



An Eagle's View!

Issue No. 11

Waging A Good Warfare Continued:

This newsletter is a continuation of newsletter number 10. The topic is one of "waging a good warfare" with the personal words spoken to us by God. We have found that it is through faith and patience that we inherit the promises of God (**Heb. 6:12**). It is essential that we remain full of faith and full of patience in order to inherit the promises that God has given to us. Let's begin by looking once again at a passage of Scripture in the book of Psalms.

Ps. 77:16 The waters saw You, O God; The waters saw You, they were afraid; The depths also trembled. 17 The clouds poured out water; The skies sent out a sound; Your arrows also flashed about. 18 The voice of Your thunder was in the whirlwind; The lightnings lit up the world; The earth trembled and shook. 19 Your way was in the sea, Your path in the great waters, And Your footsteps were not known. 20 You led Your people like a flock By the hand of Moses and Aaron.

This Scripture reveals to us that God already has a path prepared for us to take which will lead to the fulfillment of the promises He gives to us. He has the path marked out even before He speaks. When God brought Moses and Israel across the Red Sea, He already knew His "way" for them to cross. When God makes a promise He already sees the path. He isn't going to make a path. The path is already there.

We have also found, by looking at verse 18 of the previous Scripture text, that God uses "arrows" which are described as "God's lightning". God sends His word like "arrows" to bring revelation to our hearts. The enemy sends his fiery darts in an attempt to destroy our faith. These fiery darts are merely a counterfeit of the "lightning arrows" of God's revelation that produces faith within our hearts.



In our last newsletter, we found a key in this section of Scripture that should help us wage a good warfare. ***This first key is to know that God has a path determined for the fulfillment of His promises to us.*** The enemy will always resist the fulfillment of the promises that God gives us. Even everyday circumstances will resist the fulfillment of the promises of God. This section of Scripture says that the waters saw God and were afraid. The presence of God doesn't just serve to create our paths of fulfillment, it causes those paths to be revealed. All of the promises are yes in Him. God's presence is in us and with us when we remain in Him. If we remain in Him the waters will see Him when they see us and they will be afraid. If we remain in Him the things that are in the way of the fulfilled promises of God will have to give way to the promises. ***Waters that stand in the way of God's promises are afraid of God's presence in us.***





Now let's continue to look further at this section of Scripture to receive some additional keys in waging a good warfare with our personal promises from God. We also see in this Scripture that God's voice is His "thunder" in the whirlwind. The word of God teaches us that the voice of the Lord is the voice of many waters (**Eze. 43:2; Rev. 1:15**). The voice of many waters is the voice of the Church. We are the voice of the Lord when He is in our midst. The voice of many waters is the sound of the Lord speaking through His people (**Jn. 7:38**). His arrows are described as lightning. This Scripture is simply using the natural event of "lightning" to describe a greater reality of something eternal. Lightning is simply a power of instantaneous light into darkness. It depicts the power of God's word into darkness. Jesus saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning (**Lk. 10:18**). God spoke a word and Satan was out.



The fiery darts of the enemy are those "words" that nag against the word of the Lord. If the revelation of God's word (if the revelation of what God has said) remains in the hearts of God's people it will be like lightning producing faith within their hearts. It will give them the ability to speak with boldness concerning what God has said, even as thunder speaks of the lightning. Lightning always precedes thunder. Revelation of God's word within our hearts always precedes our confession of what He has said (**Rom. 10:10**). ***When waging proper warfare concerning the promises given to us by God we must keep the lightning revelation of His word to us***

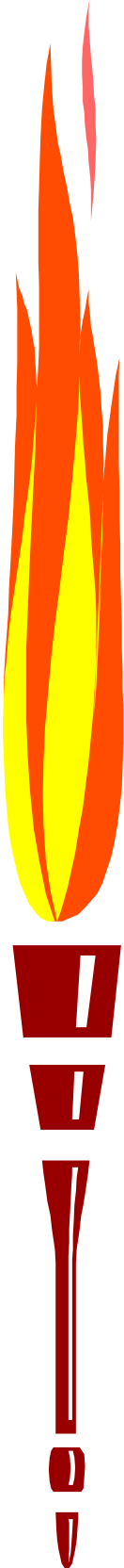
within our hearts and confess His words to us as thunder in our mouths. The fiery darts of the enemy can only dash our faith if their counterfeit light outshines (declares) the lightning of God's word within our hearts.

The whirlwind is the presence of the Lord. It is the work of His Spirit in our lives. It's not just God's presence but it's the move of God in our lives. The lightning of God's revelation in our hearts produces the thunder of His testimony within our mouths. ***If the thunder of the testimony of His word is in our mouths it will no doubt be accompanied with a work of His Spirit in our lives.*** We will become like whirlwinds of His presence accomplishing His will in the earth.

