

**Spiritual Conflict – Volume 4:
Strategy For Conquest**
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— Study Note Outline —
SC4

Four Tape Series

- 1019 *God's Word—The Spirit's Sword*
1020 *The Gospel Of The Kingdom For All Nations*
1021 *The Power Of Personal Testimony*
1022 *Triumphant Praise*

God's Word—The Spirit's Sword
1019

I. Introduction

A. Eph. 6:10–17

1. vs. 10—All Christians are involved in direct personal conflict with Satan
2. vs. 11—Because of the nature of this conflict we have to put on our spiritual armor
3. vs. 12—Our warfare is in nature like a wrestling match—against rulerships and the realms of their authority, against the world rulers of the present darkness and against spirits of wickedness in the heavenlies
4. vs. 13—We are obligated to take the armor. It does not drop into our lap.
5. vs. 14–17—Our armor consists of:
 - a. The girdle of truth
 - b. The breastplate of righteousness
 - c. The boots of the preparation of the Gospel of peace
 - d. The shield of faith
 - e. The helmet of salvation
 - f. The sword of the Spirit (compare 1 Thess. 5:8)

B. John 10:35—The entire Scripture is the Word of God, and it cannot be broken.

1. 2 Tim. 3:16–4:2—Every book of the Bible is profitable and is given to thoroughly equip us.
2. Heb. 4:12—The Word of God is alive and energetic and sharper than any material two-edged sword. It pierces to the innermost part of human nature.
3. Matt. 4:4, 7, 10—Jesus used the weapon of the written Word of God to put Satan to flight.
4. Rev. 1:13–16—As the risen Christ, He uses the two-edged sword of the Spirit (compare Rev. 2:12, 16; 19:15–21).
5. Is. 40:6–8—The only abiding, unchanging, permanent and eternal thing that we have is the Word of God.
6. Is. 55:11—When God's Word goes out of His mouth with the Spirit, it will accomplish its task.
7. Ps. 33:6—When God Words goes out with His Spirit, it is authoritative,

corrective and creative.

8. Jer. 1:4–10—Jeremiah went from being a child unable to speak, to being set over nations and kings, because God put His words in Jeremiah’s mouth.
- C. Jer. 15:16–19—The first qualification for delivering the Word of God is to be feeding upon it.
 1. 1 Pet. 4:11—In ministry we have to supply for God a mouth piece with which to speak (see Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:5–6; Jer. 1:17–19, 26:2; Rev. 22:18–19).
 2. Lev. 19:19/Matt. 13:38—We are to sow the field, which is the world, with the seed which is the Word of God, and not to mix anything else in with that seed.
 3. 1 Tim. 1:3–4—If we leave off the preaching of the Gospel, we end up preaching fables and endless genealogies.
 4. Ps. 68:11—It is the Lord’s business to give the Word and our job to publish it.
 5. Acts 6:2–4—The primary work of spiritual leaders should be prayer and the ministry of the Word.
 6. Col. 1:23–25—First, Paul was a servant of the Gospel. Second he was a servant of the Church to completely declare the Word of God.

The Gospel Of The Kingdom For All Nations 1020

I. When Will These Things Be?

- A. Matt. 24:1–2—Just as the material temple, which was the symbol of Judaism, was thrown down, so will the material institutions of Christianity be removed. All that can be shaken will be.
 1. Vs. 3—The disciples asked Jesus three separate questions:
 - a. When will the destruction of the temple be?
 - b. What will be the sign of your coming?
 - c. What will the sign be of the end of the age?
 2. Vs. 4–6—There have been false christs and wars often since that time
 3. Vs. 7–13—This verse starts the beginning of the end-time period. International wars, great famines, plagues, earthquakes, persecution, betrayal, false prophets and lawlessness will characterize the close of this age (see Jude 14–21)
 4. Vs. 14—The sign of Christ’s coming is the preaching of the Gospel of the kingdom to all nations
 5. Vs. 15—This verse opens a specific message to the believers in Israel

II. This Gospel Of The Kingdom

- A. Acts 17:6–7—The troublesome message that turns the world upside down is that Jesus is King
- B. Matt. 2:1–3—The political and religious leaders were upset at the message of the birth of a King
- C. Ecc. 8:4—Nobody can ask the king, what are you doing?
- D. Matt. 4:23–24—The Gospel of the kingdom is a total message which brings total health to the total man (See Matt. 9:35; 10:6–8)

- E. Matt. 12:28—The kingdom of God has to be demonstrated (Luke 9:1, 2, 11; 10:8–9)
- F. Acts 8:5–7, 12—We cannot preach about the kingdom of God without a demonstration of power

III. The Commission Of Jesus

- A. Matt. 28:18–20—All authority has been given to Jesus, and we are commanded to demonstrate it. Discipleship brings us into a way of life, where we have to be taught all that the first apostles were taught.
- B. Mark 16:15–20—These signs are guaranteed to *follow* all those who go

The Power Of Personal Testimony 1021

I. Introduction

- A. Acts 1:5, 8—The baptism in the Holy Spirit is primarily to make us effective witnesses. The primary thrust of Christianity in this age should be to get the Gospel out by personal testimony to every area of the world.
“The man with an experience is not at the mercy of a man with an argument.”
- B. John 9:5; Matt. 5:14—So long as Jesus was in the world He was its light, but now that He is taken from the world, we become its light.
- C. Exodus 26:35—The lampstand (which typifies the Church—Rev. 1:20) is the sole light source to illuminate the shewbread (which typifies Jesus—John 6:48–51). The source of fuel for the lampstand was olive oil (which typifies the Holy Spirit), which had to be set on fire (the baptism).
- D. John 12:31–32—At the cross through the death of Jesus, the prince of this world, Satan, was cast out. Now when Jesus is lifted up, He will draw all men to Him.

