

Setting Your Heart on the Kingdom



1 TIMOTHY

Prophecy - The Strategy of the Spirit

(The Principle of: The Power of the Prophetic Word)

1 Timothy 1:18

What ingenious warfare! The devil is a tactical master at deterring and derailing our divine mission. First, he deceived Adam and Eve into challenging God! Oh, how the demonic world must have laughed when we, who were supposed to rule over evil, became evil (*Gen. 1:28; 6:5-7*)! Then, centuries later, he continued to stir up discord causing division and jealous infighting within God's Church (*1 Cor. 1:11-13*). Yet even when there is unity, few understand that Jesus built His Church for WAR...binding and loosing evil working through people (*Matt. 16:18-19; 18:15-18*)! The devil has successfully skewed the minds of people, even Christians, to believe that the Church is impotent in warring against his kingdom (*2 Kings 18:30-32*). ***But there is a strategy by which you can defeat the works of the devil in your life. It's prophecy...God's prevailing word of victory!***

Young Timothy was exasperated. Left in Ephesus, he was quickly running out of answers as he tried to nurture the fledgling church Paul had begun. False teachers and corruption were undermining the very foundation of their work. Then Paul's timely letter arrived, encouraging and directing his efforts. "This command I entrust to you," Paul wrote. "In accordance with the prophecies previously made concerning you, that ***by them you may fight*** the good fight." Timothy was in a battle for the life of his ministry. Without God's strategy he would surely lose. Paul's command was to "fight" ("strateuomai" in the Greek from which comes the word "strategy"). ***And the strategic weapon Paul spoke of was prophecy...the wisdom of the Spirit that gives you victory against the wiles of the devil!***

Have you ever received a prophetic word from God? It's more than encouragement, my friend...it's a divine promise and a weapon against the devil! **Pastors**, when all hell comes against your ministry, draw strength from prophecies you've received! They're reassurance that God will see you through. **Parents**, do you have a prophetic promise about your children? **Business Person**, perhaps there's been a prophetic word given over your career? ***Tenaciously hold to it with prayer and confidence. In the darkest hours of your life, read it again. Then rise up in faith to fight another day!***

Next: The Kingdom of God in 2 Timothy - Your Spiritual DNA