Ps. 18:13 The LORD also thundered in the heavens, And the Most High uttered His voice, Hailstones and coals of fire. 14 He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe, Lightnings in abundance, and He vanquished them. 15 Then the channels of waters were seen, And the foundations of the world were uncovered at Your rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of Your nostrils.

Dualism says that God has His kingdom and we have ours. The truth of God declares that His kingdom has come, thus all is His kingdom. God has come to establish His covenant with us upon the earth. We cannot escape His kingdom. The enemy may seek to thwart the plans of God, but God's arrows are sent to scatter the foe.

God's bow speaks of His covenant with us upon the earth (**Gen. 9:12,13; Rev. 4:3; Rev. 10:1**). It is God's bow that sends His



arrows to the enemy. God's arrows are not for His people. His arrows are for His foes. God gives promises to His people to confirm His covenant with them. Within every promise of God there are "arrows" that strike fear in the enemy's heart and scatter him when he comes to attack the promises. ***It is more important to stand and believe the one who promised than it is to see the promises complete.*** Standing to believe for God's promises to be fulfilled is an act of covenant with God while seeing the promises completed is simply the fruit of that stand.

As we look at these Scriptures we are finding a pattern that lightning depicts the arrows of God. Now let's look at some examples in Scripture that speak of arrows in the negative sense. If we recognize that the enemy can only counterfeit what is real, then we can examine what the enemy does with arrows and gain an understanding of what God's true arrows must be like.

Ps. 64:1 Hear my voice, O God, in my meditation; Preserve my life from fear of the enemy. 2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked, From the insurrection of the workers of iniquity, 3 Who sharpen their tongue like a sword, And bend their bows to shoot their arrows--bitter words, 4 That they may shoot in secret at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear.

The enemy's arrows are "bitter words". Bitter hearts cause bitter words. When we fail to wage a good warfare with personal prophecies they may not come about. It can even be that the timing of the promises given

has not yet been fulfilled. When we fail to wage a good warfare we stop short of the promises and "bitter words" begin to come out of our confessions. We may say; "that wasn't the word of the Lord"; "God doesn't care"; "somebody lied"; "that prophet was wrong". We become bitter in our hearts and our words become those of bitterness. These bitter words are connected to bitter wounds and ungodly issues of our hearts. ***Like thunder is connected to lightning words are connected to issues of our hearts.***

Ps. 120:1 In my distress I cried to the LORD, And He heard me. 2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips And from a deceitful tongue. 3 What shall be given to you, Or what shall be done to you, You false tongue? 4 Sharp arrows of the warrior, With coals of the broom tree!



A broom tree is a desert bush of bitterness. The broom tree's roots are bitter and nauseous, and even poisonous. It was a broom tree that Elijah sat under when he failed to wage a good warfare with the promise of God on his route to the bitter cave of isolation and separation.

The arrows of a lying tongue bring about the arrows of bitterness. When God gives a promise and we don't wage a good warfare with it, we begin to confess that the promise wasn't true. Who is the liar?



God who spoke the promise, or we who are speaking, that it wasn't true? Let's say we don't even speak. Let's say we just quit speaking. Let's say we just quit believing. We quit hoping. We quit seeing. Those are bitter arrows. They are bitter arrows of the broom tree. Those are words and very loud words. They are words that are as loud as any confession of our lips. The lightning revelation from God is heavenly while bitter arrows are earthly, natural and even demonic. Revelation is from God and it is important that we hold onto the arrows of God's revelation. ***We must reject the bitter arrows of bitter words that come as fiery darts of the enemy to destroy our faith.***

Pr. 26:18 Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and death, 19 is the man who deceives his neighbor, and says, "I was only joking!"

If God gives a promise we know that promise is yes in Him. If we receive the promise, and then somewhere in the course of the promise fulfilled we get the attitude of "aw, He was just joking", we despise the word which God has spoken. God is not a liar or a teaser. ***Waging a good warfare with His promises is not allowing His word to be taken lightly.***

Ps. 127:4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. 5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

Those who are led by God's Spirit are sons of God (**Rom. 8:14**). ***God's sons will speak with their enemies in the gate.*** They are

like arrows to meet the enemy when He comes to rob the faith for the promise given. Our lives are purposed to meet the enemy in the gate. We are arrows of light and life. When the enemy says hate, we are arrows of love. When the enemy says judge, we are arrows of abundant mercy. We are arrows full of faith, when the enemy says fear. Arrows are not just symbolic of what we do, they are symbolic of what we are.



We MUST Wage a Good Warfare With the Words That God Has Spoken Over Us!

Why does God speak words over us? Why does He give us promises? He gives us promises so that we can be partakers of His divine nature; so that He can be glorified through us. We want to inherit the promises that God gives to us so that Jesus can be glorified.

