

Good Morning Holy Spirit

Believe, Achieve and Succeed!



The War You Must Win (Part 1)

by Ronke Adetunji

There are two categories of war every Christian must fight, namely, the *internal* and *external* war. An old adage says that if you win the *internal* war you will easily win the *external* war. However, the individual who fails to win the *internal* war will be a loser forever. In this and the fall issue, we will share from the scriptures, examples of those who lost and won *internal* wars.

The Internal Enemy – Anger. Moses was called by God to lead the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage. At the Red Sea, panic gripped the people when they realized that Pharaoh and his army were in hot pursuit, but Moses reassured them with the words, “The Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever” (Exodus 14:13). Moses spoke and God honored his word for the Egyptians perished in the Red Sea and Israel saw them dead upon the sea shore. The Lord’s lofty opinion of Moses is further recorded in Numbers 12:7-8 when He said, “My servant Moses...is faithful in all Mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold.” Moses found favor with God.

During the war with the Amalekites recorded in Exodus 17, Moses employed a simple strategy to ensure the defeat of the enemy – the holding up of his hand. With the help of his aides, his hands were held up until the going down of the sun, and Israel prevailed. Moses won the *external* war. His position was enviable.

When the congregation reached the desert where there was no water, the Lord commanded Moses, “Speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water” (Numbers 20:8). However, Moses, with anger aroused as a result of the murmuring and complaining of the people said, “Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank” (Numbers 20:10-11). Moses’ actions were contrary to God’s specific orders. God responded to this public, gross disobedience by refusing Moses entry into the Promised Land for, He said, “Ye believed Me not, to sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel” (Numbers 20:12). Moses lost control over his spirit and yielded to anger, then lost the *internal* war and the satisfaction of entering the Promised Land for which he yearned (see Deuteronomy 3:23-26).

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A note to you....

Have you ever wondered why, at the time of the new birth, the first fruit deposited by God’s Holy Spirit in the recreated spirit of the believer is love? (Galatians 5:22). Why not faith or the much sought-after, peace?

The God of love created man in His own image, settled him on the earth and gave him dominion over the works of His hands. And after the fall, love moved God to send Jesus, His only Son, to redeem renegade mankind.

In this tumultuous world only the love of God can demolish the racial, national, tribal, social, religious and economic barriers that divide humanity. Yet, in spite of the prevailing “unlovely” conditions, Jesus said that love one for another would mark His followers. Loving the unlovable may be difficult but **we can do it** for in us dwells the enduring love of our Father God, Who is love. (1 John 4:16). That is the reason love comes first!!

We pray that this newsletter will continue to be a blessing to you and countless others. Thank you for partnering with us and may the Lord richly bless you. Shalom.

Lawrence and Ronke Adetunji

Moses, a Levite and the meekest above all men, was challenged by the spirit of anger. The patriarch Jacob, referring to the carnage wrought by Simeon and Levi during the Dinah incident in Genesis 34 said, "In their anger they slew a man..." and "Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce" (Genesis 49:6-7). Moses' unbridled anger inherited from Levi, was demonstrated during the "water out of the rock" incident, to his detriment.

Lessons to be learned: (1) Those in leadership positions are not exempt from divine discipline; (2) self-control and obedience to God at all times is essential; (3) give all glory to the miracle-working God (no human can bring water out of a rock); (4) anger may be hereditary; therefore, examine and cleanse your foundation.

The Internal Enemy – Covetousness. Before the battle at Jericho God instructed Israel that "The city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein...But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD" (Joshua 6:17, 19). The conquest of Jericho went flawlessly. The wall of Jericho fell down flat! The next city scheduled for destruction was Ai which was smaller and less formidable than Jericho. So why did the men of Ai chase, smite and defeat Israel? Why did Israel turn their backs before their enemies at Ai? (Joshua 7:4-5).

The Lord's response to Joshua's inquiry regarding the defeat at Ai was simple, "Israel hath sinned" (Joshua 7:11). During an investigation, Achan, the transgressor, confessed that driven by covetousness he stole a Babylonish garment, gold and silver at Jericho and hid them in his tent (see Joshua 7:20-21). In so doing, Achan violated God's command regarding the gold and silver and consequently stole from God Himself.

Israel hath sinned! The entire nation was held accountable for Achan's sin and the army especially, experienced shame and humiliation after the defeat at Ai. Later, all Israel had the unpleasant task of stoning Achan, his sons, daughters and possessions and burning them with fire.

Achan rejoiced along with his fellow Israelites after their victory at Jericho. He won his *external* war but was vanquished by covetousness, the *internal* enemy.

Lessons to be learned: (1) God is all-seeing and can reveal the deepest secret; (2) mortal man can never fool God; (3) do not keep what rightfully belongs to God. (that is stealing); and (4) your actions can have negative repercussions for you, your family and nation.

The Internal Enemy – Lust. The birth of Samson was announced by an angel. He was a Nazarite from the womb and one of the requirements was that no razor should come up on his head (Judges 13:5); he was blessed with extraordinary strength and was a judge at a time when Israel was under the oppressive rule of the Philistines.

His Strength. Samson infuriated, intimidated and invoked fear in the hearts of the Philistines. His unusual strength was evident when: he killed a lion with his bare hands; he slew thirty Philistines and took their spoil to pay a debt; after the Philistines burned his first wife and her father with fire, he smote them 'hip and thigh with a great slaughter'; he slew a thousand men with a new jawbone of an ass and he took the doors of the gate of a city, the posts, bar and all and carried them away (see Judges 14-16). Samson won all his *external* wars singlehandedly.

Your actions can have negative repercussions for you, your family and nation.

