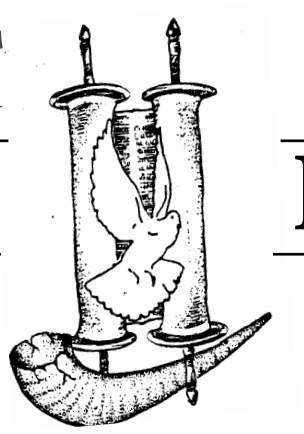
# GELOOF FAITH

## In Die Woord In The Word



**Geloof is uit die gehoor
en die gehoor is deur die Woord
van God Rom. 10:17**

**Faith cometh by hearing
and hearing by
the Word of God. Rom. 10:17**



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# Die Inhoud Van Die Beker - Die Nagmaal

Die Heilige Nagmaal was God se direkte openbaring aan Paulus vir die Kerk. Paulus het nie 'n blink gedagte gekry nie. Dit is 'n gedagte wat direk van die hemel gekom het: **"Want ek het van die Here ontvang wat ek ook aan julle oorgelewer het"(1 Kor.11:23).**

Die Heilige Nagmaal illustreer 'n preek in twee dele.
Die eerste deel kyk na die dood van Christus aan die kruis, vir jou sondes.

As dit egter die enigste deel was, sou die boodskap van die kruis die grootste boodskap op die planeet gewees het, omdat dit die enigste manier is dat jy ooit vergewe sal word, naamlik deur die bloed van Jesus Christus. Jy kan nie vergewe word deur jou goeie optrede en jou goeie dade nie of om kerk toe te gaan nie. Om aan 'n kerk te behoort kan jou nie red nie. Dit mag jou help, maar dit red jou nie. Die ding wat jou red is die bloed van Jesus Christus wat jou reinig van alle sonde. Niks behalwe die bloed! Gee lof aan die Here!

Tweedens, dit kyk vorentoe na die wederkoms van Jesus Christus as die Koning van konings en die Here van heres. Hy het gesê: **"Wanneer Ek dit nuut sal drink in die koninkryk van God" (Mark.14:25).** Daar kom 'n koninkryk en dit gaan baie gou gebeur, wanneer koning Jesus na Jerusalem terug kom. Dan gaan Hy Sy voete op die Olyfberg plaas. Dit sal in twee skeur en Hy sal na die troon van Sy vader Dawid stap en daar op die Tempelberg sit. Hy sal 'n koninkryk tot stand bring wat nooit sal eindig nie! Jy sal deel van daardie ewige koninkryk wees. Ons sal die Heilige Nagmaal hê wanneer die Koning terug kom!
**"En nadat Hy gedank het..."**
Let hierop: dat Jesus gedank het die nag toe Hy in die skadu van die kruis geleef het. Hy was op die punt om deur die Romeine gekruisig te word, wat die wreedste vorm ooit in die wêreld was om te sterf.

Hy was op die punt om deur die Romeine, wie meesters van wreedheid was, gekruisig te word. Nogtans dank Hy.
Hy het gedank toe Hy die brood gebreek het en die 5000 mense in Sy bediening met brood en visse gevoed het. Hy het gedank by Laserus se graf en gesê: **"Vader Ek dank U dat U my gehoor het"**. Toe het 'n dooie man opgestaan en uit die graf geloop.

Hy het gedank toe die Romeinse regering op die punt was om Hom tereg te stel as 'n oproerige wat te gevaarlik was om te leef. Hy het gedank toe die kerk Hom 'n ketter en 'n dronkaard en iemand wat 'n leuenaar was genoem het. Hy het gedank dieselfde nag wat Judas Hom verraai en Petrus Hom drie keer verloën het.
Die punt is dat die gees van danksegging die wonderwerkende krag van God vrystel. Gaan jy deur 'n moeilike beproewing? Gaan jy deur die donkerste vallei van jou lewe? Gaan jy deur 'n storm, 'n krisis? Wees dankbaar teenoor

(Vervolg op bls. 2)

*(Vervolg vanaf bls. 1)*

Hom en loof Sy naam; "want die Here is goed en Sy genade duur verewig". Kry 'n plek om te bid, en dank God. Sien dan hoe Sy oorwinning in jou lewe ontwikkel! Bring hulde en lof aan die Here!