2Kin. 13:14 Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!" 15 And Elisha said



to him, "Take a bow and some arrows." So he took himself a bow and some arrows.

We have found that a bow is symbolic of God's covenant. We have also found that arrows speak of the light of God's revelation in our hearts. It is important that we keep the arrows of God's light (*revelation*) in our hearts and keep our hearts in focus with our covenant relationship with God.

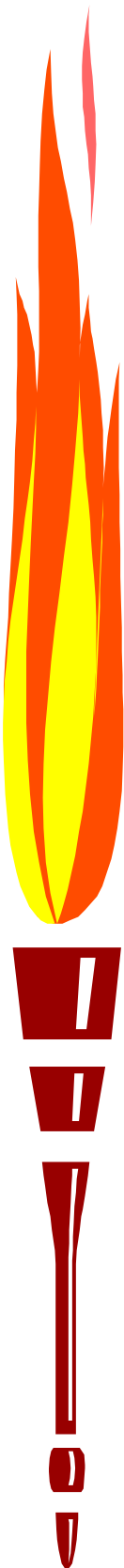


2Kin. 13:16 Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." So he put his hand on it, and Elisha put his hands on the king's hands. 17 And he said, "Open the east window"; and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the Lord's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria; for you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed them." 18 Then he said, "Take the arrows";

so he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped. 19 And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed it. But now you

will strike Syria only three times."

This story can be applied to receiving a personal prophecy from the Lord. The prophetic anointing was upon the king of Israel (*Joash*) to receive the covenant promise of God. In this story we see that Elisha put his hands on the king's hands. This prophetic act confirms that the presence of God's Spirit was with Joash to take the bow (*the covenant promise*) in his hands. He had received a personal promise from God. The promise that he needed was deliverance from the Syrians. He shot the arrow, which was symbolic of the revelation he needed in order to receive deliverance from the Syrians. He shot the arrow out the window; symbolic of the "specific strategy" and "instruction" from the Lord through Elisha. When he shot the arrow it didn't just go out and slay all of the Syrians. It wasn't a revelation that immediately made everything wonderful. **The revelation of a personal promise from God doesn't just make everything instantly wonderful.** Like the arrow, it is simply light that shines into the darkness which gives a direction to believe in. When the arrow went out it confirmed that he had received a revelation from God. He had the revelation of a needed deliverance from the Syrians, but there was something that he was to do with the remaining arrows. He was to strike the ground with the arrows. Joash struck the ground three times with the arrows and then stopped. I believe that his action was like our own action when we receive a promise from God but then expect God to fulfill the promise. God is symbolized in the number three. By striking the ground three times he was making a statement of prophetic





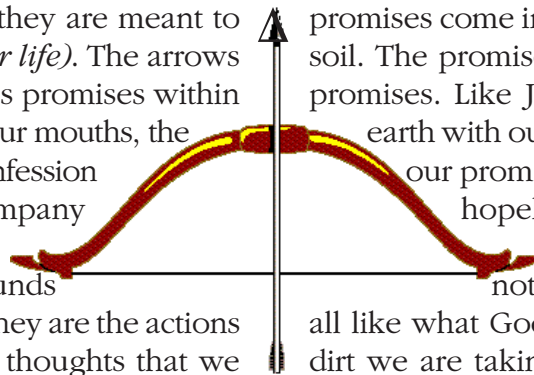
significance. He was not waging warfare with the promise given him. He liked the promise but he was expecting God to do the warfare for the promise. He was acting the same as we do when we say we have the promise and now God is going to do it. He was prophetically declaring our own attitude of receiving God's word and then thinking that we don't need to do anything more. Because he struck the ground three times the man of God was angry and the promise was cut short. If we expect God to fulfill our personal promises without our participation in warfare for them, we will receive something less than God's fulfillment of those personal promises. ***The process of faith and patience together must continue consistently and constantly in order to receive the completed promise of God.***

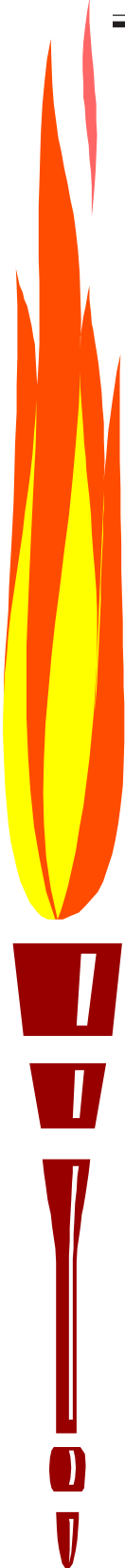
The ground represents the area of our life that must bear fruit of the promises that God gives. Without a complete warfare with the revelation of the promises given by God the ground in our lives will never see the full fruit or deliverance promised by God. When God's gives us promises they are meant to be fulfilled in our dirt (*our life*). The arrows are the revelation of God's promises within our hearts. The words of our mouths, the course of our lives, the confession of our lifestyles will accompany the revelations of our hearts. Words are not just the sounds that come from our lips. They are the actions of our feet. They are the thoughts that we think. They are the things that we do. Words are always associated with arrows. The fiery darts of the enemy are negative words sent