His Lust. In spite of his privileges and exploits, Samson was plagued by the *internal* enemy, lust, especially for Philistine women. He disregarded God's law forbidding Israel from forming marriage alliances with the nations. Against his parents' wishes he married, and was deceived by his first wife; he went in to a harlot in Gaza; and lastly "He loved a woman...whose name was Delilah" (Judges 16:4). That love was not reciprocated for Delilah was the one who relentlessly and successfully orchestrated his downfall and brought him down from "hero to zero."

His Demise. At the behest of the lords of the Philistines, Delilah agreed to obtain knowledge of, and reveal to them, the source of Samson's strength. Samson, though enticed, was not ignorant of Delilah's motives for from the outset she bluntly asked, "Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee" (Judges 16:6). Also, at every attempt there were Philistines hiding in the chamber waiting for Samson's moment of weakness. At last "He told her all his heart, and said unto her, 'There hath not come a razor upon mine head... if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man'" (Judges 16:17). Delilah cunningly arranged for the cutting of his hair, his strength went from him and the Lord departed from him. Then the Philistines took Samson, put out his eyes, bound him with bronze fetters and enslaved him.

In time, the Philistines gathered together to celebrate their victory and Samson was brought in for their entertainment. With a final prayer and the supernatural return of his strength, Samson brought down the house on all those present and died with the Philistines, "So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life" (Judges 16:30). Broken, blind, humiliated and in bondage, Samson won his final *external* war singlehandedly.

In Philistine territory Samson became their *internal* enemy and they destroyed him. That same Samson, a man highly anointed by Almighty God was so blinded by lust for Philistine women that he could not flee even when danger was apparent. He lost his *internal* war and lust destroyed him.

Lessons to be learned: (1) Do not be unevenly yoked with unbelievers; (2) be separated unto God not in actions only but more importantly, in spirit; (3) physical strength is not the barometer for spiritual strength; (4) guard closely the secret God has deposited in your heart; and (5) an ungodly relationship can distort one's thinking.

Beloved, in times of trials and temptations, remember that the Lord is mighty and strong to save and if you trust and obey Him, He will empower you to win the *internal* war, to His glory (Psalm 50:15). **Shalom**

To be continued

By the Word of Their Testimony

1

"As a result of praying on the Prayer Line I am reunited with my daughter and I now have a good job. I thank God that I am in the right place." Sis. Siah

2

"I thank God for answering my prayers after the 2011 70-day Prayer and Fasting Program. My sister, who has had several miscarriages became pregnant and gave birth to a baby girl. Glory to God."
AE, Fort Lauderdale, FL

3

"Prayers on the Prayer Line helped my daughter find favor with the Human Resources Department on her job. Also, my son-in-law who is police officer passed his exams and was promoted. And through GMHS I pray for members of my family who live all over the world. God bless you and the ministers."

4

"On January 4, 2013 during the 21 Day Prayer & Fasting Program, the partners of GMHS were encouraged to give their first fruit, specifically for promotion and fruitfulness. Being married for four years and believing God for the fruit of the womb, I promptly obeyed. My heavens opened! I received a 20% increase on my next paycheck and became pregnant that same month. I just want to thank God for blessing me through your ministry." From Riverdale, MD

Words of Wisdom

Salvation does not involve your intellect (Ephesians 2:8).

In the Christian walk, you're not free from the battle; you're free to win the battle (Psalm 34:19).

Faith developed during trials cannot be shaken because it is a result of having been shaken (1John 5:4).

Forgiveness is a gift the offender may not deserve; forgive anyway (Matthew 18:21-22).

The following excerpts from a Christian Q&A symposium are provided for your edification:

Q. Who is a man of God?

A. Someone who knows God and simply walks with God in humility. Your acts and deeds will tell who you are. John 4:24; 1Timothy 6:11-14.

Q. What do I do when I want to do the right thing but friends put peer pressure on me?

A. Remember that you will face your judgment alone so do not allow friends to influence you. The bible says your help is in Christ. I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me. Proverbs 1:10; Psalm 1:1-8; Ecclesiastes 11:9; 2 Timothy 2:22.

Q. How can you know the word of God to be able to meditate on it?

A. Do a daily study of the word of God. You should put time aside for this. You do not want to spend all your time listening to the news, etc. Be diligent in your study of the word and do this constantly and consistently. Joshua 1:8; 2 Timothy 2:15.

Q. How do I preach the gospel to a friend not willing to listen?

A. Your behavior in society is important. Your Christian faith should be your lifestyle. Also, keep on praying for your friend who has not yet yielded. 2 Corinthians 3:3.

Reminder



Mountain of Fire and Miracles Ministries
Women Foundation USA 2013 Convention
Theme "A Woman of Faith" Matt. 15:28



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Register the entire family today at <http://MFMWomenFoundationUSA.org>
and come, bask in the "Sun of Righteousness" (Malachi 4:2).



Pray Without Ceasing

1 Every inherited evil habit operating in my life, come out and die, in the name of Jesus.

2 Evil powers from my father's house, I am not your candidate; die, in the name of Jesus.

3 Ancestral debt collector asking me to pay for what I did not buy, release me and die, in the name of Jesus.

4 Spirit of failure at the edge of breakthrough, release me and die, in the name of Jesus.

5 Anointing of fruitfulness, fall upon me now, in the name of Jesus.

6 O Lord, make me a vessel of honor fit for Your service, in the name of Jesus.



During this summer's long, busy and torrid 95° days, do not think "cool lemonade" only, but be revived with the word "that times of refreshing (of recovering from the effects of heat, of reviving with fresh air) may come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19(b); Amplified).

Good Morning Holy Spirit newsletters are now available on the website at
<http://goodmorningholyspirit.org>.

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