



# **Sunday Morning Sermon**

**Prepared and Presented  
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# Introduction



- **As we approach the end of the year, some of us are starting to review the year.**
- **There is no denying the fact that the year 2020 has been a very difficult and challenging because of COVID-19.**
- **In the mist of the pandemic, some of us are still facing the battles of life and some of the battles came as a result of the devastating effect of COVID-19.**
- **Life is full of battles, no matter the our faith, gender, age, or financial status, we would face the battles of life.**

# Introduction



- **Therefore, it is important as Christians that we have a proper perspective and understanding of the battles we face and the keys to winning them.**
- **Failure to have a proper understanding of the battles we face as Christians could lead to living a defeated life.**
- **The focus of my message today is to let us know that we serve a God who is interested in our battles and ready to fight on our behalf.**
- **The title of today's message is 'GOD FIGHTS FOR HIS OWN'.**



## God fights for His own



# Text 1: 2 Chronicles 20:1-4



## 2 Chronicles 20:1-3 NASB

**20** Now it came about after this, that the sons of Moab and the sons of Ammon, together with some of the Meunites, came to make war against Jehoshaphat. **2** Then some came and reported to Jehoshaphat, saying, “A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, from Aram; and behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar (that is Engedi).” **3** Jehoshaphat was afraid and turned his attention to seek the Lord; and he proclaimed a period of fasting throughout Judah.

# Text 2: 2 Chronicles 20:14- 17



## 2 Chronicles 20:14-17 NASB

**14** Then in the midst of the assembly the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, the Levite of the sons of Asaph; **15** and he said, “Listen, all you of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and King Jehoshaphat: This is what the Lord says to you: ‘Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God’s. **16** Tomorrow, go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the valley in front of the wilderness of Jeruel. **17** You need not fight in this battle; take your position, stand and watch the salvation of the Lord in your behalf, Judah and Jerusalem.’ Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow, go out to face them, for the Lord is with you.”

# Text 3: Ephesians 6:10-12



**10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.**



- **Let Christians get it that their life's battles is God's**
- **Point out how God fights for us**

# God fights for His own



- **There are several scriptures that confirms the fact that God fights the battles of His children.**
- **When we track God's dealings the children of Israel, we see evidence of the God that fights for His own.**
- **As 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christians, we also are not exempt from the battles of life.**
- **The reason for the Christian battle is because Satan's strategic goals are to kill, steal and destroy God's precious creation (MANKIND).**
- **The bible establishes that there are weapons fashioned (designed) against the people of God. No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed,,,,,Isaiah 54:17a ESV.3**

# God fights for His own



**There seems to be three ways people tend to respond to the Christian's battles:**

- i) Ignorant response** – this category of people do not believe there is a battle going on and regards everything that happens as natural occurrences. They avoid the subject and believe it is not relevant to the modern 21st century worldview.
- ii) Superstitious response** - this group of people believe there is a battle (spiritual warfare) but do not have a proper understanding, hence they live a superstitious life. They believe every negative thing that happens to them is a spiritual attack.
- iii) Biblical response** - this group of people believes that there are battles going on and are not ignorant of the devices of the Satan. They have a better understanding and knowledge of how the battle impacts their lives.

# God fights for His Own - The Christian Battle



**Christians have an enemy adversary – Satan (The Devil)**

**In the battles of life, we are dealing with an enemy:**

- ✓ **Who is the Accuser of the believers**
- ✓ **Who is an Adversary that is full of schemes and wicked strategies against believers**
- ✓ **Who is the Deceiver of believers**
- ✓ **Who is a Devourer seeking believers to destroy believers**
  
- **Satan is the king of the kingdom of darkness and uses the fallen angels to influence people and human structures to carry out his wickedness.**



- **The bible makes us to understand that the Christian battle is not physical but spiritual.**
- **Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but:**
  - **against principalities,**
  - **against powers,**
  - **against the rulers of the darkness of this age,**
  - **against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.**
- **The Christian's battle is against unseen forces of darkness, spiritual wickedness in high places. Christians are involved in spiritual battles that are sometimes manifested in physical realities.**
- **It is worth noting that not all physical unpleasantness or challenges are spiritual attack.**



# Battles of life - Scope

- **The Spiritual battles could manifest in the following ways:**
  - **Physical - attack on the body, illnesses, diseases, infirmities.**
  - **Mentally - attack on the mind, atheism, despair, doubts, temptations, fears, hurts, discouragements, deceptions, accusations, etc.**
  - **Religiously – false doctrines, religious cults, etc.**
  - **Governmentally – anti-Christian policies and laws, opposition to the church and the people of God.**
  - **Financially - attack on people’s finances.**
  - **Socially- attack on communities, violence, drugs, etc.**
  - **Relationally - attack on marriages and family members, broken relationships amongst families, etc.**
  - **Spiritually – direct spiritual attacks, occultism, dark arts, witchcraft, etc.**