to destroy our faith to receive the promises. The flaming arrows of God are truths. Our own arrows are bitter, lying arrows. The king of Israel was to strike the ground with the arrows of God's revelation for deliverance. Like lightning they were to strike the ground. Like thunder, these arrows were accompanied with words, or actions. The action of striking the ground was symbolic of the words that accompany the revelation of God's promises to our hearts. They were symbolic of our attitudes and actions that proclaim our believing what God has said.

King Joash lacked the "*thunder*" (*passion*) to see the full promise of God fulfilled. He lacked the ingredient of faith with his patience in order to receive his promise from God. The arrows, like words, were to strike the ground because that was where the fruit was to be seen. In his case, the promise was to see his country freed from the Syrians. God gave him the promise through the prophet Elisha, right there in his present circumstance.

The promises come in our dirt. The promises come in our life. They come in our soil. The promises are for us. They are our promises. Like Joash, we are to strike the earth with our arrows. The places where our promises are going to come look hopeless. Those places are dirty. They are smelly. They are not fruitful. They don't look at all like what God said. When we strike the dirt we are taking hold of the promises of God and we are refusing to let go of them no matter what the ground says. This includes our attitudes and actions that confess the





promises in our natural circumstances. God gave a promise to Joash to see what he would do with the promise. He fell short of the divine nature of God to see the promise fulfilled. We must believe the promises and remain strong in the revelation of those promises. We must focus our lives toward a forward direction in receiving the promises. The revelation of the promises must remain fresh in our hearts and strong in our mouths.

In the time of king Joash, the archers didn't always shoot their arrows at an aimed target. They would shoot their arrows into the air in mass quantities and many times those arrows would find the cracks in the armor of their enemies. They would at least lessen the number of arrows that the enemy could shoot at them. The enemy would be on the defense to avoid the onslaught of arrows that were falling like rain in their midst. When we are busy confessing the truths of God spoken to us it is difficult for the enemy to *"get a word in edgewise"*. ***The enemy can't shoot his fiery darts to destroy our faith if we are launching forward with the flaming arrows of God's revelation in our hearts.***

We don't always know, or even very often know, how our personal prophecies are going to turn out. But if we keep shooting arrows they're going to keep picking off the foes. We don't need to worry about aiming at the enemy. We need to be more concerned with consistently shooting the arrows of truth. We must remain in faith. We must remain in patience. Our job is not to target the enemy. It is to strike the ground with the arrows.

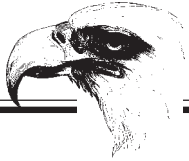
We need to remind ourselves of the words that God has spoken to us. Each time we

spark the fresh revelation of God in our hearts another arrow strikes the ground. Each time God's revelation is fresh in our hearts another arrow is launched to defeat the foe. Now we may not see exactly where the arrows went. But the more the arrows strike the ground of our circumstances, the closer we are to receiving the promises.

The revelation of what God has spoken to us strikes the ground like arrows when we meditate on our prophecies. They strike the ground when we thank God for our promises. The arrows strike the ground when we take actions which stimulate right attitudes. They strike the ground when we release words and actions to see His promises fulfilled. We must alertly look for the open path of the Lord. As we shoot the arrows of God's revealed promises we will often find what the promises are not. But sooner or later we will see the promises fulfilled if we are consistent to wage a good warfare with the personal promises given to us.



We must wage a good warfare with that which sparked faith in our hearts. What is it that sparks faith? It isn't about looking at our personal promises in the light of the letter of the law spoken. We can't just read our prophecies on a page of paper with an attempt to understand



them in our minds. We can only strike the ground with that which sparks faith. Striking the ground with our arrows doesn't mean that we understand the promises. It simply means that we believe the promises. When it's all done; when the promises are fulfilled; they will likely look completely different than what our preconceived ideas told us about them.

As we wage a good warfare with the words that God has spoken over us, God will even give to us the desire of our hearts. He will give us literal desires. He will give us passions that are His. He will perfect the light of revelation in our hearts and He will light the fire that brings an increase in our confession of faith.

Let's not allow the promises of God to lay dormant in our lives or come short of what God has promised. It is time that we refresh our hearts and our minds in regard to the promises spoken over



us by God. We must keep striking the ground and we must be found continually open for God to change our mind-sets as God's plans unfold.

By Ted J. Hanson

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