

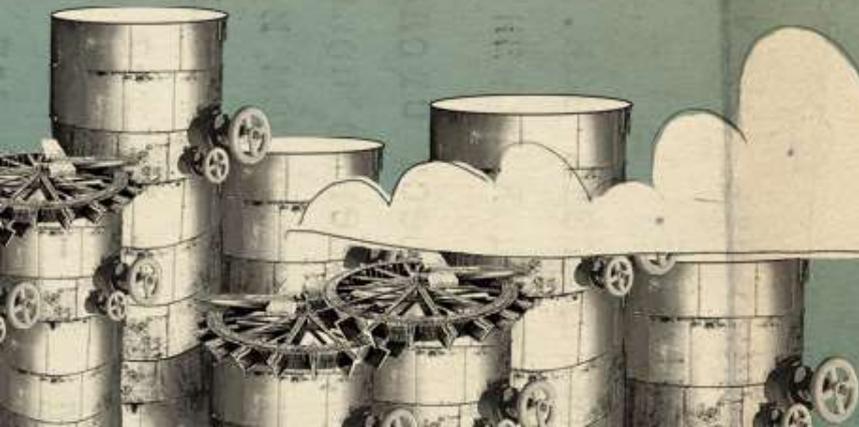
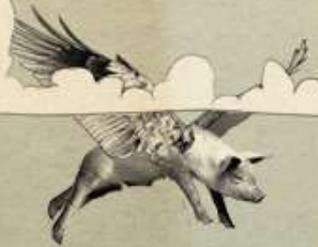
*Katalyst*



*Church*



THE  
OTHER  
SIDE  
OF  
NORMAL



**To the Elders and the Flock** - To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud, but shows favour to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring Lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 5 1-10)

**Principles of warfare are embedded in this passage**

# Imminent Danger

A close-up, low-angle shot of a character in dark, highly detailed armor, likely Iron Man. The armor features a prominent V-shaped chest plate and segmented gauntlets. The character is positioned in the center-right of the frame, looking slightly to the left. The background is a hazy, orange-tinted environment, possibly a city at night or a battlefield, with some blurred lights and structures visible on the left side.

**The Spiritual SHIFT**

# Imminent Danger

An upsurge in the activity of the enemy

Premeditated to exact maximum damage

2 Angels – Sounding the alarm to escalate our vigilance

Victory for those who ready themselves

Turmoil for those who do not heed - Violation



A close-up, low-angle shot of a weathered, dark metal helmet, likely from a historical or military context. The helmet is the right side of the frame, showing two circular eye holes. The metal is heavily textured with rust and wear, particularly around the edges and the eye holes. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the metallic sheen and the dark shadows within the eye holes. The background is a solid, dark color, making the helmet stand out.

**SPIRITUAL**  
**WARFARE**

**OUR**  
**CALL**  
**OF**  
**DUTY**

# Warfare

The premise of healthy spiritual warfare on any front is NOT to become fixated and obsessed with the enemy.

Any warring in the spiritual realm is a call to align or realign ourselves to get right with God and press into deeper relationship with the Lord – His presence, His Power, His Authority, His wisdom, His discernment.

The fixation we should have is on the Author and perfecter of our faith – Our fervour for intimacy with the Lord should be heightened, to be hearing from the Holy Spirit, to be sheltered in the Most High God

# Warfare Postures

**Advance:** From the days of John the Baptist until now the Kingdom of God has been forcefully advancing and violent men lay hold of it. (Matthew 11:12) **(Suffer violence - Press forward, Seize)**

**Occupy:** And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. (Luke 19:13) **(Pragmatuomai – To busy oneself with the work you were commissioned)**

**Resist:** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7) **(Withstand – Oppose, Be Staunch, Requital to give something back as in retaliation)**



# Warfare Postures

**Stand:** Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then. (Ephesians 6:13)

There is no position of “retreat” in Christian vocabulary

**Devoured:** Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring Lion looking for someone to devour. (Isolated, brought down, swallowed up)