# God fights the battle of His own



- **We can use the points below to differentiate situations that are spiritual battles or natural occurrences:**
  1. **Life's issues that wants to Separate us from the love of Christ. One of Satan's main goal is separate believers from the love of Christ. Matthew Poole in his commentary said - The devil's aim in all suffering of God's children is to draw them off from Christ, to make them murmur or be in despair.**
  2. **Life issues that wants to Stop us reaching our eternal destination and fulfilling God's purposes for our lives.**
  3. **Life issues that wants to deny us our inheritance in God – Things that happens to want to stop us enjoying the blessing God has given us.**



# Ways God fights for His own



# What does it mean that God will fight our battles



- **Having established that the Christian's battles are spiritual and can manifest in a physical way, the question is how do we win.**
- **The starting point of victory is knowing that God fights our battles.**
- **God fighting our battles does not mean we do not have our own responsibilities in executing victory.**
- **God fighting for us involves Him taking the necessary actions to guarantee our victory.**



## 1. God takes the enemy head on

- He fights our enemies by Himself without any intervention from us.
- God goes ahead of us to fight the enemy.
- God shows that He is the all-powerful and almighty God when He fights our battles without our intervention.
- In this case, what God will tell us to be still and hold our positions, i.e. to calm down and not panic.
- As Christians, we must be discerning to know when God is asking us to be still and hold our position, because He is fighting the battle on our behalf.



## 1. **God takes the enemy head on**

- **From the text, the battle faced by Judah, was unwanted. This is similar to the battles faced by many Christians, they are unwanted and comes without warning.**
- **The information that reached the king was that a larger army is on its way to destroy Judah. At this point for Jehoshaphat, he had no time to strategise or plan a formidable defense. He said in his prayer, we do not know what to do.**
- **Somethings as Christians, there battles that comes our away that we are not prepared for or have plans in place to deal with them.**
- **The only option most of us have is to run to God in prayer like Jehoshaphat. The bible say that he organised prayer and fasting.**
- **2 Chronicles 20:6 – 7 NASB and he said, “Lord, God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against You.**

# Ways God fights for His own



- **Other examples of God taking the enemy head on:**
- **When the children of Israel were confronted with the might of Pharaoh's army, Moses reassured the people that the Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." Exodus 14:14 ESV**
- **Again when the children of Israel were in wilderness and confronted with enemies, God fought for them and the bible says You shall not fear them, for it is the Lord your God who fights for you.' Deuteronomy 3:22 ESV**
- **Hezekiah's war against Sennacherib king of Assyria 2 Chronicles 32:7 ESV 7 "Be strong and courageous, do not fear or be dismayed because of the king of Assyria nor because of all the horde that is with him; for the One with us is greater than the one with him. 8 With him is only an arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles." And the people relied on the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.**



## 2. Sometimes God will fight the battle through us

- **Psalm 18:39 ESV For you equipped me with strength for the battle; you made those who rise against me sink under me.**
- **God equips us for war - Ephesians 6:10 ESV Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.**
- **God is full of power - By standing in the power and might of God shows our dependency and reliance on Him to win the battles of life.**



# Ways God fights for His own

## 2. Sometimes God will fight the battle through us

When we stand in the power and might of God, we are Weaponised and able to resist the devil.

- God equips us for war by weaponising us for the battle

- 2 Corinthians 10:4 ESV For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.
- Ephesians 6:13 ESV Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

# Ways God fights for His own



## **Weaponised for the battle - The whole armour of God**

**Ephesians 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

**14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—**

# Ways God fights for His own



## **Weaponised for the battle - The whole armour of God**

- i) The Belt of truth – Holds all things together. Living constantly according to the truth revealed in Christ and the word of God. We must believe the truth of God and not the lies of the enemy.**
- ii) Breastplate of righteousness – Guards the critical part of a soldier. We have the righteousness of Christ and we are standing right before God. This gives us access to God’s arsenals and resources for battle.**
- iii) Shoe of the gospel of peace - Some exponents points out this is about living according to the precepts of the gospel and marching forward with the gospel. The gospel is the power of God that brings salvation unto everyone that believes it. Salvation as a weapon has the power to depopulate the kingdom of Satan.**

# How to be weaponised for winning the battles of life



## **Weaponised for the battle - The whole armour of God**

**iv) Shield of faith – Believe in God’s power, promises, assurances and covenants are the shield we need against the fiery darts that the enemy throws at us.**

### **v) Helmet of salvation**

**This is fitted on the soldiers head to protect them from the enemy’s offensive weapon of the enemies.**

**Salvation is one of the key armours provided that weaponises us for winning the battles of life.**

**Salvation means we are not under the influence of the devil’s kingdom. As believers that believes in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and have confessed Him as their Lord and saviour, we are secured and safe from the attacks of the enemy.**

**vi) Sword of the Spirit – word of God - the word of God functions as an offensive and defensive weapons. Jesus Christ used the word of God against the devil in Matthew 4 “It is written...”.**

