

Confiscating Enemy Weapons!

by Steve Trullinger

In earthly warfare, one of the first things the victor must do is confiscate all the weapons of the defeated enemy. Otherwise, that enemy may rise up again someday and use the same weapons against him! In the spiritual realm, we too need to be careful to confiscate any weapons of Satan that might be used to attack again in the future. Even though we have many promises of protection from the Lord, we cannot presume that an attack will not come or that Satan will not attempt to use his weapons against us.

To be sure, we have victory over Satan and promises of protection for those who are servants of the Lord. Referring to a future time of blessing for Israel, the prophet Isaiah declares a promise from the Lord:

"...no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me..." [Is. 54:17]

The body of Christ can also lay claim to this heritage, since we have been grafted into God's family through our adoption as sons of God and, if we are indeed his servants, we may count ourselves blessed that no weapon formed against us will prevail.

In addition, if we abide in the secret place (shelter) of the Most High, we have a comforting promise of protection:

"If you make the Most High your dwelling -- even the LORD, who is my refuge -- then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

[Ps.91:11,12]

As further assurance, we have the inherited victory purchased by Jesus on the cross:

"And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross." [Col. 2:15]

If this disarmament occurred at the cross, why should we need to give any more thought to confiscating enemy weapons? As with many of the promises of God, we have a responsibility to appropriate the blessings through our obedience, servantship, and response to the invitation to dwell in his shelter. When the weapons of attack are used against the sons of God, protection and victory are held in the hands of those who will forcefully lay hold of the Kingdom and its blessings and not simply, through inaction, throw up their hands in abdication of ownership of all that comes with royal inheritance:

"From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it." [Mt.11:12]

The sons of God have the responsibility and duty to advance the Kingdom and to set the captives free [Is. 42:7], not only to proclaim their release [Is. 49:9; 61:1] but to actively destroy the works of the devil:

"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]

"And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons..." [Mk.16:17]

If we simply take a passive stance in battles with Satan, we run the risk of him taking up again those weapons that worked against us in the past. He will not leave your territory on his own; he needs to be evicted and his weapons confiscated.

Many of the weapons in the devil's arsenal are designed to penetrate the weak areas of our soulish nature and cause torment of the mind and/or emotions. Addictions, obsessions, anger, jealousies, etc., can all be fruitful targets for the enemy when we have not dealt fully with such breaches in our "security." Physical manifestations often accompany the torments of the soul and various afflictions can many times be traced to current or previous sin patterns, familial weaknesses, fears and/or deceptions, etc.

Whatever the particular inroads may be, our Father often provides glimpses of enemy "weaponry" in the spiritual realm that relates to the particular assaults that are being felt or suspected. Often, our teams have been given vision of specific "weapons" being used against a person. Whether these weapons are "real" (in the spirit) or merely symbolic is not always clear, but their revelation by the Lord is a powerful aid in disarming the enemy through explicit confiscation and destruction (removal of influence) of such weapons (or what they represent) in the spirit realm, through the power of prayer.

The "touches" below will help to illustrate the variety of such weapons and how their confiscation helped to set captives free from torment. Keep in mind that, because of the "unseen" nature of these weapons, there is a necessity for accurate hearing of the Lord's voice and/or keen vision in the spirit realm. Unsanctified imagination and soulish guessing are definitely hindrances to disarming the enemy, because he is a master of deception and will use fleshly proclivities to send undiscerning prayer ministers off on "wild goose chases." Thus, it is incumbent on the healing minister to use caution when "seeing in the spirit." One must know which spirit is giving the vision! There is only one Spirit of Truth -- his is the only voice we should listen to!

Loose the Noose!

At a small prayer meeting several years ago, a few of our team members were present when a gentleman asked for prayer for his neck. For several months he had been suffering from a great deal of stiffness and soreness which his doctor thought was due to stress (though this gentleman had a relatively stress-free lifestyle). Medication was only partially effective and the torment was wearing on this man's ability to concentrate and was beginning to aggravate his tendency to depression.

Of particular interest was the fact that the onset of this affliction seemed to coincide with his response to God's call to pray for the sick. Because of the obvious possibility that this pain might be torment caused by the enemy, the team began to pray for the Lord to reveal the scheme(s) of the enemy set against this brother. After a few moments one of the team members "saw" a noose around this man's neck and could "see" it being yanked to and fro. Upon breaking the power of the enemy's scheme and commanding the noose to be loosed from his neck and destroyed, the pain and stiffness left immediately! Joy and peace began to flood over this gentleman who could now move freely into his ministry.

Give Me the Whip!

Often we find that our Father wants to touch far more than just the physical affliction that may prompt a person to ask for healing prayer. The less obvious conditions of the heart are, of course, also of loving concern to our Father. His desire is that we be made whole in body, soul, and spirit!

An example of this occurred a few years ago when a woman was referred to our ministry by a dear friend who encouraged her to contact us for prayer regarding her chronic back condition. This condition was so severe that she could not travel for more than 20 minutes or so without excruciating pain. Since our nearest team meeting was over 40 minutes away by car, a small contingent of members visited her home and through conversation began to get acquainted with her situation.

This poor woman had been the victim of severe abuse of many forms all through her early childhood and even into her adult life. She had suffered many different maladies and emotional consequences, the back problem being only the most recent!

As the Holy Spirit led the team in a prayer strategy, he revealed that this woman was suffering from severe deception regarding her worth and value to the Father. She had such a low opinion of who she was, in large part due to the prolonged abuse from others, that "self-condemnation" had "invited" a demon of "self-flagellation" to torment her.

