

WORDS OF
JOY
Jeremiah 15:16



FIRST MELISSA

Theme verse for this teaching series

Your words were found and I ate them,
and **Your words became for me a joy**
and the delight of my heart; for I have
been called by Your name, O Lord God of
hosts. Jeremiah 15:16

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Last week... Joy of Hope

Now may the God of **hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

The HOPE Formula

- H Help others
- O Obey God
- P Persevere
- E Exclude none

Today...

Joy of Victory

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Prepare for Battle

“When you go out to **battle** [מִלְחָמָה *milchamah*] against your enemies and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt, is with you. When you are approaching the **battle**, the priest shall come near and speak to the people. He shall say to them, ‘Hear, O Israel, you are approaching the **battle** against your enemies today. Do not be fainthearted. Do not be afraid, or panic, or tremble before them, for the Lord your God is the one who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.’”

Deuteronomy 20:1-4

What Battles do we face?

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What Battles do we face?

- Disease
- Depression
- Demands
- Debt
- Divorce
- Defamation
- Doubt
- Depravity
- Distractions
- Disloyalty
- Drama
- Discouragement
- Danger
- Darkness
- Discrimination
- Detours
- Disrespect
- Dilemmas
- Dreams
- Disunity
- Drugs
- Death
- Deceit
- Decrees
- Defeat
- Delay
- Drudgery

Prepare for Battle

- Jesus said, “These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.” John 16:33
- But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. Romans 8:37
- “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” [quoting Hosea 13:14] The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:55-57
- For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 1 John 5:4

Psalm 27

“courageous trust”

-Bible Knowledge Commentary

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The Lord [יהוה Yahweh] is my **light** [אור *ohr*] and my **salvation** [ישוע *yeshua*]; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the **defense** of my life; whom shall I dread? Psalm 27:1

*For You **light** my lamp; the Lord my God illumines my darkness. Psalm 18:28

*Then Jesus again spoke to them [during Sukkot], saying, “I am the **Light** of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the **Light** of life.” John 8:12

*This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is **Light**, and in Him there is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:5

*The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; my shield and the horn of my **salvation**, my stronghold. Psalm 18:2

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The Lord is the defense of my life Psalm 27:1

“Defense” is Hebrew noun *mā'ôz* מְעוֹז

Definitions: defense, strength, stronghold, a strong fortified place

- But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength [*mā'ôz* מְעוֹז] in time of trouble. Psalm 37:39
- For You are the God of my strength [*mā'ôz* מְעוֹז]; why have You rejected me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? Psalm 43:2

When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh [intense hatred], my adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. Though a host encamp against me, my heart [לב *leb*] will not fear; though war arise against me, in spite of this I shall be confident. Psalm 27:2-3

Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. 1 Peter 5:8-9

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One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold [gaze upon] the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple. Psalm 27:4

- What should I want more than winning battles?
 - To dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life
- Seek could mean “to come morning by morning, to frequent His presence, giving Him the beginning of each day.” – New Bible Commentary
- David also wrote, “Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.” Psalm 23:6

King David wrote...

One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple. Psalm 27:4

Apostle Paul wrote...

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but **one thing** I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14

*What is the destination of those who answer the call of God in Christ Jesus? The house of the Lord.

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Helpful reminders as you read Psalm 27...

- Psalm 27 begins in Hebrew with the header “A Psalm of David.” מְזֶמֶר לְדָוִד
- Some other psalms written by David begin in Hebrew with a different phrase... לְדָוִד מְזֶמֶר “of David a Psalm.” Examples include Psalms 101, 110, and 139.
- In Psalms containing לְדָוִד מְזֶמֶר (“of David a Psalm”) the Holy Spirit was upon David and then he sang.

Helpful reminders as you read Psalm 27...

- Psalms 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 22, 23, 24, 27, 51, 63 and others begin with the phrase “A Psalm of David”

מְזַמֵּוֹר לַדָּוִד

- In Psalms (like 27) containing מְזַמֵּוֹר לַדָּוִד, David sang and then the Holy Spirit was upon him.
- The act of singing is what connected David to the Holy Spirit. King David began his prayer with sadness but would sing praises to the Lord anyway.

For in the day of trouble [עַרַּא *ra*] He will conceal me in His tabernacle [God's dwelling place]; in the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock. And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; **I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.** Psalm 27:5-6

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil [עַרַּא *ra*], for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. Psalm 23:4

Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice, and be gracious to me and answer me. When You said, “Seek My face,” my heart said to You, “Your face, O Lord, I shall seek.” Do not hide Your face from me, do not turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help [עֲזָרָה ‘*ezrah*]; do not abandon me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation [יְשׁוּעָה *yeshah*]! For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me up. Psalm 27:7-10

*Even if the strongest human love should reach its limit, the Lord’s love remains. – New Bible Commentary

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Teach me Your way, O Lord, and lead me in a level path because of [away from] my foes. Do not deliver me over to the desire of my adversaries [צַר *sar*], for false witnesses have risen against me, and such as breathe out violence. I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord [בְּטוֹב-יְהוָה] in the land of the living. Psalm 27:11-13

*David asked God to teach him before he asked God to protect him

Prepare for Victory

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Ephesians 6:10-13

Prepare for Victory

Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Ephesians 6:14-17

THE ARMOR OF GOD

Helmet of Salvation

Breastplate of
Righteousness

Belt of [absolute] Truth

Sword of the Spirit

Shield of
Faith

Feet Protected by
the Gospel

Ephesians 6:10-17



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**As we ask God for victory
over our enemies, what
else does the Bible say
about our enemies?**

Facing Our Enemies in a Biblical Way

- Jesus said, “But I say to you who hear, **love** [ἀγάπη agape] **your enemies** [ἐχθρός echthros], do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.” Luke 6:27-28
- **Never take your own revenge**, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. Romans 12:19 [quoting Deuteronomy 32:35 and Psalm 94:1]

Facing Our Enemies in a Biblical Way

What do we really want in a difficult situation?

- Our enemies to be destroyed OR The attacks to stop

What will make the attacks stop?

- When our enemies come to know the Savior and all sides are now moving in the same godly direction.

How could that spiritual change happen in their lives?

- This is why Jesus said pray for your enemies.

Tips To Pray For Victory Over Enemies!

by Christina Daniels

1. Pray

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor’ and ‘hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:44

2. Speak the Truth

“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.” Matthew 18:15

“You must not harbor hatred against your brother in your heart. Directly rebuke your neighbor, so that you will not incur guilt on account of him.” Leviticus 19:17

3. Know the Truth

“And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God’s love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love.” Romans 8:38

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.” Ephesians 6:10-18

Tips To Pray For Victory Over Enemies!

by Christina Daniels

4. Forgive

“Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Romans 12:17-21

5. Guard your Heart

“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.” Proverbs 4:23

“Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.”

Proverbs 13:20

6. Remain Righteous

“Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.” Ephesians 6:11

We have learned to fight our battles.

What about other people?

King David concludes by writing a message of encouragement directly to his readers...

Wait for the Lord; be strong and let **your heart**
take courage; yes, **wait for the Lord.**

Psalm 27:14

Our Prayer Today

You are my King, O God; command victories for Jacob. Through You we will push back our adversaries; through Your name we will trample down those who rise up against us. For I will not trust in my bow, nor will my sword save me. But You have saved us from our adversaries, and You have put to shame those who hate us. In God we have boasted all day long, and we will give thanks to Your name forever.

Psalm 44:4-8

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