

Ephesians 6:17-18 — “Take...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit.”

#### PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE

The armor of God is a panoply of six pieces: Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, Scriptures. “The weapons of our warfare are not carnal (fleshly) but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds” (II Corinthians 10:4). These mighty weapons are couched in metaphors that describe the armor of a Roman soldier. The pieces of armor are largely for defensive purposes in spiritual warfare. The one exception is the “sword of the Spirit,” which is coupled with prayer. The Word of God and prayer are all the offense we need when engaged spiritual warfare. Prayer is mentioned, directly or indirectly, at least six times in the warfare passage. Here is how to pray when you are under attack: Pray all the time. Pray on every occasion. Pray with the Spirit’s power and anointing. Stay alert, and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere (They are in a warfare too). Pray for your pastor and your spiritual leaders. Pray that God would give them the right words. Pray that they would speak boldly when they preach the Gospel. At first you may not know you are in a spiritual battle. When you understand it for what it is, go on the offense with the Word and prayer. Pray in the name of Jesus. Pray boldly. Pray in the Spirit. Put the enemy to flight. He won’t stand against your prayers, because He can’t. Speak Jesus over every issue, over every concern, over every weakness. Then watch the enemy flee as your boldness increases.