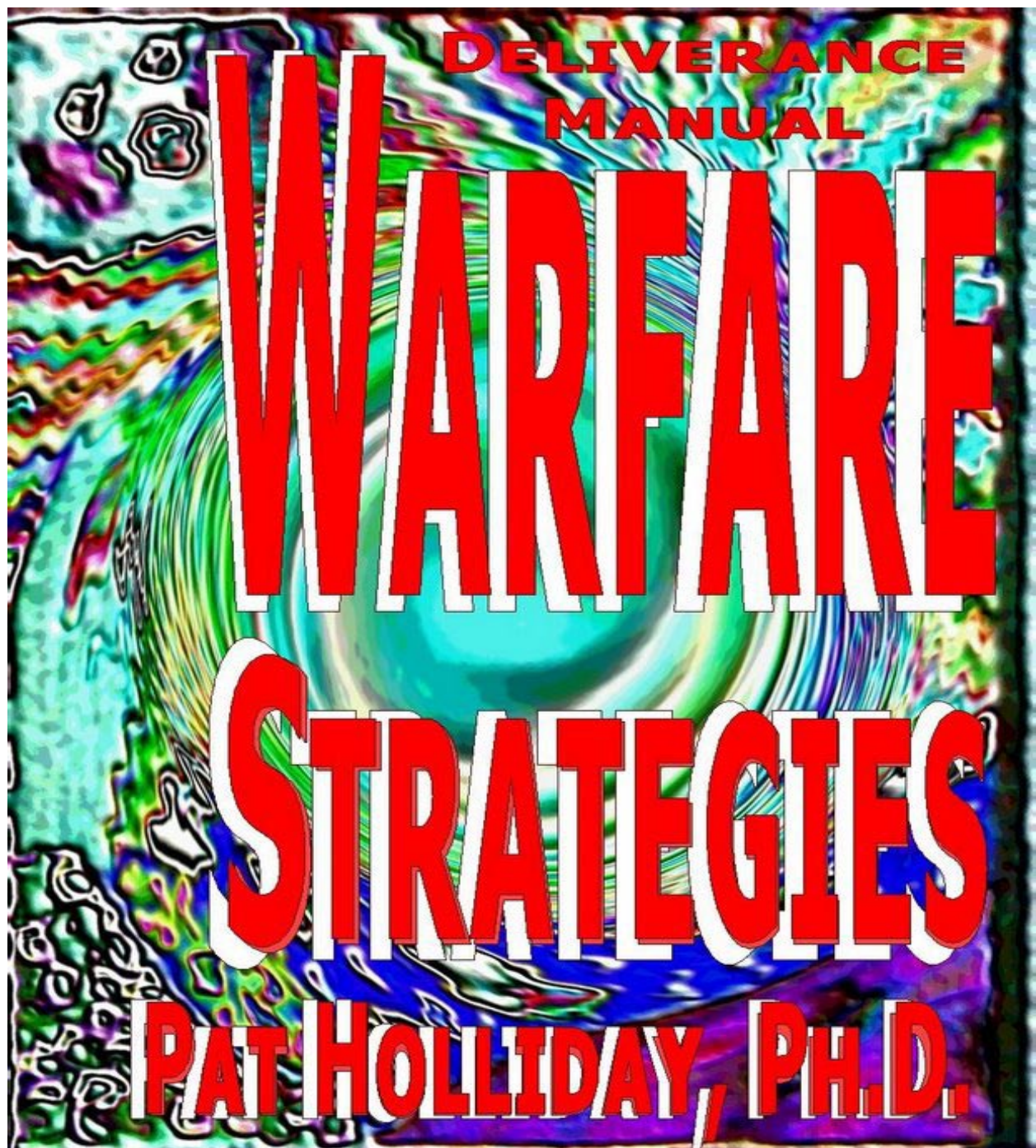


# WARFARE STRATEGIES



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## All Authority

Satan has tremendous control over his captives, I thought. He can control them completely. The Bible says, **“But if our gospels be hid, it is hid to them that are lost; In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them,”** (II Cor. 4:3-4).

### HIS AUTHORITY

All authority is vested in Jesus Christ, yet He has given His authority to us to overcome all the power of the enemy.

(Matt 7:29), **“For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”**

(Mk. 1:27), **“And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? For with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.”**

**Christians today must return to the basics of their faith.**

Preachers should teach them the foundations of the Scriptures. Spiritual knowledge is power! **“So will they fear the name of the Lord from the west and East. His glory from the rising of the sun; when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift a standard against Him,”** (Isa. 59:1).

(Jn. 1: 12, 13), **“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”**

(Jn. 17: 2-3, 4), **“As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”**

(Acts 4:33), **“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.”**

## THE NAME OF JESUS

The name “Jesus” is the legal right of absolute authority. His power is **“Far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come,”** (Eph.1: 21).

His power is above all power.

(Mk. 16:17-18), **“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18.They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover,”** (Mk. 16:17).

[**These signs shall follow**] Or rather, accompany; this is the proper import of the original word *prakoloutheesei*, from *para* with, and *akoloutheo* I follow.

[**Them that believe**] The believers, as we express it; i.e. the apostles, and all those who in those primitive times were endued with miraculous powers, for the confirmation of the doctrines they preached.

[**In my name**] That is, by the authority and influence of the almighty Jesus.

[**Cast out devils**] Whose kingdom Jesus Christ was manifested to destroy.

[**Speak with new tongues**] This was most literally fulfilled on the day of Pentecost, (Acts 2:4-19).<sup>1</sup>

(Mk. 16:18), **“They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”**

[**Take up serpents**] Several MSS. add *en tais chersin*, in their hands-shall be enabled to give, when such a proof may be serviceable to the cause of truth, this evidence of their being continually under the power and protection of God, and that all nature is subject to him. This also was literally fulfilled in the case of Paul, (Acts 28:5).

