by worms and died.** But the word of God grew and multiplied." Acts 12:21-24 NKJV
2. We have access to said angels: "But to which of the angels has He ever said: "*Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool*"? Are they [angels] not all **ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?**" Hebrews 1:13-14 NKJV

(c) Y'shua cast out the spirits and healed the sick with a word!

1. "When evening had come, they brought to Him **many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,** that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."" Matthew 8:16-17 NKJV

(d) The fire of Yahweh consumes Aarons sons!

1. "Then **Nadab and Abihu,** the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. **So fire went out from the Lord and devoured them,** and they died before the Lord." Leviticus 10:1-2 NKJV

VIOLENCE ("THE VIOLENT") ATTITUDE

2. The New Army of God (Strategic Tools)

A. Know the Word

(1) Who is He?

(a) He is the Word made flesh. He is the life and light of men!

1. "**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. **In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did

not comprehend it. ...And **the Word became flesh and dwelt among us**, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:1-5, 14 NKJV

(b) He is the double edged sword!

1. "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any **two-edged sword**, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and **is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart**. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but **all things are naked** and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." Hebrews 4:12-13 NKJV

(c) He is the sword of the Spirit!

1. "And take the helmet of salvation, and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;**" Ephesians 6:17 NKJV

(d) Delight in Him by meditating on Him day and night, so all you do prospers!

1. "**This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth**, but **you shall meditate in it day and night**, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make **your way prosperous**, and then you will have good success." Joshua 1:8 NKJV
2. "Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; **But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night**. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; **And whatever he does shall prosper.**" Psalms 1:1-3 NKJV
3. "Finally, brethren, **whatever things are true**, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—**meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do**, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:8-9 NKJV

B. Know His Voice

(1) Who is speaking?

(a) We must be able to discern His heart and His will on all matters! How?

1. "But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue**, to virtue knowledge," II Peter 1:5 NKJV

(b) His sheep hear His voice, and they follow! Nothing can snatch them from His hands!

1. "**My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me**. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; **neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand**. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one." John 10:27-30 NKJV

(c) Know His Word to know His voice!

1. "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But **if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?**" John 5:46-47 NKJV

C. Know the Prophecy

(1) Where are we going? When will we go and how we will get there?

(a) Christ is the spirit of prophecy!

1. "...Worship God! For the testimony of **Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**" Revelation 19:10 NKJV
 2. "However, we speak **wisdom among those who are mature** [*Developing their spiritual adulthood and muscle*], yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak **the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory**, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. **For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.**" I Corinthians 2:6-10 NKJV
- (b) Prophetic words will always be confirmed.
1. "And so **we have the prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that **no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**" II Peter 1:19-21 NKJV
- (c) Test all things...test the spirit! Guard against false prophets!
1. "Do not quench the Spirit. **Do not despise prophecies. Test all things;** hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil." I Thessalonians 5:19-22 NKJV
 2. "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but **test the spirits, whether they are of God;** because many false prophets have gone out into the world." I John 4:1 NKJV
- (d) But, it is also apparent that we have the call of prophecy on our lives.
1. "He answered and said to them, "**Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven**, but to them it has not been given." Matthew 13:11 NKJV
- (e) Don't forget that love is what is most important.
1. "And **though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries** and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, **but have not love, I am nothing.**" I Corinthians 13:2 NKJV

D. Know Your Enemy

- (1) Who is he? Who are they?
- (a) Pay attention to the enemy's strategies.
1. "Be sober, be vigilant; because **your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion**, seeking whom he may devour. **Resist him**, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the **same sufferings** are experienced by your brotherhood in the world." I Peter 5:8-9 NKJV
- (b) The most critical battle you will ever face is spiritual warfare.
1. "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the **rulers of the darkness** of this age, against **spiritual hosts** of wickedness in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12 NKJV
- (c) The least of your concerns should be about this physical life.
1. "And **do not fear those who kill the body** but cannot kill the soul. But **rather fear Him** who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Matthew 10:28 NKJV

E. Know Your Identity

(1) Who were you? Who are you?