In **1Kor. 11:24:** het Jesus brood gebreek en gesê: "**Dit is my liggaam wat vir julle gebreek word".** Die nagmaal is 'n gedenk maaltyd wat Christus se oorwinning aan die kruis vir jou, vier. Oorwinning oor wat? Oorwinning oor die dood, oor hel en oor die graf. Christus se dood en opstanding waarborg ons ewige lewe. **"Omdat Hy leef, sal ons ook leef".** Daar is werklik 'n plek wat hemel genoem word en ons almal is 'n hartklop weg van daar wees. Christus se oorwinning aan die kruis is 'n waarborg van ons oorwinning oor die dood, hel en die graf! Satan is 'n verslane teenstander! Hy is verslaan! Hy is vergruis by die kruis van Golgota! Die saad van die vrou het die kop van Satan vergruis! Hy kan jou nie aanraak nie! Hy kan jou nie beheer nie! Hy kan jou nie manipuleer nie! Jy is die oorwinnaar in die Naam van Jesus!

Jesus het gesê: **"So dikwels as julle dit doen, doen julle dit tot My gedagtenis".** Gedagtenis in die Joodse kultuur is 'n baie groot ding. Nie-Jode vergeet iets binne 'n dekade. Die Joodse volk onthou steeds die vernietiging van die tweede tempel wat meer as 2000 jaar gelede gebeur het. Hulle het 'n dag van rou daarvoor. Hulle onthou dinge. Jesus het gesê: **"So dikwels as julle dit doen, doen dit ter gedagtenis aan My".**

Gedagtenis is 'n daad van geregtigheid. "Onthou die nag in Getsemane, toe die Romeinse soldate gekom het om My te arresteer, toe Judas My verraai het. Onthou die Romeinse sweep wat My rug oopgekloof het met 39 slae **(Want deur Sy wonde is ons genees (Jes.53).** Onthou My bloed wat op Golgota, vir jou verlossing, gestort is **(Sonder bloedvergieting vind daar geen verlossing plaas nie ( Heb. 9:22)."** Onthou die beloftes van God, want voorsiening van die Here is in God se beloftes.

Hy het belowe om jou geneser te wees: daarom, is Hy jou Geneser! Hy het belowe om jou voorsiener te wees: daarom, is Hy jou Voorsiener! Hy is jou Herder! Hy is jou Gids! Hy is jou Verdediger! Hy is die Bron van jou hoop! Hy is jou Verlosser! Hy is jou Koning, wat binnekort kom! Halleluja aan die Lam van God!

Beskou die inhoud van die beker by die Paasmaal in die bo-vertrek. Die dissipels het naby mekaar gesit. Die een beker herinner ons dat ons 'n eenheid in die liggaam van Christus is. Ons is een liggaam. Ons het een doop. Daar is een Redder. Daar is een geloof. Daar is een Kerk, die Kerk van Jesus Christus. Dit beteken die Heilige Nagmaal oorwin dadelik rasisme, seksisme, materialisme en denominasiesisme.

Jesus Christus het aan die volgelinge die teken van die verbond van die Paasmaal gegee, die teken van die bloed en liggaam van die nuwe verbond. Dit is 'n verbond van geloof. Dit is 'n verbond van die genade: "**Want *uit genade is julle gered*, deur die geloof, en dit nie *uit* julleself nie" (Ef.2:8).** Dit is 'n verbond van liefde: "**Want so lief het God die wêreld gehad, dat Hy Sy eniggebore Seun gegee het" (Joh.3:16).**

Die inhoud van die beker bring drievoudige genesing. Eerstens is daar genesing vir die emosionele mens: **Nogtans het Hý óns krankhede op Hom geneem, en óns smarte — dié het Hy gedra (Jes.53:4).**

Kyk na hierdie twee woorde "geneem" en "gedra". Dit beteken dat Hy ons leed en smart geneem en dit weg geneem het soos die offer lam oor die kant van die krans afgegooi is. Hy het iets substansieel gedoen. Chritus het die ding, wat jy toegelaat het om jou teen die grond te gooi, oorwin. Jy moet die oorwinning wat Hy aan jou gegee het aanvaar, ons leed en smart.

