



Winning Strategies in a Losing World

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Philippians 3:7-8, 'But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.'

This shows how highly Paul valued his relationship with Jesus, and so should all of us.



1 Peter 1:18-19, 'Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.'

2 Chronicles 20:12 shows how Jehoshaphat asked for help but God gave him a strategy. One definition of strategy is 'The art of moving troops into a favourable position'. Jehoshaphat faced three great armies who were stronger than his.

First he feared and then set himself to seek the Lord and proclaimed a fast.

We saw the power of the name of Jesus, during our major missions in Africa when witches tried to bind the meetings and were rendered powerless in the name of Jesus.

Luke 24:49, 'Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.'

Matthew 28:18-19, 'And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of

the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Power is released when we exercise God's strategies

Ephesians 3:20 reveals how he is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all we could ask or think, according to the power that works in us.

For every struggle there is a strategy

Ephesians 1:19 says, 'What is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power.'

The march is on against us to steal our inheritance of our family values and our freedom

1 Corinthians 2:4 says, 'And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.'

Winning starts within

Hebrews 2:14, ‘Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.’

This shows how Jesus took the power of death from the devil when he gave His life on the cross and rose victorious from the dead having taken the keys of death and Hades from Satan.

Revelation 1:18, “I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.”

We can continue to walk in power by exercising divine strategies daily.

James 4:7 says, 'Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.'

Looking at today's world we can see that many people are losing the most important battle and that is the family and youth.

Recent statistics reveal that 2.8 million homes in the UK live with a single parent.

2 Corinthians 5:18-21 shows how vital reconciliation is, it says that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself.

Attacks came against
Jehoshaphat from every side,
three armies plus others beside

1. He started a battle in the Heavenlies

He feared but set himself to seek The Lord.

2 Chronicles 20:5-6, 'Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, and said: "O LORD God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven, and do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand

is there not power and might, so that
no one is able to withstand You?'

Often Satan is behind the battles
we face but when we exercise
divine strategy he loses every time

A pastor at a church in England where I
ministered said, "Choosing the path of least
resistance makes men and rivers crooked."

James 5:16 shows how effective, fervent
prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Praying is not just asking God for things,
praying is fellowshiping with him, praising
and worshipping him listening to the Lord,

drinking in his presence and obeying his guidance.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 says, 'For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.'

United prayer opens
doors and gates

Acts 12:10 refers to Peters miraculous deliverance from prison and says, 'When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.'

Acts 4:31 reveals when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

We need to remember our weapons are superior, no one can compete they are from another world.

Isaiah 45:2 says, 'I will go before you and make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze, And cut the bars of iron.'

Invisible walls are demolished.

False perceptions and imagination are brought down.

Wrong thinking and bondages are broken when we unite in prayer.

Suspicion, division and strife are overcome.

Joshua 6:1 shows how Jericho was shut up, none went out and none went in.

Isolations and Restrictions

Joshua 6:2 says, “**I have given you Jericho**”

Joshua 6:5 shows that when they made a sound with the trumpet all the people gave a shout, the walls collapsed.

United prayer and praise clears the sky of enemy influence and activity.

Isaiah 56:7 reveals how his house is a house of prayer for all nations.

Strongholds are houses
made of thoughts

Genesis 26:18 Isaac dug again the wells.

Genesis 26:12 Isaac sowed in the year of famine and reaped in the same year a hundredfold.

Arguments that tell us that our circumstances will never change must be brought down

Thoughts that show us as victims and not victors must be exposed and rejected.

Some People accept arguments of the enemy without

questioning them and live
in bondage all their lives

We have more power than we think;

- **The power of the Word**
- **The power of the Blood**
- **The power of the Name**
- **The power of the Holy Spirit**

Ephesians 6:10-18 shows we have been given armour but we must put it on and use it.

When we discover God's strategy we will be able to move into favourable positions in our thinking, in our attitude, in our words

and in the way we live.

Hebrews 4:2 shows, 'For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.'

A young man came to one of our meetings, intending to commit suicide because he was overwhelmed with debt, we prayed with him and he received healing and then got a job.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 says 'Pray without ceasing.'

We must maximise the good
and minimise the bad.

Revelation 12:11 reveals how they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

2. He called for unity

Psalms 133 reveals how unity brings blessing. “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity....” For there the LORD commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.

Exodus 17:11-12 shows when we hold up each other's hands we win.

“And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.”

We can carry the Kingdom influence everywhere we go.

James 3:16 shows how envy and strife bring



confusion and every evil work unity always brings strength, division always weakens.

Matthew 12:30 reveals, 'He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.'

Satan's big dream is to isolate,
separate and suffocate

Romans 8:15 says, 'For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."'

Don't live in disappointment
of the past, live in the good
of God's provision

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

2 Corinthians 9:8 shows God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have abundance for every good work.

Don't let your past hold
your future hostage

Isaiah 54:17 says, '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.'

We don't have to live with what
God has redeemed us from

3. He remembered God's Greatness

We must pray the promises not the problems.

Winners focus on what they're going to, losers focus on what they are going through

Psalm 20:7 says, "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God."

If we want to be strong we must think strength.



2 Peter 3:1 says, 'Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle.' (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder)

1 Timothy 6:19 says, 'Storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.'

Philippians 4:8 says, 'Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.'

4. He had confidence in what God had said

Jehoshaphat remembered the promises and confessed them as they prayed.

Psalm 112:7 says, 'He will not be afraid of evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.'

Hebrews 3:6, 'But Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.'

5. He confessed God as the giver

If God has given us an inheritance he means us to enjoy it.

2 Peter 1:3 reveals, 'As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.'

We must exercise control over our thinking and speaking if we are to win the battle of life

James 3:8 warns us against the misuse of the tongue saying but no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

6. He humbled himself

2 Chronicles 20:12 says, '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.'

James 4:6 says, 'But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."'

Pride argues but humility adjusts.

Jonah 2:8 says, 'Those who regard worthless idols. Forsake their own Mercy.'

Philippians 2:8 reveals being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

2 Chronicles 26:15-16 refers to Uzziah, 'And he made devices in Jerusalem, invented by skillful men, to be on the towers and the corners, to shoot arrows and large stones. So his fame spread far and wide, for he was marvelously helped till he became strong. But when he was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his

God by entering the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.'

2 Chronicles 27:6 says, 'Jotham became mighty, because he prepared his ways before the LORD his God.'

We must declare war on all habits and all ways that gives Satan an advantage over us and make sure we walk in the Spirit

7. He praised in advance

Jehoshaphat and his army adopted an

unusual strategy in that they put the singers in front of the army and they sang before, during and after the battle.

Psalm 149:8 'To bind their kings with chains,
And their nobles with fetters of iron.'

Psalm 150:2 'Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.'

Colossians 3:16 'Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.'

When we praise and worship heaven is open to us and hell is closed.

Psalm 149:6-9 ‘Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand, To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples; To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron; To execute on them the written judgment— This honour have all His saints. Praise the LORD!’

We who are objects of His mercy should be trumpets of His praise.

When we exercise our authority God releases ability.

Nehemiah 8:10, ‘Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing

is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

Living according to feelings
robs us of joy and faith but
praise and worship raises us
up above the storms of life

We must keep our focus on what God says and exercise divine strategies that bring us to victory even though we live in a losing world.

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