(a) You are a new creation

1. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation; old things have passed away**; behold, all things have become new." II Corinthians 5:17 NKJV
2. "knowing this, that **our old man was crucified** with Him, that **the body of sin might be done away with**, that we should **no longer be slaves of sin.**" Romans 6:6 NKJV
3. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, **these are sons of God**. For you did **not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption** by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and **joint heirs with Christ**, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together." Romans 8:14-17 NKJV

(b) You should no longer walk as you are the same person you were before you were born again.

1. "This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that **you should no longer walk** as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. **But you have not so learned Christ**, if indeed you have heard Him and **have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus**: that you **put off**, concerning your **former conduct, the old man** which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you **put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.**" Ephesians 4:17-24 NKJV

F. Know Your Capability

(1) What can you do? What is your power? (See: [Indomitable Grace](#))

(a) You have power available in you, the same power that raised Christ from the grave.

1. "the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the **exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe**, according to the working of **His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places," Ephesians 1:18-20 NKJV

(b) With that power anything is possible, as long as it is the will of God.

1. "**I can do all things** through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 NKJV
2. "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that **if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that **we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**" I John 5:14-15 NKJV

G. Know Your Destiny

(1) What is your role?

(a) You are called to be an exact representative of God in the earth. You are an ambassador.

1. "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us **the ministry of reconciliation**, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their

trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, **we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us:** we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that **we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**" II Corinthians 5:18-21 NKJV

H. Know Your Authority

(1) What is your position?

(a) Christ has all the authority in the universe, and He passed it on to you.

1. "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen." Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV

(b) You have been given complete authority over Satan and all his activities.

1. "And He said to them, "**I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy,** and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."" Luke 10:18-20 NKJV

FORCE ("TAKE IT BY FORCE") ACTION

3. **Mostly peaceful protests (Strategic Weapons)**

A. Prayer

(1) What do you say? What language do you speak? What language does the Spirit speak?

(a) Everything in prayer, all requests come before God. Do this and you will have a life of peace

1. "Be anxious for nothing, but in **everything by prayer** and supplication, with thanksgiving, **let your requests** be made known to God; and the peace of God, which **surpasses all understanding**, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV

(b) Confess your sins and be repentant; pray for others; Prayer should be fervent!

1. "**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." James 5:16 NKJV

(c) If you don't know what to pray, the Holy Spirit will intercede for you.

1. "**Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses.** For **we do not know** what we should pray for as we ought, but **the Spirit** Himself **makes intercession** for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now **He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is**, because **He makes intercession** for the saints **according to the will** of God." Romans 8:26-27 NKJV

(d) Prayer must be according to God's will only!

1. "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that **if we ask anything according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that **we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**" I John 5:14-15 NKJV

(e) Pray nonstop.

1. "Rejoice always, **pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God** in Christ Jesus for you." I Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV

B. Fasting

- (1) What will you surrender? What will you not return to?
 - (a) Fasting means abstinence.
 1. "So He said to them, "**This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.**" Mark 9:29 NKJV
 - (b) Both Moses and Jesus fasted for 40 days. Supernaturally, Moses fasted without food or water.
 1. "So he [Moses] was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; **he neither ate bread nor drank water.** And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments." Exodus 34:28 NKJV
 2. "Then **Jesus was led up by the Spirit** into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **And when He had fasted forty days** and forty nights, afterward He was hungry." Matthew 4:1-2 NKJV
 - (c) Esther's fast was a life and death matter!
 1. "Then **Esther told them to reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather all the Jews** who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; **neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day.** My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!" So Mordecai went his way and did according to all that Esther commanded him." Esther 4:15-17 NKJV
 - (d) Don't ever go back to what you surrendered!
 1. "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us,** and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us," Hebrews 12:1 NKJV

C. Faith

- (1) What do you believe? What will you practice believing? What are your testimonies?
 - (a) Without faith it is impossible to please God.
 1. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, **the evidence of things not seen.** For by it the elders obtained a good testimony." Hebrews 11:1-2 NKJV
 2. "But **without faith it is impossible to please Him,** for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that **He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**" Hebrews 11:6 NKJV
 - (b) The evidence of things not seen.
 1. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. **We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—** always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. **And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,**" II Corinthians 4:7-13 NKJV
 2. "**Therefore we do not lose heart.** Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, **while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things**

which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” II Corinthians 4:16-18 NKJV

(c) Faith is inextricably connected to obedience.

