

Roman Weapons

Romans 8

Romans 8:13-17

◇ ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

Weapon #1 – Position

- ◆ Position has its privileges but also its responsibilities.
- ◆ ¹⁴ For all who are *allowing themselves to be led by the Spirit of God* are sons of God. (AMP)
- ◆ Just because you asked Jesus for forgiveness, that does not mean you or I have asked Jesus to be Lord and Master.

Weapon #1 – Position

◇ Galatians 4:4-7 - ⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Weapon #1 – Position

- ◇ Grace is *charis* in the Greek, meaning: *divine influence of the heart and its reflection in the life*. Being led by the Holy Spirit means to be changed by the Holy Spirit.
- ◇ A changed life does not seem like a weapon, but obedience is. (Romans 12)
- ◇ James 4:7 - ⁷ So submit to [the authority of] God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him] and he will flee from you. (AMP)

Weapon #1 – Position

- ◇ You resist through obedience to the voice of the Holy Spirit and by the Word of God. (Psalm 119:11)
- ◇ The Bible will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from the Bible. – D.L. Moody
- ◇ Sonship should always equal obedience. (Philippians 2:5-8)
- ◇ Position provides protection if we abide in Christ.

Romans 8:24-25

◇²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.

Weapon #2 – Perseverance

- ◆ Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance (title deed, confirmation) of things hoped for (divinely guaranteed), and the evidence of things not seen [the conviction of their reality—faith comprehends as fact what cannot be experienced by the physical senses]. (AMP)

Weapon #2 – Perseverance

- ◆ Faith cannot be separated from patience
- ◆ 2 Peter 1:5-7 - ⁵ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control *perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. *Literally *patience*

Weapon #2 – Perseverance

◆ Psalm 27:13-14 - ¹³ *I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.* ¹⁴ Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!

Romans 8:26-27

◇²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession ^[g]for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

Weapon #3 – Prayer & Presence

- ◆ The armor is only going to be as effective as our prayers.
- ◆ The problem for many of us is that we enter God's presence but never seek His full presence or His will.
- ◆ “The world is perishing for lack of the knowledge of God and the Church is famishing for want of His Presence.” – A.W. Tozer

Weapon #3 – Prayer & Presence

- ◆ True prayer must always come from a servant's heart, not a master's one
- ◆ “The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven't yet come to the end of themselves. We're still trying to give orders, and interfering with God's work within us.” — A. W. Tozer

Weapon #3 – Prayer & Presence

- ◆ If we are not actively seeking the Holy Spirit's help when we pray, our prayers will never be as powerful and earth shaking as they could and should be.
- ◆ The Holy Spirit will speak to you personally, in that still small voice for what we should be praying for, but we also need to “*pray in the Holy Spirit*”. (1 Corinthians 14:15 & Ephesians 6:18)

Weapon #3 – Prayer & Presence

◆ Jude 1:20-21 - ²⁰ But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, ²¹ and await the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will bring you eternal life. In this way, you will keep yourselves safe in God's love. (NLT)

Weapon #3 – Prayer & Presence

◆ 1 John 5:14-15 - ¹⁴Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Weapon #3 – Prayer & Presence

- ◆ God does nothing but in answer to prayer. – John Wesley
- ◆ “If you can beat the devil on the prayer meeting night, you can beat him on every other level” – Jim Cymbala
- ◆ It is scarcely possible in most places to get anyone to attend a meeting where the only attraction is God. – A.W. Tozer

Romans 8:28-30

◇²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Weapon #4 – Predestination

- ◇ God predestined all who would say “yes” to Jesus to become His son or daughter. This is why we can be “blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places”.
- ◇ Ephesians 1:4-6 - ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. (NLT)

Weapon #4 – Predestination

- ◆ **Romans 8:31-32** - ³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?
- ◆ To be predestined in Christ is to be victorious through Christ. We are moving from victory to victory.