**[If they drink any deadly thing]** *Thanasimon* (*pharmakon*) being understood-if they should through mistake, or accident, drink any poisonous matter, their constant preserver will take care that it shall not injure them. See a similar promise, (Isa 43:2).

**[They shall lay hands on the sick]** And I will convey a healing power by their hands, so that the sick shall recover, and men shall see that these are sent and acknowledged by the Most High. Several instances of this kind are found in the Acts of the Apostles. <sup>2</sup>

That the apostles of our Lord should not lose their lives by poison is most fully asserted in this verse, and there is neither record nor tradition to disprove this. But it is worthy of remark that Mohammed, who styled himself THE APOSTLE OF GOD, lost his life by poison; and had he been a true apostle of God, he could not have fallen by it.

*Al Kodai, Abul Feda, and Al Janabi*, gives the following account. When Mohammed, in the seventh year of the *Hejra*, A.D. 628 AD, had taken the city of Kheebbar, from the Arab Jews, he took up his lodgings at the house of Hareth, the father of Marhab the Jewish general, who had been slain at the taking of the city by Alee, the son-in-law of Mohammed. Zeenab the daughter of Hareth, who was appointed to dress the prophet's dinner, to avenge the fall of her people, and the death of her brother, put poison in a roasted lamb which was provided for the occasion. Bashar, one of his companions, falling on too hastily, fell dead on the spot. Mohammed had only chewed one mouthful, but had not swallowed it: though, on perceiving that it was poisoned, he immediately spat it out, yet he had swallowed a sufficiency of the juice to lay the foundation of his death; though this did not take place until about three years after: but that it was the cause of his death then, his dying words related by Al Janabi, and others, sufficiently testify. When the mother of Bashar came to see him in his dying agonies, he thus addressed her:

"O mother of Bashar, I now feel the veins of my heart bursting through the poison of that morsel which I ate with thy son at Kheebbar."<sup>3</sup>

Abul Feda, Ebnol Athir, and Ebn Phares say, that the prophet acknowledged on his death-bed, that the poison which he had taken at Kheebbar had tormented him from that time until then, notwithstanding blisters were applied to his shoulders, and everything done in the beginning to prevent its effects. Al Kodai and Al Janabi relate, that when Zeenab was questioned why she did this, she answered to this effect: "I said in my heart, If he be a king, we

shall hereby be freed from his tyranny; and if he be a prophet, he will easily perceive it, and consequently receive no injury." To support his credit, he pretended that the lamb spoke to him, and said that it was infected with poison!<sup>4</sup> It was therefore policy in him not to put Zeenab to death. It has pleased God that this fact should be acknowledged by the dying breath of this scourge of the earth; and that several of even the most partial Mohammedan historians should relate it! And, thus attested, it stands for the complete and everlasting refutation of his pretensions to the prophetic spirit and mission. <sup>5</sup>

We may pray something like this, "Satan, we bind you in the name of Jesus. You can no Longer exercise dominion over this person. Jesus gave His Church the authority with this promise, 'Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on shall be loosed in heaven'," (Matt. 16:19).

This powerful scripture is repeated by Jesus in (Matt. 18:18). These Scriptures are the basis to give to us our divine power to bind evil powers in Jesus' name, and to loose those who are subjected to bondage. When it comes to binding the strong man, Jesus does not leave us with only vague ideas about what is meant.

In (Lk. 11:21-22), he goes into very precise detail as to what it means and how it is to be done. **"When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: 22 But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils."**

This scripture shows the strongman (Satan), fully armed while he guards his own house (body of the person). When someone stronger attacks and overpowers him (a believer with Jesus living within) the believer has the power to successfully take away the protective covering (amour) that the demon has depended upon and take forces apart his territory. Demons get their "authority" from Satan. Therefore, we bind the strongman's (Satan's) power.

## **DEMONS AUTHORITY**

Dr. Lewis Chafer points out the "Demon influence, like their activity, is prompted by two motives, both to hinder the purpose of God for humanity, and to extend the authority of Satan. They therefore, at the command of their king, willingly cooperate in his entire God dishonoring undertaking. This influence is exercised both to mislead the unsaved and to wage an increasing war against the believer," (Eph. 6:23).<sup>6</sup>

This shows that there is a constant warfare between Satan and God's creatures. He hates every living person and he wants to destroy them.

Jesus' authority is given to all to whom He commissions. Look at the twelve apostles, Jesus gave the apostles power to cast out devils and heal the sick, (Lk. 9: 1; Mk. 6: 7, 12,13; Matt 10: 1, 7, 8), **“An when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, He gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.”** (vs. 7:8), **“And as ye go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand, Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, Cast out Devils, freely ye have received, freely give,”** (Matt.10: 1).

Then we see the seventy. Jesus gave other disciples the power to do supernatural works. **“The Lord appointed seventy,”** (Lk. 10: 1,17).

Before He ascended into heaven, He gave every Believer power in the great commission. **“He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation . . . And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons . . .”** (Mk. 16:15,17).

**“Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbyters,”** (1 Tim. 4: 14), **“Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God,”** (1 Cor. 2:12).

Knowing your spiritual authority enables one to enter into spiritual warfare with faith to overcome. Each Christian must learn that he has power over come any and every demonic strong man. We as true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ can bind and cast out demons. **“I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you,”** (Lk. 10:19).

The believer in Christ has not only the spiritual ability of the Holy Spirit in him, but also the authority of the name of Jesus. **“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given unto me, therefore go . . .”** (Matt. 28:28). He gave his people the power and authority to go.

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