1. “For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, **but to those who did not obey?** So we see that **they could not enter in because of unbelief.”** Hebrews 3:16-19 NKJV

(d) A faithless generation thinks there is no answer.

1. “He answered him and said, “**O faithless generation,** how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” **Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.”** Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “**Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”**” Mark 9:19-24 NKJV

D. Obedience

(1) How will you act? What do do? What will you not do?

(a) If you love God you will obey God!

1. “And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. “**If you love Me, keep My commandments.**” John 14:13-15 NKJV
2. “Now by this we know that we know Him, **if we keep His commandments.** He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But **whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him.** By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to **walk just as He walked.**” I John 2:3-6 NKJV

(b) You are a slave to that which you obey.

1. “Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, **you are that one’s slaves whom you obey,** whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?” Romans 6:16 NKJV

E. Service

(1) How will you serve? Who will you serve? What is your commission?

(a) Y’shua washed His disciples feet.

1. “Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin **and began to wash the disciples’ feet,** and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, “Lord, are You washing my feet?” Jesus answered and said to him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this.” ... {12} So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, “**Do you know what I have done to you?** You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. **If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.** For **I have given you an**

example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, **a servant is not greater than his master;** nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." John 13:3-7, 12-17 NKJV

(b) Even the king of the universe did not come to be served, but to be a servant.

1. "And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "**You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles Lord it over them,** and their great ones exercise authority over them. **Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.** And whoever of you desires to be **first shall be slave of all.** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.'" Mark 10:41-45 NKJV

F. Sacrifice

(1) How much will you give up?

(a) What would you give up to be a disciple?

1. "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, **he cannot be My disciple.**" Luke 14:26 NKJV
2. "So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that **he has cannot be My disciple.**" Luke 14:33 NKJV
3. "For to me, to live is Christ, and **to die is gain.**" Philippians 1:21 NKJV

(b) You have to be willing to sacrifice everything!

1. "Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "One thing you lack: **Go your way, sell whatever you have** and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, **take up the cross, and follow Me.**" But he was sad at this word, and went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions." Mark 10:21-22 NKJV

G. Meekness

(1) How will you moderate your power and exercise authority? Will you recognize the timing?

(a) If your enemy slaps you, turn your cheek!

1. "**To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either.** Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back. And **just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.**" Luke 6:29-31 NKJV

(b) Y'shua chose not to exercise His power because it was not the proper time

1. "But Jesus said to him, "Friend, why have you come?" Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear. But Jesus said to him, "**Put your sword** in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or **do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?** How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?" Matthew 26:50-54 NKJV

H. Love

(1) Who will you emulate?

- (a) The greatest of all weapons is love. Love has the power to cover anything.
 - 1. “And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but **the greatest of these is love.**” I Corinthians 13:13 NKJV
 - 2. “And above all things **have fervent love** for one another, for “**love will cover a multitude of sins.**” I Peter 4:8 NKJV
- (b) Love is both infinitely complex and simple. God is love.
 - 1. “Beloved, let us **love one another, for love is of God;** and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love.** In **this the love of God was manifested toward us,** that **God has sent His only begotten Son** into the world, **that we might live through Him.** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the **propitiation** for our sins. Beloved, **if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.** No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. ... {16} And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. **God is love,** and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.” I John 4:7-12, 16 NKJV
 - 2. “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life** for his friends.” John 15:12-13 NKJV

I. Final Thoughts

- (1) The weapons of our warfare...
 - (a) It is high calling. We must exercise Spiritual Violence and Spiritual Force.
 - 1. “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.**” II Corinthians 10:3-6 NKJV
- (2) Daily Practice for home...
 - (a) Put on the Whole Armor of God!
 - 1. “Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God,** that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For **we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.** Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having **girded your waist with truth,** having put on the **breastplate of righteousness,** and having **shod your feet** with the **preparation of the gospel** of peace; above all, taking the **shield of faith** with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the **helmet of salvation,** and the **sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;** **praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance** and supplication for all the saints— and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth **boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,** for which **I am an ambassador** in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” Ephesians 6:10-20 NKJV