One of the team members was prompted by the Holy Spirit to ask this woman to hand over the "whip" she had been using to "beat" herself, as a symbol of resisting this manifestation of self-condemnation. As she held out her hand to symbolically "surrender the whip," everyone was surprised when she could not open her tightly-clenched fist! When the command was given, "Give me the whip!", a deep voice of rebellion came from inside her saying, "You can't have it. It's mine!"

Needless to say, the team had uncovered a demon that wasn't very happy at having to surrender his weapon of torment! After a pitched battle with this demonic presence, the woman was delivered and set free from the repeated onslaughts of this "whip" in the spirit. She was finally able to open her hand and "surrender" the whip to the team for destruction. After additional ministry of biblical truth regarding her worth in God's sight and encouragement for renewing her mind, she received a great relief from the pain in her back!

Removing the Spear!

Often there is a very simple answer to a baffling circumstance once our eyes are opened in the spirit realm. Such was the case when a gentleman came to a home ministry meeting complaining of a stomach affliction that was baffling to his doctors and would not succumb to various treatments. This man was a gifted worship leader and anointed by God for powerful ministry in the Kingdom. The stomach pain was a severe distraction and sometimes disabling hindrance to fulfilling his call.

As the team began to pray for him, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal the nature of the affliction, suddenly one of the team members saw a "spear" that had been thrust into his belly in the spirit realm by the enemy. The man was encouraged to exercise authority over this "weapon" of torment and to symbolically grab the spear and "pull it out" of his stomach. When he did this there was immediate relief and the affliction completely disappeared, never to return!

Unshackling the Ball and Chain!

Occasionally, the Lord will give a word of knowledge/vision that seems to have nothing to do with the prayer strategy employed at the moment, and of course our understanding is challenged at that moment as we must endeavor to proceed by faith, not by natural sight. Such was the case one evening as one of our team members was helping a friend minister to a woman suffering from emotional problems. After a surprising word of knowledge that led to wonderful freedom from anger and bitterness stemming from her past, the Lord then continued on a completely different tack.

The team member "saw" a ball and chain shackled on her right ankle in the spirit. He had a vision of her walking along an open dirt road and a long rut in the dirt formed behind her by dragging the ball along. While experiencing this vision, he also had the sense that this woman used to be a runner, but was having difficulty in the natural because of this ball and chain.

Before the vision was shared, the woman was asked if she like to run. She replied that she used to be a runner, but hadn't been able to run for about 15 years. She said she couldn't explain it, but she felt like she had been dragging a weight with her right leg! She had assumed that the problem was physical, but the Lord revealed that it was an enemy weapon designed to keep her from running after God in the spirit realm!

After sharing the vision, much to her surprise and astonishment, the ball and chain was "broken off" her ankle in prayer and she was set free from this 15-year old hindrance. Shortly after this encounter with the delivering power of her Savior, this woman began to run again, especially so in the things of the Spirit of God. She went on to help organize large Christian youth rallies around the country, running hard after God and filled with joy!

Let 'im Rip!

Sometimes, the workings of the Lord seem so bizarre that our natural minds are offended! But the fruit of obedience is well worth the risk of appearing foolish! Rather than having to understand before proceeding, our Father wants us to trust him with all our hearts [Pr. 3:5,6].

Such was the case at a home meeting of The Father's Touch when a man and his wife came for prayer because of the husband's longtime battle with giving of his resources for Kingdom work. He was a successful businessman and had a desire to give much more freely of his treasure, but something was blocking his ability to do so. When it was revealed that he stashed away cash in secret places and the amounts were considerable, it didn't take much discernment to identify a "miser" spirit behind his hoarding and hindrance to giving.

Rather than having the team directly confront this problem, the Lord gave a novel strategy that was particularly mystifying to the couple, at least at first. When asked if there was an influence of Freemasonry in the family line that might have led to the miserly behavior, it was revealed that there was indeed, although it was through his uncle and not his direct line. Nevertheless, the Lord was leading in this direction of investigation and a strategy was given.

The man was asked if he had a one-dollar bill in his pocket. He did, and produced it quickly. He was asked to examine the back side of the bill and to notice the pyramid symbol with the "eye of Horus" on top. This is a common symbol used by the Freemasons and has occultic meaning! Then the man was encouraged to rip the dollar bill right through the eye on the pyramid. When he tried to do so, his hands started to shake and he couldn't carry out the "symbolic" act of deliverance! As much as he tried, he couldn't tear the flimsy little piece of paper! The demon (miser) spirit spoke in rebellion, saying, "I won't let him do it!" Of course, the demon made a big mistake by speaking -- he was dispatched forthwith! Once the influence of this demonic "handcuff" was removed, the man was able to rip the dollar bill in two right through the "eye of Horus," was set free and began to give of his resources! Praise God!

Disarm Your Enemy!

As the above examples illustrate, there are many weapons that the enemy will attempt to use to torment and hinder believers as they endeavor to serve Christ. However, when our authority is exercised over these schemes and such weapons are confiscated, we affirm the promise of our Lord that "no weapon formed against us will prevail." So stand firm in your resolve to disarm your enemy whenever and wherever he may try to come against you or your loved ones. It's another way that you, as the apple of his eye, can bless your Father in heaven!

[Excerpt from "Touches From the Father", Copyright 2003 The Father's Touch Ministries.]