Hier is 'n paar dodelike emosies wat Satan stuur om mense te vernietig.

Een is haatdraendheid. Iets het in jou verlede gebeur waaroor jy net eenvoudig nie kan kom nie.

Bitterheid, iets wat in jou gedagtes is, wat miskien 20 jaar gelede gebeur het, maar wat jy steeds aan dink.

Onvergifnis, dit sal jou uit die hemel hou. God het gesê: **"As jy 'n ander persoon nie vergewe nie, sal Ek jou nie vergewe nie"(Matt.6:15).**

Vrees vir die toeloms. Waarom sal jy die toekoms vrees, wanneer jy bestem is vir heerlikheid?

Skuldigheid van die verlede. Satan kom en herinner jou aan daardie donker hoofstuk wat met jou gebeur het. As jy jou sonde bely en dit laat staan het, is daardie sonde verwyder uit die boeke van die hemel en is jy so rein soos

*(Vervolg op Bl. 3)*

wat die bloed van Jesus Christus jou kan maak.

Wanneer jy die beker drink en die Heilige Nagmaal neem, eet en drink jy vir jou goddelike gesondheid, vir jou emosionele gesondheid en vir vergifnis van jou sonde.
Niks anders in die wêreld is presies soos die Nagmaal nie. Die geskiedenis van die Heilige Nagmaal begin met Paasfees.
**"En hulle moet van die bloed neem en dit stryk aan die twee deurposte en aan die bo-drumpel, aan die huise waarin hulle dit eet. En hulle moet die vleis in dieselfde nag eet, oor die vuur gebraai; saam met ongesuurde brode moet hulle dit met bitter kruie eet (Eks. 12:7-8)."**

Eerstens, die lam se bloed het bonatuurlike beskerming gebring teen die engel van die dood, wat teen middernag na elke huis in Egipte gekom het. Elke huis in Egipte wat nie bloed aan hulle deurposte gehad het nie, het God die eersgeborene in daardie gesin geneem deur die dood. Daar was geween regoor Egipte. Die krag van die bloed in Egipte daardie nag is dieselfde krag wat jou sal beskerm van alles wat Satan na jou sal gooi. Jy is omtrek deur die bloedlyn wat rondom jou lewe, rondom jou siel en rondom jou familie is. Wat kan my sonde wegwas? Niks behalwe die bloed van Jesus nie. Die krag is in die bloed!

Tweedens, die geslagte lam moes geëet word, ingeslote die hoof organe van die lam se liggaam. Net soos die lam se bloed beskerming teen die dood gebring het, het die eet van die lam se liggaam bonatuurlike gesondheid gebring. Die volgende oggend het die hele Israel nasie, ongeveer 'n miljoen en 'n half of meer mense, uit Egipte getrek; gered deur die bloed en genees. Vir 40 jaar was hulle nie siek nie. Dink hieraan.
**"Hy het hulle laat uitgaan" (Ps.105:37)**, beteken Hy het hulle uit Egipte geneem, "**met silwer en goud, en onder sy stamme was daar niemand wat struikel nie" (Ps.105:37).** Die feit dat Israel in die Paasfees geëet het, het genesing en goddelike gesondheid na hulle liggame, in een nag, gebring.

