

THE HOLY SPIRIT, OUR BATTLE STANDARD

Scripture:

Isaiah 59:19

Isaiah 59:19-20 NKJV So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him. {20} "The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," Says the LORD.

Isaiah 59:19 NIV From the west, men will fear the name of the Lord, and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent up flood that the breath of the Lord drives along.

Introduction

This is an incredibly powerful promise, but not just a promise. It is a reality demonstrated in the Word of God and throughout history.

I. Satan's tactics

2 Corinthians 2:11 NKJV lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

A. To create terror

1 Samuel 21:10-13 NKJV Then David arose and fled that day from before Saul, and went to Achish the king of Gath. {11} And the servants of Achish said to him, "<Is> this not David the king of the land? Did they not sing of him to one another in dances, saying: 'Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands?'" {12} Now David took these words to heart, and was very much afraid of Achish the king of Gath. {13} So he changed his behavior before them, feigned madness in their hands, scratched on the doors of the gate, and let his saliva fall down on his beard.

Psalms 91:5 NKJV You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, <Nor> of the arrow <that> flies by day,

B. To damage and devastate

Job 1:14-20 NKJV and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, {15} "when the Sabeans raided <them> and took them away; indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" {16} While he <was> still speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" {17} While he <was> still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" {18} While he <was> still speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and daughters <were> eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, {19} "and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!" {20} Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped.

C. To overwhelm

2 Kings 6:8-9, 12-14 NKJV Now the king of Syria was making war against Israel; and he consulted with his servants, saying, "My camp <will be> in such and such a place." {9} And the man of God sent to the king of

Israel, saying, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are coming down there." {12} And one of his servants said, "None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who <is> in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom." {13} So he said, "Go and see where he <is>, that I may send and get him." And it was told him, saying, "Surely <he is> in Dothan." {14} Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city.

D. To discourage and make hopeless

2 Corinthians 1:8 NKJV For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life.

E. To wear out

Daniel 7:25 NKJV He shall speak <pompous> words against the Most High, Shall persecute (KJV "wear out"; NIV "oppress") the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then <the saints> shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.

II. The Lord our Banner / The Holy Spirit our victory

Exodus 17:15 NKJV And Moses built an altar and called its name, The-LORD-is-My-Banner;

Psalms 57:1 NJKV Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; And in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, Until <these> calamities have passed by.

Romans 8:31 NKJV What then shall we say to these things? If God <is> for us, who <can be> against us?

A. Depending on the Lord

1. Jehoshaphat vs. the Moabites

2 Chronicles 20:12 NKJV "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."

2. Hezekiah vs. Sennacherib

Isaiah 37:14 NKJV And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

B. The unseen realm

2 Kings 6:15-17 NKJV And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" {16} So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who <are> with us <are> more than those who <are> with them." {17} And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain <was> full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

C. The Holy Spirit is our victory

Romans 15:13 NKJV Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

1. The pre and post Pentecost church

2. He gives signs and wonders

III. The path to victory – building an altar

1 Kings 18:30 NKJV Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD <that

was> broken down.

Luke 4:13-14 NKJV Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time. {14} Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region.

- A. We participate with the Holy Spirit in our prayer closet
- B. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit in our prayer closet

A Word from the Lord

Just as the fire came down and consumed the sacrifice, the wood and the water around the altar Elijah built before Me in the presence of his enemies, so will the Spirit of the Lord consume the flood Satan has brought against you. He shall not overwhelm you, but you will overwhelm him. Delight in me. Trust in me. For "...the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out <great exploits>." (Daniel 11:32b NKJV) **Isaiah 54:17 NKJV** No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue <which> rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This <is> the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness <is> from Me," Says the LORD.