

Section II, overview: In order to act as a man, as Jesus, we must first recognize our battle is primarily spiritual, and that it has already been won by Jesus. There is one hero in this story, and His name is Jesus. Through Him and His grace we may obtain victory in our lives: over sin, satan, the world, the flesh, death, and condemnation arising from the law. The victorious Christian life is the normal Christian life; it is that which God clearly promises us and desires for us, and which can be obtained when a man gives himself over to God's word and to prayer. It is only through a deep and intimate relationship with Christ Jesus and through obedience to His word that victory is possible. It is through Jesus that we are given the ability to reign in life instead of being dragged through it, but this will not happen until we are properly fitted in our minds and hearts, focused on Jesus' glory above all else, and willing to give up our lives no matter the cost.

Section II, Part I: We are soldiers of Jesus Christ

Summary: Jesus Christ has enlisted us into a war. This is a spiritual war between good and evil. As soldiers of His, we are to expect and to endure through every affliction with joy and contentment. We are to abide in Jesus' words and to pray, laying hold of His grace, and laboring fervently according to its lavish supply, that we might obtain victory, for victory comes through God alone. As soldiers, we are not to be heavily involved with the things of this life but are to be freed from such hindrances that we might run and fight in a way pleasing to Jesus. We must keep in mind that our weapons are spiritual, and they are powerful through God not through our own ability or disability. His word and prayer, which are our weapons, are vital and effective and must be used if we are to survive in this war, and if we are to obtain the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.



Video: Outline Pt I

- I. **We are soldiers in a war; therefore, there are afflictions. In all things, we are to labor according to God's supplied grace and energy, given to us by His Spirit.**
 - a. **2 Timothy 2:1 – Be strong in God's grace which is found only in Jesus Christ**
 - i. John 1:14-17 – *Grace through Jesus alone*
 - ii. **In order to receive God's grace, we must be humble and we must ask.**
 1. James 4:6 – *Humility*
 2. Romans 5:17 – *Lay hold of that grace which is offered*
 - b. **We labor according to God's supplied grace**
 - i. 1 Corinthians 15:10 – *according to His grace*

- ii. Colossians 1:29 – *according to His energy*
- iii. Zechariah 4:1-10 – *according to His Holy Spirit working through us*
- iv. Ephesians 3:7, 2 Corinthians 3:5-6 – *We find our ability and sufficiency through the Holy Spirit alone*
- v. Philippians 2:12-14, 16a – *Submit to God's working, fearing Him and His word*
- c. 2 Timothy 2:3 – **Good soldiers endure afflictions patiently**
 - i. John 16:33 – *Expect afflictions, but rejoice because Jesus has overcome*
- d. 2 Timothy 2:4 – **Good soldiers don't entangle themselves in this world's affairs**
 - i. Luke 8:14 – *This world chokes out fruit production*
 - ii. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 – *We must discipline our bodies, not follow their desires*
 - iii. 1 Timothy 6:9-12 – *Reject the pursuit of riches and pursue Jesus and His righteousness*

II. **Our weapons are not according to the flesh, but are spiritual**

- a. 2 Corinthians 10:4b – **Our weapons are powerful through God**
 - i. Psalms 29:1-2; 62:11 – *Strength belongs to God*
 - ii. John 3:27; 19:11, James 1:17 – *Strength, and any good thing, is distributed by God above to whom He wills*
 - iii. Isaiah 26:4 – *Strength from trusting/leaning upon God*
 - iv. Matthew 28:18 – *Authority belongs to Christ*
- b. 2 Corinthians 10:3-4a – **We do not war after the flesh**
 - i. **God's word is our sustenance. Without it, our spiritual lives will shrivel and die.**
We cannot possibly hope to live full, Christ-like lives without a dedication to God's word. Devotion and obedience to God's word keeps us close to God and transforms us, allowing us to act and think more like Jesus.
 - 1. Ephesians 6:11, 17-18 – **God's word is an all-purpose weapon that must be combined with the other elements of defense in order to be effective**
 - 2. Matthew 4:4, Deuteronomy 8:3 – **We live not just by bread, but also by God's spoken word**
 - a. Exodus 16:4, 19-20, John 6:57, 63, Revelation 19:13 – *Through Christ, who is The Manna, The Bread from Heaven, The Word of God, we obtain life and spiritual energy*
 - b. Psalms 119:25, 49-50, 93 – *God's word brings life*



Video: Outline Pt II.b.i

- i. Psalms 119:37, Proverbs 14:27; 19:23 – *Obedience to God's word brings life*
 - c. Job 23:12, Jeremiah 15:16 – God's word feeds our souls, our spirits
- 3. 1 Peter 1:13, Ephesians 1:17 – **God reveals Jesus to us through His Word and this gives us grace**
- 4. Hebrews 2:1 – **We must devote ourselves to God's word continually or we will drift away**
 - a. Hebrews 6:17-20 – *Hope in God's word/promises is like an anchor*
 - b. 1 Peter 1:21-2:3 – *Long for God's word like a child for milk so that we may grow*
- 5. 1 Thessalonians 2:13, Hebrews 4:2 – **Belief in God's word is necessary for it to produce fruit/be effective**
 - a. Hebrews 4:9-12 – *God's word is living and productive. Believe it and act on it*
 - b. Luke 11:28
- 6. Romans 12:1-2 – **God's word cleanses our minds and works toward our transformation**
 - a. 1 Corinthians 2:16 – *We have the mind of Christ available to us*
 - b. Hebrews 5:14 – *Practice and application is necessary*
 - c. 2 Peter 1:3-4 – *God's word contains all we need for life and godliness*

ii. **Prayer is powerful, effective. It is necessary for a strong, Christian life and man.**



Video: Outline Pt II.b.ii

Through prayer and intercession, God's promises, power, and presence can be accessed. God is pleased with the true Christian's prayer and pursuit of Him, and will strengthen him to that end, that he might obtain victory.