Jesus het gesê: **"Ek is die brood van die lewe" (Joh.6:33)** Hy het na Homself gewys en gesê: **"Dit is die brood wat van die hemel kom sodat 'n mens daarvan mag eet en nie sterf nie. Ek is die lewende brood, wat uit die hemel gekom het. Enige mens wat van die brood eet sal verewig lewe" (Joh. 6) .** Netso, ook die beker na die ete, het Hy gesê: **"Hierdie beker is My bloed, wat vir julle gestort is" (Matt.26:28).**

Laastens, indien die Nagmaal op 'n onwaardige en oneerbiedige manier geneem word kan dit jou dood beteken. Dit is ernstig. Paulus het in **1 Kor.11:27-30** geskryf: **Wie dan op onwaardige wyse hierdie brood eet of die beker van die Here drink, sal skuldig wees aan die liggaam en bloed van die Here. Maar die mens moet homself beproef en só van die brood eet en uit die beker drink. Want wie op onwaardige wyse eet en drink, eet en drink 'n oordeel oor homself, terwyl hy die liggaam van die Here nie onderskei nie. Daarom is daar onder julle baie swakkes en sieklikes, en 'n aantal het ontslaap(beteken is dood).**

Baie is swak, sieklik en sommige is dood omdat hulle die Heilige Nagmaal misbruik het. Wat het hulle gedoen? Hulle het met die nagmaal dronk geword. Hulle het dit in die Korinthiëse kerk gedoen. Paulus het 'n brief hieroor geskryf en hulle het dit gestop. Hulle het berou gehad. Wanneer jy die Heilige Nagmaal vandag gebruik, onthou dat dit 'n genesende krag in jou liggaam is.

Onthou die drievoudige doel wanneer jy die Heilige Nagmaal neem. Eerstens, ondersoek jou lewe om te sien of jy in die geloof is. Gehoorsaam ek God se opdragte? Doen ek my wil of Sy wil? As jy jou wil doen en jy rebbeleer teen die wet van God, moet jy dit regmaak in 'n gebed voordat jy nagmaal gebruik. Maak seker dat daar geen verborge sonde in jou hart is nie. Dit mag vir die kerk verborge wees, maar nie vir God nie. Maak seker dat jy in die regte verhouding met die liggaam van Christus is.
Hemelse Vader, in die naam van die Here Jesus Christus, vra ek dat U my sal vergewe vir elke sonde wat ek gedoen het. Mag die bloed van Jesus Christus aan die deurpos van my siel gesmeer word, sodat ek volkome verlos word deur die gestorte bloed van Jesus Christus. Hemelse Vader, ek vra U vir my emosionele genesing. U weet van die

ding wat my treiter. Ek vra dat U my nou verlos van die treitering van die gedagtes van dinge wat in my verlede is. Hemelse Vader U weet van die genesing wat ek in my fisiese liggaam nodig het. Wanneer ek vandag hierdie Heilige Nagmaal ontvang, laat U genesende krag deur my liggaam vloei. In Jesus se naam, in geloof glo ek en ontvang dit. Amen.

Mattheus skryf dat toe hulle geëet het, het Jesus die brood geneem, dit geseën en gebreek. Hy het dit aan die dissipels gegee en gesê: **"Neem en eet. Dit is My liggaam"**, die simbool van die liggaam van Christus.

Daarna het Hy die beker geneem, gedank en vir hulle gegee en gesê:

**Want dit is my bloed, die bloed van die nuwe testament, wat vir baie uitgestort word tot vergifnis van sondes. Maar Ek sê vir julle: Ek sal van nou af nooit meer van hierdie vrug van die wynstok drink nie, tot op daardie dag wanneer Ek dit met julle nuut sal drink in die koninkryk van my Vader. En nadat hulle die lofsang gesing het, het hulle uitgegaan na die Olyfberg (Matt. 26:28-30).** Die kruisigings proses het begin. En my en jou verlossing was betaal deur die kosbare bloed van die Lam van God, Jesus Christus van Nasaret, wat die sondes van die wêreld wegneem. Seën Sy heilig Naam.

