

Produce: Part 9

June 6, 2021

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Are you fighting the good fight of faith? Describe the battlefield you find yourself in and how you are fighting.

REVIEW

Producing & being productive is God's idea... John 15:8 "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

The Spirit Produces:

1. Force 2. Freedom 3. Fruit 4. Faith 5. Family 6. Fullness 7. Fire 8. Fidelity

TODAY: The Spirit Produces:

9. Fight

2 Cor 10:3-6 *"For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. 5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, 6 being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete."* [ESV]

The KJV uses the word mighty implying **powerful and capable**.

It is not power that we get to indiscriminately use like we want. Too many just throw out cliches; that is a phrase that is overused and betrays a lack of original thought. People just yell, satan I cast you out...yet no one ask, was satan involved in this event or action? People walk around decreeing things and although they never happen people are mesmerized by the verbiage. We never allow the Holy Spirit to empower us to use powerful and capable weapons so we can fight the good fight of faith.

The Holy Spirit produces weapons that:

a. **Destroy Strongholds (Fortified Place)**

Strongholds are **places that are dominated or occupied by a person or group**.

There are strongholds around us in Government, Education, Law Enforcement, Judicial System, Business, Entertainment, Media and even the Church.

Instead of beginning with strongholds in other's lives, let's look at any area dominated or occupied by self or demonic in our own life. **Is there any prevailing struggle in your life where the enemy occupies or dominates?**

Are you prone to cheat, lie, doubt, worry...I know everyone worries but you own a dealership of worry; critical of everyone & everything; explosive temper; fragile...if anyone says anything you get depressed;

No matter what you try that bad habit; that weakness is like a fort between you and God. It is not time to grit your teeth and triple your efforts. That's how the world does it. We have weapons from God that have divine power and they demolish strongholds!

Rom 7:23-25 *"But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord."* [KJV]

The Holy Spirit produces weapons that:

b. Destroy Reasoning Contrary to Truth (Plans)

I believe that satan's greatest scheme against man was seen in the garden... **did God actually say?** When we look at just the present culture war that is a reworking & redefining of truth...the question is the same.

- Did God say...

But there are other plans and reasonings in us that are contrary to truth: I'm not loved; God doesn't care; God will not help me; God loves someone else more; etc. We have weapons from God that have divine power and they destroy all of these reasonings in our minds that are contrary to truth.!

The Holy Spirit produces weapons that:

c. Destroy Exalted Opinions (Pride)

Jesus calls satan the prince or ruler of this world. Remember he offered Jesus the Kingdoms of this World, so it would seem that he has set up geographical and governing structures. In Daniel we learned of the Prince of Persia. Satan cannot be everywhere at once and he does not have all power...so he has set up a military structure as the ruler. The downfall of satan was pride and he rules his kingdom with that same pride. He has an exalted opinion of himself! And those in his circle or under his influence have exalted opinions. They think they know more than God!

Prov 11:2 *"When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom."*
 Prov 13:10 *"By pride comes nothing but strife, But with the well-advised is wisdom."*

Man's intelligence gets in the way of his faith. It is pride and it needs to be pulled down!

1 Peter 2:11 *"Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls."* [NLT]

If you find yourself trying to counsel God or tell HIM what HE should do, you need the pride in you destroyed!

The Holy Spirit produces weapons that:

d. Brings Thoughts into Captivity (Purposes & Powers of Mind)

When a battle or war has been won... something (territory) or someone is brought into captivity. There are prisoners of war after a battle is won.

When I came to Christ there was a conquest, a captivity and a new creation!

- The old sinful man was conquered...he was subdued by the Holy Spirit.
- The sin that held me was taken into captivity!
- I was made a new creation and now every thought is brought under the obedience of Christ.