



# Way of the Eagle

by Rhoda Collins

## WAR IN YOUR HEAD

**I**n **2 Corinthians 10:4-5** apostle Paul talks about pulling down strongholds.

**<sup>4</sup>For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds, <sup>5</sup>[Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).**

Imagine a stronghold like a castle with walls made of huge stones, where an army can stay hidden and protected.

The Bible talks about tearing down those strongholds in our mind which are thought patterns that war against the knowledge of and faith in God. A stronghold is where an enemy army (evil thoughts or evil spirits) rests and so war against things of God. The enemy inhabits these realms of thoughts, to steal, kill, destroy and deceive people (each of us).

The mind set on flesh is death... it cannot get a person to obey God.

The mind that is contrary to the purposes of God sets us up for failure.

The Bible says we need to pull down strongholds, by taking thoughts captive and casting down, thoughts and imaginations, reasonings, that are inconsistent with God.

How do we do that?

God's purpose for us is to know the mind of Christ, to live as a model or illustration of the mind of Christ. When Jesus asked the disciples in **Mathew 16:28**, "**Why do you reason among yourselves**" He was asking, why your imagination starts with what you don't have? He's saying, why don't you change the way you think because you see My nature and I provided for you before.

We tend to think that the miracles of God are, rare interventions, instead of knowing that they are revelations of nature, bowing to God Who made covenant with His children. Our wrong (evil strongholds) thinking stops us from doing the same miracles Jesus did!

**<sup>12</sup>"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. <sup>13</sup>And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."** John 14:12-14

Why doesn't God get rid of evil?

There are always 2 trees in the garden... one that you can eat from, and the one that is to be avoided, for us to be tested. If there are not 2 trees, one good and one bad, in the garden of life then you can't be rewarded for making the right choice and if you have no options, you don't have free will.

Israel was acquainted with the acts of God. Moses was acquainted with God's ways. Moses took the acts of God and discovered His nature to make covenant with God. That is why he was stable in the shifting seasons and Israel was not.

What happens when you wait for the answer to prayer to come and 1, 2, 3 or 20 years, etc. goes by and you wonder what is God doing? Remember Abraham waited 25 years for Isaac to be born (**Genesis 21:5**). So what is God doing? He just put a second tree in the garden. Are you going to let the absence of an immediate breakthrough change your thinking of God's nature and promises? Or are you going to break any strongholds of wrong thinking that tries to overwhelm you about who God is? This is the issue allowing thoughts that are contrary to God. The Bible says that those are thoughts from the demonic realm to have you war against what you know God says is true.

The devil is no equal to nor can compete with God. The devil is a created being. He is a chess piece on a game board. What makes the devil powerful? Our decision to believe a lie makes the lie powerful. Humanity without Christ at the center is demonic in nature. Jesus is truly the center of everything.

Let's say that you have a financial crisis in your life and your neighbour, who is an atheist, has the same problem. Your neighbour gets financial advice from a banker that resolves his problem. So you think you don't need to go to God or read the Bible to get advice, but instead choose to do the same thing the neighbour did. Seeking man over God for our circumstances is practical atheism. Even though a person believes in the existence of God, God was not brought into this circumstance. Apostle Paul says in **Ephesians 4:27**, "don't give place to the devil" and "be renewed in the spirit of your mind" (**Ephesians 4:23**). Inconsistent thoughts or inconsistent faith violate the purposes of God for our lives. When we allow the enemy to inhabit an area of our thinking (or faith), it provides a place (stronghold) in our mind for the devil to dwell in and to attack the rest of our mind from.

**"But without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him. For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out]". Hebrews 11:6**

God is our Father Who loves to bless and reward and give honor; to celebrate people because He is that way, Yet, He must give each of us an option, to choose him or not; that there is a reason for reward.

In **Mark 8:17** Jesus says: "And being aware [of it], Jesus said to them, Why are you reasoning and saying it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet discern or understand? Are your hearts in [a settled state of] hardness?" The disciples saw miracles of provisions and yet now they are fearful of not having enough. Whenever we've seen miracles of provision and answers to prayer in our lives, we've lost the right, to begin any thought process with what we don't have now. Every time God reveals His nature with miracles He invites us to make a covenant with Him, the One Who never fails.

Is your heart still hard? A harden heart poisons the mind. Paul describes the armour that we have to war against the enemy in **Ephesians 6**... for the helmet of salvation- think saved; the breast plate of righteousness- your vitals are protected by the righteousness of God; gird your loins with the belt of truth - we are firmly established with the truth of the Gospel; shod feet with the Gospel of peace- everywhere you walk, walk according to God's Word. To quench those fiery darts of the enemy... the shield of faith. What happens if you get hit by a fiery dart that passes your faith? You have the Sword of the spirit to cut it out. Set your mind and spirit to war against the enemy. Satan's realm wars against you, whether you war or not! The world, people and false Christians war against you... and against God!

Declare in your mind and out loud continuously against all evil strongholds, "satan has nothing in me, my history declares the effectiveness of the blood of Jesus! My history shouts the power of the blood of Jesus! My presence demonstrates the love, the affection and purposes of God for my life! My future is drawing me into a fulfilled hope, a filled life that has purpose in declaring: on earth as it is in heaven!"