II. Faithful Witnesses

- A. John the Baptist
 - 1. John 1:5–8—Light always triumphs over darkness. John’s supreme purpose was to bear witness of Jesus
 - 2. John 5:33–35—John was a lamp because he bore witness to the light
- B. The apostles
 - 1. Acts 4:17–20—To be witnesses requires us:
 - a. To continue telling the thing seen and heard
 - b. To obey God rather than men (Acts 5:28–32)
 - 2. Acts 10:39–41—The apostles were witnesses of Jesus’ earthly life and ministry and of His resurrection from the dead
 - 3. Acts 1:21–22—The Apostolic witness had to cover the time from John baptizing in the Jordan to the resurrection and ascension of Jesus
 - 4. Acts 4:33—We are obligated to tell the world that Jesus is alive
- C. Paul
 - 1. Acts 20:20–21—Paul declared all. He kept back nothing. He showed, taught and testified publicly and privately, about repentance and faith in God and Jesus
 - 2. Acts 22:14–15—The essence of testimony is to see and hear and then tell all

- men what you saw and heard
3. Acts 26:16—Paul’s calling was to be a minister and a servant and a witness of the things he had already seen and other things which God was going to show him
 4. Acts 26:19–23—This is the perfect pattern of personal witness:
 - a. There was a vision, a direct personal experience of Jesus Christ
 - b. He obeyed it
 - c. It extended in ever-widening ripples
 - d. He continued in it year after year
 - e. He witnessed to all alike, both small and great
 - f. His testimony related people to the Scripture, and through the Scripture to Jesus Christ

Triumphant Praise

1022

I. Praise Is The Place Of God’s Residence

- A. Ps. 22:3—God is Holy and cannot dwell in an unholy place or atmosphere. Praise sanctifies the atmosphere.

II. Praise is the Way into God’s Presence

- A. Ps. 100:4—The way into the courts and gates of the presence of Almighty God is praise and thanksgiving
- B. Is. 60:18—God is surrounded by a wall called “Salvation,” but praise is the way to get through the gates

III. The Purpose Of God’s Blessing Us

Ps. 30:11–12—God intervened in David’s situation so that his tongue could be used to praise Him (compare Ps. 16:9; Acts 2:26)

IV. Praise Is A Garment Of The Spirit

- A. Is. 61:1–3—The purpose of the preaching of the gospel, as exemplified by the Lord Jesus Christ, is to exchange the dark, gloomy and negative for that which is beautiful, glorious, uplifting and positive (see Luke 4:18–19)
- B. Is. 52:1–2—The message of God to the Church is:
 1. Awake
 2. Put on strength
 3. Put on beautiful garments
 4. Shake yourself
 5. Shake off oppression, darkness, accusation, condemnation, fear, and unbelief. Arise, get off the ground.
 6. Sit like a queen
 7. Loose yourself of every burden and bondage. In all, praise is to be central.

V. Praise As A Spiritual Weapon

- A. As a means of deliverance
 1. Ps. 50:23—When we begin to praise God in the midst of a terrible situation, salvation and deliverance will come

2. Jonah 2:1, 9—In the belly of the fish, when Jonah began to offer praise, God delivered him
 3. Acts 16:25–26—In the middle of the night praise opened the doors and loosed the bonds to set Paul and Silas free
- B. A means to silence the devil**
1. Ps. 8:2—Because of our spiritual enemies, God has ordained praise that we might silence Satan (compare Matt. 21:16).
 2. Whether for good or evil, spiritual weapons are launched by the mouths of people (see Rev. 16:13)
- C. Praise is the way into Christ's victory**
1. Ps. 106:47—God's intervention on behalf of His people is designed to bring forth praise and glory to His name
 2. Col. 2:15—Then we are able to triumph with Christ
 3. 2 Cor. 2:14—There is no time or place where the church of Jesus cannot be victorious

VI. Praise is a Sacrifice

- A.** Jer. 33:11—A sacrifice costs us something. We do not necessarily praise because we feel like it but because of what God has done for us.
- B.** Heb. 13:15–16—There are three sacrifices:
1. Praise
 2. Doing good when it costs you something
 3. Sharing your material possessions

VII. When Is It Right To Praise God?

- A.** Ps. 34:1—We must never stop praising God
- B.** Ps. 145:2—Throughout all eternity

VIII. How Should We Praise The Lord?

- A.** Ps. 111:1—Praise should be wholehearted
- B.** Ps. 47:7—We must praise God knowing what we are doing

IX. Ways To Praise The Lord

- A.** Ps. 63:3–4—By lifting up our hands to praise Him
- B.** 1 Tim. 2:8–9—This is the only physical way to praise which we are enjoined to use
- C.** Ps. 141:2—Our prayers go up to the nostrils of God just as incense, and our uplifted hands like the evening sacrifice
- D.** Ps. 149:3, 150:4—Dancing is used as a way to show gratitude, praise and worship to God

X. Who Should Praise The Lord?

- A.** Ps. 150:6—Everything that has breath
- B.** Ps. 148:2–12—There are seven things in heaven and twenty- three things on earth that are called to praise God

XI. Who Can Not Praise The Lord?

- Ps. 115:17—The dead