Lees ons boek: **"Die Nagmaal en Genesing/The Lord's Table and Healing".**

## Skatkis

**Want Ék weet watter gedagtes Ek aangaande julle koester, spreek die Here, gedagtes van vrede en nie van onheil nie, om julle 'n hoopvolle toekoms te gee ( Jer. 29:11).**

Hierdie vers is deur die profeet Jeremia tot die Jode, in ballingskap, gespreek. In Babilon! Ons kan beswaarlik sê dat hulle hierdie belofte, in hulle huidiglike situasie kon sien, maar God was getrou aan Sy Woord soos dit werklik gebeur het toe hulle na 70 jaar terug gebring is na hul land!

Sommige van God se beloftes neem lank om plaas te vind, maar geloof is nodig om aan Sy Woord vas te hou en om te weet dat Sy en ons tydgleuwe verskil.

Hy bring dikwels 'n baie groter plan tot stand, een wat meer volharding en geloof in Hom voortbring.

God se vertragings is soos skuurpapier op die siel, wat die growwe plekke verwyder en ons "opvryf" sodat ons in Sy genade groei! As Hy dit gesê het kan ons met sekerheid weet dat dit sal gebeur.

# UIT ONS KANTOOR

Soos Paulus in 1 Korintiërs verklaar, hy verkondig Jesus Christus en Hom as die gekruisigde, want daarin lê die krag van God. Hy verklaar ook dat as hy swak was, dan was hy sterk, en hierdie krag het gekom van sy openbaring van die voltooide werk van Golgota.

Ons lees dan in 1 Kor. 2: 1-5: **En toe ek by julle gekom het, broeders, het ek nie aan julle die getuienis van God kom verkondig met voortreflikheid van woorde of van wysheid nie, want ek het my voorgeneem om niks anders onder julle te weet nie as Jesus Christus, en Hom as gekruisigde. Ek was ook by julle in swakheid en in vrees en in veel bewing; en my rede en my prediking was nie in oorredende woorde van menslike wysheid nie, maar in die betoning van gees en krag, sodat julle geloof nie in wysheid van mense sou bestaan nie, maar in die krag van God.** Die krag van die Kerk van ons Here Jesus Christus is bevestig in die twee elemente van die Nagmaal, en daarom het Dr James selde of ooit vir die siekes gebid het sonder om eers die kruis en Jesus se kruisiging te preek, want daarin lê God se krag om te red en te genees. Ons wie Jesus Christus as ons Persoonlike Verlosser ken is natuurlik by magte om elke dag Paasfees te vier, want Jesus het gesê dat ons "dikwels" moet onthou wat "Sy Liggaam" en "Sy Bloed" vir ons verkry het op daardie baie betekenisvolle Paasfees dag, toe Hy die Lam van God geword het en dood gemaak is as `n lewende menslike offer, sodat ons die ewige lewe kan hê en oorvloedige lewe op die aarde. Ons breek elke oggend brood en bring in gedagtenis die wonderlike genade en barmhartigheid van ons Hemelse Vader en ons Here Jesus Christus wat gesterf het sodat ons kan leef.

Nogmaals baie dankie aan almal wat saam met ons vir die behoeftes van kosbare mensies elke oggend om 7 uur bid, terwyl ons brood breek en die dood van Jesus in herinnering bring. Die gebede van God se regverdiges het groot krag en die getuienisse wat ons ontvang getuig hiervan. Baie dankie vir julle briewe en getuienisse tot eer van God, en baie dankie ook vir julle waardevolle ondersteuning vir die werk van die Here wat vanaf die Sentrum voortgaan.

Mag die Here elkeen van julle ryklik seën, en mag elke nuwe dag vol wees van die vreugde en seëninge wat Sy teenwoordigheid in ons lewens sal bring, terwyl ons meer en meer bewus word van Sy groot liefde vir ons.

Baie liefde groete

*Meg en die Gebedspan*

# THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE

Now we must have a look at the armour which God has provided for us in our fight against Satan.

In the battle against the devil, we can only win if we use ALL the weapons at our disposal!

Remember Eph 6:11, 12 describe the battle as follows: **"Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."** This Paul wrote to the Christians!