- 1. James 5:16-18, 1 Kings 17:1; 18:1, 41-45 – **A righteous man's prayer is powerful**
 - a. Elijah prayed for God's will until it was fulfilled. Likewise, so should we.
 - i. Joel 2:23-24, John 15:5, Psalms 92:13-15 – *Promised fruitfulness*
 - ii. 1 John 5:14-15 – *Praying according to God's will*

- iii. Isaiah 62:1-12 – *Pray for God's will fervently and continuously until it happens as He promised*
 - b. Revelation 8:3-5 – *Our prayers, though weak because of our flesh etc., return to earth in power because of God*
 - 2. Ephesians 6:10-11, 18 – **Prayer is apart of God's armor; it is a weapon, and the main way we apply the armaments of God**
 - a. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 – *Prayer is powerful to demolishing enemy-controlled infrastructure*
 - 3. Exodus 17:11-12 – **Enduring in intercession & prayer is vitally important and works toward victory in our lives an others'**
 - a. Colossians 4:2, f.f., Luke 18:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:17 – *Pray always*
 - b. Ezekiel 22:30-31, Jeremiah 5:1 – *Intercession can save the lives of others and influence God's judgment/delay it*
 - i. Lamentations 3:33, James 2:12-13 – *The LORD delights in and prefers mercy over judgment*
 - c. Hebrews 7:25, Romans 8:26-27, 34 – *Because Jesus continuously prays for and intercedes for us, we can go to Him and find deliverance/victory*
 - i. Isaiah 59:16-17; 63:4-5 – *Jesus and The Father are in agreement, desiring to show us mercy*
 - 4. Proverbs 15:8; 28:9 – **The man found in Christ, who is righteous and walks in truth, his prayers are a delight to God**
 - a. Psalms 34:15, Proverbs 15:29 – *His ears are open and eyes are upon the righteous (i.e., those believing in and confessing Jesus)*
 - b. Psalms 145:18-19 – *The LORD is near to those who call upon Him/pray in truth./sincerely/genuinely*
 - 5. Luke 22:43-44 – **In lieu of immediate relief from affliction, God will strengthen us to pray through the affliction and obtain victory as Jesus shows us**

Section II Part I, Questions

Part I: We are soldiers of Jesus Christ

1. How does God impart grace to us?
2. How do we use it and/or labor according to it?
3. According to the Bible, what are some characteristics of spiritual soldiers in Christ? Why?
4. What are our weapons? Where does their power come from? Why?
5. What are some things that God's word does in our life?
6. What must we do for God's word to be effective?

7. Because prayer is powerful, what should we do?
8. What are some things that prayer does for ourselves? Others?
9. Why is intercession important and necessary?

This image shows a full page of blank handwriting practice paper. It features multiple sets of horizontal lines across the entire page. Each set consists of three lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. These sets are repeated vertically down the page, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The background is white, and the lines are light gray. There is no text or other markings on the page.

Section II, Part I: Fill in the Blank Summary

It is Jesus who has “_____ us to be soldiers;” [2 Tim 2:4] and as such, we ought not to be “_____with the affairs of this life,” [2 Tim 2:4] but rather, connected and intertwined with God’s affairs and purposes. In our war, we must be strong in God’s _____, which is given to us in Christ Jesus. [2 Tim 2:1] Having received this in abundance from our Lord, we are to be good _____ and to thus _____ according to that which God provides. [1 Cor 15:10] Now then, in this spiritual war, we have two main weapons: God’s _____ and prayer. In reference to the former, we would do well to remember that which Jesus quoted, “*man doth not live by bread only, but by every _____ that proceedeth out of the mouth of The LORD doth man live.*” [Deut 8:3] It is through this simple abiding and feasting upon God’s word which fills us with energy to serve God and produce His life. It is our spiritual bread, and it feeds our souls, as God, through His word, reveals to us Jesus Christ. In order to receive profit from this activity, we must _____; for it is written, “*the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with _____ in them that heard it.*” [Heb 4:2b] And, having done that, we must then _____ it; for, “*even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.*” [Jam 2:17] All-in-all, God’s word provides us with strength, motivation, direction, life, and joy, among many other things. It is our spiritual food, which gives us energy and satisfaction and which prods us into battle and gives us the tools necessary to obtain victory in such. Now, regarding the latter weapon, prayer, we must first remember that it is written regarding a righteous man’s prayer, it is “*always having much power*” and “*is working.*” [Jam 5:16] This power is present because of _____; for Paul writes, “*for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through _____ to the pulling down of strong holds.*” [2 Cor 10:4] Furthermore, like God’s word, faith is necessary, and having faith in prayer’s power and effects, we should, as The Spirit commands, “_____ in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.” [Col 4:2] In terms of warfare, prayer is most effective when we what is termed, intercession. For we are told regarding prayer, as part of “*the whole armor of God,*” that it is to be “*for all _____.*” [Eph 6:11, 18] We should always remember that our prayers are powerful through Christ who presents them to The Father;

that God is near to us in prayer; that Jesus and The Spirit both intercede on our behalf; and that God hears our prayers, and acts on them – for Jesus said, “*if ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will ____.*” [Jn 14:14]