

ARE WE DOING SPIRITUAL WARFARE OR JUST DANCING WITH THE ENEMY?

It seems to be in the mind of many intercessors and leaders in the area of spiritual warfare the idea that we have to somewhat, somehow 'deliver' a city from spiritual oppression, or past evil curses in order to have the way paved for the Presence of God to come into that city.

We need to do spiritual warfare, but the goal is not to bring down the presence of God through it. All of our strategies, and banners, and chants, and shouting per se will do no harm to the devil. In a sense we can be sure that the devil will help us in doing our spiritual warfare as long as we are replacing the Presence of God with our own battle turmoil, and thus causing Satan no harm at all. As Eddie Smith would put it "the devil has been teaching the church how to do spiritual warfare."

Spiritual warfare will not bring down the Presence of God, conversely we can unmistakably affirm that the manifest Presence of God will immediately start trouble in the middle of darkness. There is a reaction, demons simply cannot stand the Presence of God. That is the beginning of it all: start by putting the Presence of Jesus in the midst of your town and you will be engaged in a tremendous battle, but you will be standing in the position of the victor in HIS PRESENCE.

THE ARK HAS TO GO BEFORE US

When the people of Israel were conquering the land they always had the Ark marching in front of them, and we must seriously admit that when they conquered city after city it was not because of the mighty warriors they had, or because of how strong they were in battle, but rather because of that Ark of the Presence which was marching in front of them.

We need to put the horse back in front of the cart if we want to make a difference in our city. Why do we have so much darkness everywhere in spite of so much spiritual warfare going on? Let's put it this way: you will have your room in darkness until you turn the switch on, when light is on, darkness simply disappear.

ARE WE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR PLACE?

If we are walking through our place in life without making any difference around, then we must admit we are not doing our main job: SHINE. No matter how much we shout against darkness, it will not go until the light shines!

Commanding darkness to go will not bring light. When we let JESUS be absolute Lord and reign supreme in our lives HIS light shines in and through us, and then when we just

shine because of His manifested Presence, darkness disappear and there, not before, only at this point when light has come we start doing effective spiritual warfare simply because when the light shines the inhabitants of darkness are exposed, cannot hide any more, what they are and what they are doing comes clearly in sight and then we can come against them with the weapons that God gave us: The BLOOD and the WORD.

JESUS IS THE CENTER NOT US NOR THE BATTLE ITSELF

Rev 12:11 says "*And they overcame him by the Blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their testimony . . . AND THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES UNTO THE DEATH.*"

We have been so focused on the battle itself, and on what we can do, that we have forgotten the last part of the verse: 'they loved not their lives unto the death'. As long as we center ourselves and what we do and the battle as a goal in itself we are not going to achieve anything, on the contrary the devil will -actually he already is- profit from the way we do spiritual warfare.

Sometimes is as if we even praise the curses whatsoever. We are so centered in spiritual warfare per se that we sometimes desperately look for an 'enemy' to battle against. We investigate, map, and whatever until we come across something that can be considered a curse. Wow we found a curse-- the oldest the best-- so we dedicate our time to polish it and to speak about it, and to explain how ALL of our troubles come from that curse, and we dance around it, and we cherish it, because it justifies all of our warfareing 'budget'.

Our problems do not originate in some hidden curses. Our main problem is our sinful nature which does not tolerate light. There are many curses -real ones- that need to be dealt with and destroyed by the power of the Lord, but this will be achieved only from His Presence.

OUR MAIN WEAPON: HUMBLE BEFORE GOD

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. We need to do spiritual warfare, but we must realize that the only way to be victorious is to let the Victorious One stand in front. We need to make sure that we are not climbing on the throne.

We sing songs that in a sense are an example of what we actually do, some repeat once and again that "WE went to the enemy's camp and WE took back what he stole" or "ME and the devil had a tussle but I won" Question: where is Jesus in all this?

Do not misunderstand me: Do battle against the devil, make intercession, bring down strongholds, curse the curses, but do it from His Presence and a position of absolute rendition. Jehosaphat was told "Face your enemy, STAND STILL in the PRESENCE OF THE LORD and see my salvation, this battle is not yours" What does "stand still" mean? Answer "To be actively doing nothing" Make sure you do nothing, but be sure to do it from amidst His Presence. Stand in His Presence, and wait in Him until the command comes "now"!

Pastor J. Conrad Lampan