**The Belt of Truth**

**"Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist"** (verse 13) This, then, is the first weapon in our armour and It is our greatest strength against the lies and accusations of Satan. In John 8:44 Jesus refers to Satan as the father of all lies and we've seen in Genesis 3:4 how he made his first attack on man by using a lie to tempt Eve **"you will not surely die"** after God had forbidden the pair to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Today he whispers his lies into our ears just as he did then: *"God isn't a God of love; God isn't all-powerful"; I'm too full of sin to be a child of God"; "I have never really died to my old self", God can never get me out of this mess!" O yes, Satan will try every way he knows how, to twist the Word of God!*

Another favourite ploy of Satan's is to accuse us falsely. In Revelation 12:10 God so correctly calls him "the accuser of our brothers" because he is always telling God about our sins and our weaknesses. But, hallelujah! God never listens to all these lies about us because, if we are His children and live to His glory, then we and our sin, that is left in us against our will (Rom. 7:20), are covered by the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. But, oh dear, so many people listen to these lies about their lives! We bring despair upon ourselves because we would rather listen to what Satan has to say about us than what God says about us! Rom. 8:4 states most clearly: **That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.** If you are sure that you are being led by the Spirit of God, then drive Satan away with the words God has said about – the words of truth!

Another truth that Satan twists is that God puts sickness, suffering and poverty on His children, when God actually longs for all to be well with us in every area of our lives and that we should have good health (3 John 2) Jesus paid the price on the Cross for our sicknesses and by His stripes we were healed (Isa. 53: 4, 5; Matt 8:16, 17; 1 Peter 2:24). So we must reject these lies of Satan too and STAND FIRM IN THE TURTH

**The Breastplate of Righteousness**

"With the breastplate of righteousness in place" (verse 14) This is our weapon against the evil and dishonourable thoughts with which satan bombards us. Here is the righteousness which is our possession through Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:21), our victory. Many people have tried with their own little bit of goodness to keep going right, but in vain!

Evil thoughts are not sins until we entertain them. They are like the uninvited and unwelcome guests: you can accept them and entertain them or you can show them the door! Treat satan and his evil thoughts like the unwelcome guests – firmly show him the door! He is NOT ABLE to penetrate the breastplate of God's righteousness! You are righteous through Christ Jesus if you have made Him your Lord!

Feet Fitted with the Readiness that Comes from the Gospel of Peace (verse 15)
This is one piece of the Christian's armour that doesn't always fit so well because, to be prepared to make known the gospel of peace, means a continuous state of preparedness and willingness to a point where our own comfort and privileges often have to be sacrificed. We have to be constantly on the alert that we do not become so comfortable and satisfied with our own routine worship that we forget that God actually saved us so that we could be a LIVING testimony – ready, zealous and enthusiastic. A Christian with this fire in his heart has little time to be caught up in sin

and bad habits.

Take up the shield of faith (verse 16)
The shield of faith protects us from the unbelief that satan sends down like fiery darts upon us. Paul actually describes this shield as being the most important part of the armour by saying **"above all take up the shield of faith."** Our faith must be strongly anchored in the promises of God because we all know that doubt and despondency are the source of most of the confusion and misery in people's lives – they are indeed **"fiery darts"!** Satan's darts always include questions of doubt like 'Has God really heard my voice", "Has God forgotten me?", "Has it worked?. "Will it continue?"

The antidote is, of course, faith in God's promises and, what we find so effective and faith - building is speaking God's Word out ALOUD! Here we have God's promise of Jeremiah 1:12: **Then said the Lord unto me, thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.** When we quote the Word of God in relation to our circumstances, we are bringing our circumstances in line with the Word of God. But to do this requires that we treat the Word if God with the greatest seriousness. As that wonderful Christian lady, Corrie ten Boom so rightly pointed out, the shield that Paul describes here is the one used by the Romans in battle. It protected him from head to foot but only in front! His back was vulnerable because there was no provision made for those who would flee! The same applies to us as Children of God!