# How to be weaponised for winning the battles of life



## **Weaponised for the battle - The whole armour of God**

### **vi. Praying all kinds of prayers**

- **Prayer and confession of God's word brings victory over the power of darkness.**
- **Praying all kind of prayers are the different kinds of offensive and defensive prayers we pray when engaged in the battles of life.**

### **All kinds of prayer:**

**Earnest/fervent prayer**

**Consecration prayer**

**Intercessory prayer**

**Petition prayer**

**Prevailing prayer**

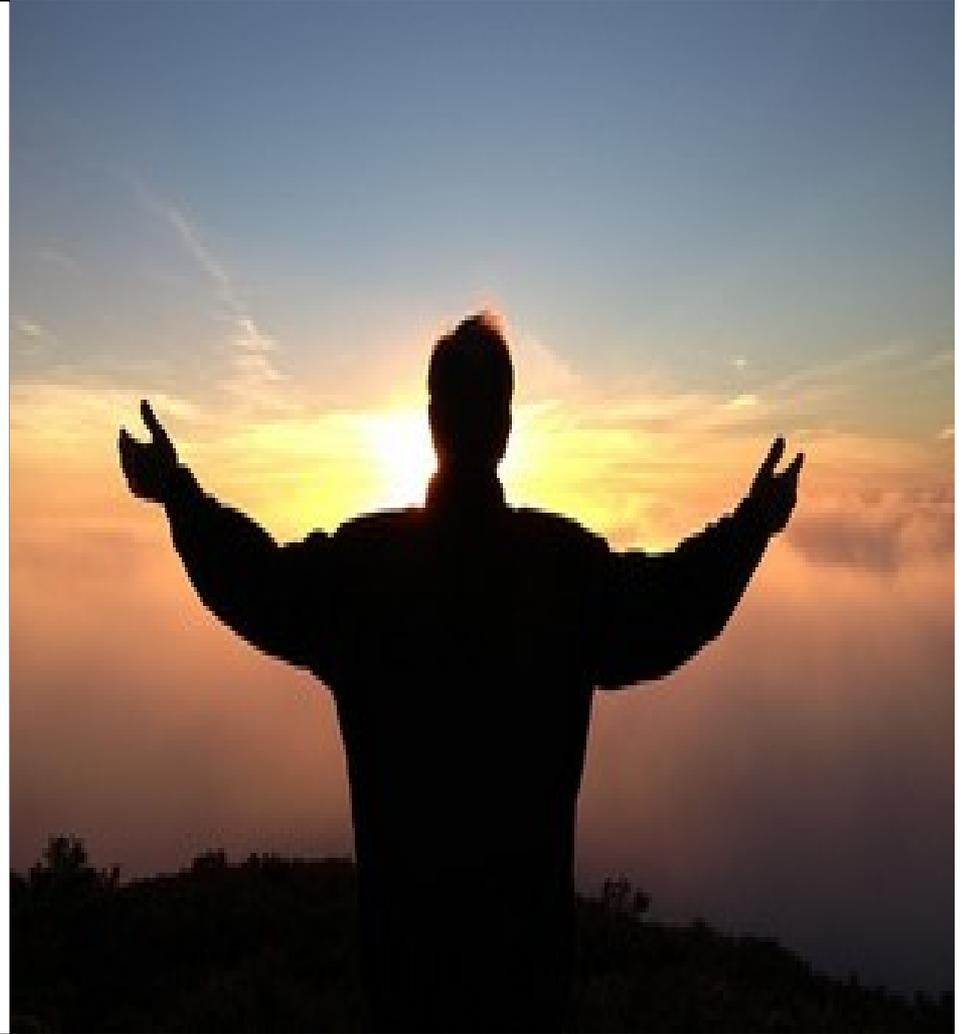
**Agreement prayer**

**Praise and worship prayer**

**Thanksgiving prayer**



## Conclusion



# God fights for His own - Expected outcome



- **Christian will have a better perspective on the battles of life**
- **Christians will take comfort in the fact that God is fighting their battles**
- **We will stand firm and strong in the face of life's battles and give up**

# God fights for His own – Conclusion



## As Christians:

- It is important that we have the correct perspective to the battles of life we face.
- We are not exempt from the battles of life – Ephesians 6:12 and John 16:33 ESV I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.
- When we trust God to fight our battles, it removes the psychological reactions to life's battle (e.g. fear, panic, despair, anxiety, and hopelessness).
- Our reaction to the battles of life is to submit to God. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7 ESV
- The bible has reassured us that God fights our battles, either by Himself without an intervention from us or through us by equipping us for battle.

# The God who fights for His own – Prayer Points



- **We will have the confidence that God is with us to fight our battles.**
- **God will go out before us to fight our battles.**
- **God help me to be victorious in my life's battles.**
- **Lord cover my head in the days of battles.**
- **Lord deliver us from every entanglement and trap of the enemy.**
- **In the name of Jesus Christ I bind every work of the enemy in my life.**
- **In the name of Jesus I pray no evil will touch me.**