**And after you have done everything, to stand.  
Stand firm then!**

**You cannot stand firm in the faith  
Unless you have a living faith - Lifestyle that is steeled  
for the tests and trials**

- The belt of truth won't protect a life full of lies and deceit.
- The breastplate of righteousness won't protect a life tainted by sin, immorality or any evil.
- The gospel of peace will offer little protection if we harbour a heart of Judgement, criticism and unforgiveness.
- The Helmut of salvation offers reduced protection if our mindset has given up ground to defeat, discouragement, despair.
- The shield of faith doesn't extinguish any fiery dart if we don't live and move and act and pray and give and serve by faith!
- The sword of the Spirit doesn't work if you don't use it, or know it or meditate on it.



# 1. Submitting to God – In reliance upon Him

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud, but shows favour to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. (1 Peter 5: 5-6).

Pauls charge to armour up in Ephesians 6 is preceded by a call to recognise that any capacity we have to war against principalities and powers is directly related to a reliance upon God - Not our own strength  
Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. (Ephesians 6:10)

When you go to war against your enemies and see an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the LORD your God, will be with you. When you are about to go into battle, the priest shall come forward and address the army. He shall say: “Today you are going into battle against your enemies. Do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not panic or be terrified by them. For the LORD your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory.” (Deuteronomy 20:1-4)

## **2. Submitting to God – In intimacy with Him**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you (James 4:8)

### **The way we intimidate the enemy is through intimacy with God**

There is no substitute for a personal daily encounter with God in prayer, the word and worship - Spiritual disciplines which we must develop and maintain - Daily personal commitment!

**No one else can deliver intimacy for you  
Or transfer intimacy's benefits**

### 3. Alertness - Executing our Mantle(s) of Authority

A mantle is a spiritual covering/cloak or anointing

Permission or scope we are given by God to exercise spiritual authority:

1. My life - believer (Mind, Soul, Body, Spirit)
2. Husband - Authority over the home (Sickness, Possessions)
3. Wife - Authority over Children
4. Ministry leader - Authority over a particular area/people
5. Business Owner – Authority over workplace
6. Spiritual Giftedness - Authority based on Gifts
7. Church leader - Authority over a congregation

Humility to submit to Gods order!

Diligence to exercise your rights!

Humility to stay within God given boundaries!



## 4. Diligence - Stay the course

And after you have done everything, to stand (Ephesians 6:13b)

- Having the courage to stay on the front line (watchtower)
- Having the perseverance to stay the course or calling!
- Get help from others - (Moses Aaron and Joshua)
- Don't "give up" through exhaustion, apathy, indifference what is your duty to protect and defend
- Don't "default" to the spirituality of others
- If the enemy takes ground - Deal quickly with footholds
- Expose things which have a stronghold

Prevention is better than cure!

Recovering from being overrun by the enemy and then reclaiming ground lost is much more costly than staging a strong beach head of resistance and offence!

## 5. Fervour - Passion - Zeal

**Prayer:** And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18.

**Worship:** Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, and said: "O LORD God of our fathers, *are* You not God in heaven, and do You *not* rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand *is there not* power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You? *Are* You not our God, *who* drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever? And they dwell in it, and have built You a sanctuary in it for Your name, saying, 'If disaster comes upon us; sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine; we will stand before this temple and in Your presence (for Your name *is* in this temple), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and save.' And now, here are the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir; whom You would not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them and did not destroy them; here they are, rewarding us by coming to throw us out of Your possession which You have given us to inherit. O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, **but our eyes *are* upon You."**





Have you stepped of the watchtower  
and neglected your call of duty?

Has the enemy gained a foothold or stronghold?

1. Humble yourselves - **Get right with God**
2. Cast your burdens - **Give the battle over to the Lord**
3. Be soberminded - **Get the mind of Christ**
4. Be Alert - **A lifestyle of intimacy**
5. Resist - **Stand FIRM**