**The helmet of salvation (verse 17)**

This piece of armour refers to our general prosperity, both physical and spiritual because salvation (soteria) in the New Testament means prosperity. When satan attacks us with sickness, misery and adversity, we accept them with resignation, wrongly believing that God has put these obstacles in our way! Not my friend, let us realise here and now that satan is a murderer, a thief and a liar! Resist him and apply yourself, zealously to the extension of the Kingdom of God! Let our lives be like a journey we undertake. Stand on the promises of God and his care and protection; operate your lives unselfishly and sensibly and be sure that you're carrying the 'crash-helmet' of salvation!

**The Name of Jesus**
Phil. 2:9&10: **Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth.**

In the Name of Jesus, every power and demon MUST give way – so use this Name to resist the demon of fear to rebuke him, to drive him out and bind him! The New Testament abounds with mention of this powerful Name and how it was used:

Salvation: Acts 4:12 **"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven, giveth to men by which we must be saved."**
Justification: 1 Cor 6:11 ' **…. You were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."**
Healing: Acts 3:6 **"In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."**
Proclaiming the Gospel: Acts 8:12 **"… they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ …."**
Casting out the devil: Mark 16:17 **"In my Name you will cast out devils**
Discipline: 1 Cor 5: 3,4 **"…. And I have already passed judgement on the one who did this … in the name of our Lord Jesus …. To hand him over to satan…."**
Worship: Eph 5:20 **"Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ."**
Prayer: Joh n 14:13,14 **"And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."**
Gifts of the Holy Spirit: John 14:26 **"But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things ….""**
Persecution: Acts 5:41 **"The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name."**
See also: Phil 2:9,10, Col 2:10, Eph. 1:21, Col 1:13
Paul sums up all the above in Col 3:17 **"And whatever you do, whether you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the Name of the Lord Jesus ….."**

Remember, though, that the Name of the Lord is not a magic charm you call upon at will! If you do this you will find there is no power in your words! The Name of Jesus signifies the protection power of His presence and everything that He is today because of His anointing death on Calvary.

Proverbs 18:10: **"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe."**
The Name of Jesus must be used with the greatest respect. However, in the power of that Name, satan can be bound and cast our from all our daily circumstances (Matt. 12:29).
Other facts regarding the most powerful Name (Heb 1:4) are that through the name of Jesus Christ, God delegated his authority to us, (Mark 16:17; Luke 9:1; and Luke 10:9) and the quality and extent of this delegated authority is in proportion to the quality and extent of our personal victory in Christ and our ability to discern the voice of the Holy Spirit!

**The Blood of the Lamb**

Rev 12:11 **"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb."** Tell satan that you are covered by the blood of the Lamb, and then he cannot touch you, neither your body or your spirit! The Blood of Jesus speaks also of the New Covenant which breaks the power of sin (Col 1:14). It separates us from the accuser and brings us into a right relationship with God.

**The Sword of the Spirit – the Word of God (Eph 6:17)**
**"Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God."**
1 John 2:14: **"I write to you …. Because you are strong and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one."**
**Well, a whole book could be written about the Sword of the Spirit not because the other weapons are of less value or importance but because the sword of the Spirit – the Word of God, has been so neglected in the past! It seems almost as if the Holy Spirit has, in our time, revealed it to us anew! It is such a practical and encouraging weapon – it works perfectly each and every day in my personal life!**
1 Tim 6:12 **"…. You made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses."**
JESUS cast satan out successfully by saying **"it is written …"** and then quoting the Word of God. The Word lost none of its power in the quoting! We also know, by now, that the spoken word carries much power – to build up or to tear down! (Mark 11:23). WHAT YOU SAY IS WHAT YOU GET! So let's take care that the confession of our faith is good, like Timothy's! Our best testimony is the Word of God – to say what God says about us! Then we are using the sword of the Spirit as it should be used and we're coming into line for the fulfilment of the promises of God in our lives!
Jer. 1:12: **Then said the Lord unto me, thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.**
**Let us have a look at some bad and then good testimonies, then you will appreciate how irresponsibly and thoughtlessly we speak and bring failure on ourselves through our words:**

Testimony of Fear: "Well, I got the thing right today but I feel so hopeless – I wonder if I'll ever be able to do it right again?"
Testimony of Faith: Romans 8:37 "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."
Phil 4:13 "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

Testimony of Fear: "I probably will not be able to go because I'm sure I won't save enough money in time."
Testimony of Faith: Phil 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus." So, I know I will have saved enough money to go!

