

## Warfare (VI): Against Sickness (2)

### I. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, *“may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely”*

- ◆ Our God wants our bodies to be His holy dwelling place, and Satan wants our bodies to be his filthy dwelling place, so we need to fight in our bodies. Sickness is one of the ways that Satan brings people to death, but the Son of God was manifested to destroy all the works of the devil, and we are the Son of God today, and we want to destroy all the works of the devil in us. We are the sons of God today, and we want to destroy all the works of the devil in us.
- ◆ *“May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely.”* From these two verses of the Bible, we can see that **only the peace of Christ can sanctify us, and by living in His peace, the Lord sanctifies us** because that is what we are called to do.
- ◆ Many people think that holiness means that I don't smoke, don't drink, and don't watch TV, but no—holiness is higher than that. Only the peace of Christ can sanctify us completely, that is, I need to fight for the rest of my body in every day's life, and not to be always nervous and in a hurry. Especially if a parent is nervous and panicky when something happens, your children will not see the peace of Christ in you, and if you talk to them about God, it will only be knowledge to them, because they will not see the true and living God in you.
- ◆ How do you practice the peace of Christ to reign in you?
  1. It's to open your mouth when you're nervous and give thanks and praise, “Hallelujah, Lord! I'm not afraid, Lord! I thank you, Lord Jesus, that you will lead, Lord! I trust in You.”
  2. Be quiet, go back inside, practice this often in your daily life, when something happens, get close to God first, go back inside, and enter deeply into His peace, this is a great victory.
- ◆ When you practice this often, enter into His peace, and hide deeply in Him, you will find that God Himself goes out and fights for you, and many things will be solved.
- ◆ Isaiah 30 says, *“In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”* So when you don't want to return to rest and rest on your own time, you'll be chased by busyness all day long. The more nervous you get, the more you'll drive the King of Peace out and welcome the devil in who keeps you nervous and busy, and your heart will die. Busyness is the death of the mind, the death of the mind.
- ◆ **This is what we have to practice all our lives—only busy with your hands but not with your heart, so that you can be saved from all the terrible circumstances, all the critical circumstances.**

The whole world lies in the power of the evil one. The evil one's days are numbered, so he makes people all over the world busier and busier, so busy that they don't have time to rest, and when they are busy, they have all kinds of sicknesses and diseases, such as arrhythmia, irregular heartbeats, gastric ulcers, headaches of all sorts, manic depressions. Some doctors have said that, in fact, 80% of the illnesses that relate to the internal medicine are psychological, and that the spirit is often tense, and then the body becomes weak, and germs enter easily, so as enemies.

### II. I Corinthians 6:19-20, *“do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you?”*

- ◆ We need to have a new concept today, a true understanding that my body is not my own, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, for you were bought by Jesus with a price, the Son of God paid the

price of his life to buy you out of the devil's hand. You no longer belong to yourself. Your body, which was purchased to be His dwelling place, is the temple of the Holy Spirit. So glorify God in your body.

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, *“to control his own body in holiness and honor”*
  - ◆ “For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality.” To be sanctified, you need to “avoid” immorality. Do not be tempted too often, but to avoid fornication.
  - ◆ *“To control his own body in holiness and honor”*: In this age of lust and wickedness, many men think it’s okay to defile one girlfriend and then another, thinking they are taking advantage of the situation. They don’t realize that they are suffering a loss, and they are opening the door for the demons of lust to come in, so no matter if you’re married or not, you need to guard your body with holiness and honor.
  - ◆ “So don’t indulge in your selfishness,” Don’t always be considerate of it. The more you are controlled by the demons in this area, the harder it is to escape them. You don’t know how many painful battles you will have to go through before you can escape, so don’t indulge your selfish desires and evil feelings too often, or you will become its slave and your body will become its dwelling place.
2. 1 Corinthians 6:13,10:31 *“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”*
  - ◆ We need to know that our stomachs are not for food, so don’t spend every day thinking about how to eat, and don’t spend so much time on eating better food. Whether we eat or drink, do all for the glory of God.
  - ◆ Another kind of person doesn’t care much about eating: he doesn’t eat all day if he is not in a good mood. He doesn’t realize that his body is not well taken care of, and this weakness is a debt to God, because the body is for God.
  - ◆ We have the responsibility to take care of our bodies. You reap what you sow, and bad eating habits over time will make you sick. You can ask the Lord to heal you, but after the Lord has healed you and you continue to eat junk food, do you think the Lord will heal you again?
  - ◆ **Our God, His focus is to gain our bodies. He wants to heal you so that your heart will be graced and you will change your eating habits from now on.**
  - ◆ The Lord wants you to be partakers of His holiness, that is, you are in control of yourself, you can govern yourself.

Do you really obey God’s commands? Do you eat or drink to glorify God? Or do you eat or drink what you like?

III. The healing of the body is very much related to our words.

- ◆ If you speak a lot of unbelief, complaints, judgment, anger, rage, or cursing, those will hurt your body.
- ◆ If you speak words of thanksgiving, words of praise, words of faith, words of praise and encouragement, these will make our bodies healthier and healthier.
- ◆ When we ourselves are sick, we know that we still have to go to church. But when someone else is sick, we feel very sorry for them, and we want to love them and make them feel better, so we tell them not to go to the meeting and to rest at home; however, it is very likely that the Lord is going to heal them completely in the meeting, and you are causing them to miss out on that healing.

- ◆ Example: Minister Gerda Bocker was in a car accident and suffered bone injuries, but she still continued to attend the meeting and to play the piano. Suddenly, God's healing came to her during the worship service and while she was playing the piano.
- ◆ Every time you fall, bump or get hurt, you ask for the blood of Jesus to cover it, ask for His healing, always proclaim the blood of Jesus, boast of His blood on you, and the spirit world will not attack.

#### IV. Conclusion

As a person begins to enter into the pursuit of the inner life, God often has great grace coming to you, and He wants you to begin to enter into the inner life and realize how great the Lord in you is. Sometimes there will be some very difficult things coming to you to train your faith to rely on Him. It's like the people of Israel: they just left the house of slavery in Egypt, but they went through a very difficult time right away. The Red Sea was in front of them, and the pursuers were behind them. But at this time they needed to rest, and praise there, and stand there, and look at the great things that the LORD has accomplished for you.

God wants you to know what a great God He is, and what a complete salvation He accomplished on Mount Galilee, **but it is very important that you want Him to be glorified more than you love your own life, and this is when you can experience the power of God.**

In your daily life, when you are safe and secure, you should build a relationship with a good man, take time to draw near to him, and you will find that by being connected to the King, God's presence will build up a strong faith in you all the time.

## Warfare (VI) Assignment

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, "May \_\_\_\_\_ himself sanctify you completely."
2. Does sanctification mean not smoking, not drinking, and not watching TV? What is the peace of Christ that sanctifies us?
3. How do you exercise the peace of Christ to reign in you?
4. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, "Do you not know that \_\_\_\_\_ is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you?"
5. Do you eat or drink to glorify God, or do you do it all for your own pleasure? Or do you act according to your emotions?
6. Physical healing is very much related to our words. Do you always speak words of praise, thanksgiving, or faith, or do you speak words of complaint, anger, or criticism?
7. If you were sick, would you go to church? If a friend or relative were sick, would you tell them not to go to church?
8. Scripture memorization: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.