Testimony of Fear: "Why does it always happen to me?"
Testimony of Faith: Psalm 91:10 "If you make the Most High your dwelling ….. then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent." If I trust and allow Him to lead the way, He will undertake for me.

Try to use these confessions, often, and out aloud! Try to learn them by heart – start each day with the confessions – I can memorise God's Wonderful Word! God said I can, I Can!
Whatever I may think about myself, I CAN! Regardless of my age, I CAN memorise God's Word! When I tend to forget, I KNOW God helps! "I will not forget Your Word" (Ps. 119:6)

**Praise**

**"Let the saints rejoice in this honour and sing for joy on their beds. May the praise of God be in**

**their mouths, and a double-edged sword in the hands … to bind their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron"** (Ps 149:5,6,8)
**"Yet you are Holy, enthroned in the praises of You People, Israel"** (Ps 22:4)

Let us look at an incident in the Bible where praise was applied in a practical way with wonderful results. But let us also reflect on the healing and restorative medicine of praise! It is so effective! It operated way back in the Old Testament for the people of Israel. In 2 Chronicles 20 we find King Jehosephet in prayer because it seemed as if the Israelites were about to be destroyed. The enemy from the East had crossed the borders into Judah and were marching towards the Holy City. Jehosephat declared period of fasting and prayer and the Spirit of God began to speak. The next morning the king spoke to his people: "*Today we are going out to meet our enemy*" and all began to prepare themselves. The soldiers began to put on their armour and assemble their bows, arrows and spears. The chariots of war were assembled. As everyone was geared and ready to depart Jehosephat said "*The Lord gave me instructions. Where is the Choir?"* Can you imagine their reaction? There they all are, prepared to launch into battle and what does the king do?
He approaches one of the generals and asks where the choir is!!! The soldiers looked at one another, wondering what was the matter with their leader. But Jehosephat said: "*The Lord commanded me to place all the singers in the front. He said that they must go out in front and raise a song of praise with the words:* **"Praise the Lord because His mercy is everlasting!"**

Well, they placed all the singers in front and, singing, they all began to advance. **"Praise the Lord because His mercy is everlasting!"**
(Ps 136:1-9)
**In the enemy's camp confusion arose and they began to argue amongst themselves because they could hear the children of Israel approaching and singing praises to God as they came. There were not as many Israelites in actual numbers but God made them sound like thousands. The enemy began to fight amongst themselves and destroy one another!**

Singing praises to God, the Israelites walked into the enemy's camp, and it took them three days to gather the spoils that God had given them! Not one arrow was shot nor was one spear used! THE ISRAELITES HAD FAITH IN THE GOD AND THEY PRAISED HIM> Any time, under any circumstances, when you worship and praise God, you bind satan and his demons. So, begin right away – sing choruses out aloud and watch the fear subside as God honours your song with His Presence.

**Praying in Tongues: "And pray in the spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests"** (Eph 6:18)

This weapon is named very specifically in the list of spiritual weapons that form part of our spiritual armour as mentioned in Ephesians 6. For this reason we must take it into account or else our armour will be incomplete and we cannot expect the success against satan that we should have as children of God!

Pray for Jesus to baptise you in the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues is a powerful weapon.

**Acts 19:1-6: And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,**
**2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.**
**3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.**
**4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.**
**5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**
**6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.**

**Acts 2:1-4: And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.**
**2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.**
**3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.**
**4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.**