### Taking On The Whole Armour Of God

Friday Fellowship, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Bro. James Menni

#### Ephesians 6:10-17

<sup>10</sup> Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

<sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

<sup>13</sup> Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

<sup>15</sup> And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

<sup>16</sup> Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

#### 62-1231 — The Contest 10 Now, this great contest has been going on for many years. It started in Heaven, and Satan was kicked out into the earth, and then he become an enemy to God's people.

And, since then, he's used all of his strength and his strategy to try to pull God's people across the fires, or, into his fires.

11 And we know that Who has the most power, God does. And God, when He gave His people the best Thing that He could to combat Satan with, was His Word.

Now, because the Word is God, and who's stronger than God?

So, the Word is God, and the Word becomes our strength.

### God in the Church, becomes its Strength to pull Satan to his own fires that he has made.

And the tug goes on. Now, Jesus said, in Mark 16, "In My Name they shall cast out devils."

#### 62-1231 — The Contest 12 Now, I know that's an old saying that people, or, there is an old saying that...and it's not so old, either.

People don't believe in demons in this day. But the thing to do, to my opinion, is know your enemy.

And—and know your enemy, and train for the contest that you're going to have when you meet him, because you're going to meet him.

And know him, know his...know what his strength is, and then train for this contest when you do meet him. For it's one thing sure, you're going to meet him, and so you train for the contest.

### 65-0822M — Christ Is Revealed In His Own Word

18 I was just talking to a young minister and his wife, in the room, just a few moments ago.

And both of them are nervous just like the rest of the world, rest of the human beings on earth.

I said, "Remember, Satan's got a punch coming at you." Don't care who you are, God...He's got a right for that one punch.

Which had you rather be, that punch; be blind, or be an arthritic setting in a chair, or be nervous? See? He's got somewhere he can punch you. He's got a right to that open place. Now, that's the spot you got to keep covered all the time. And to see this nervous age that we're living in!

#### 64-0830M — Questions And

#### Answers #3

61 ....You've got to take that inside something, that what's on the inside of you that's Scriptural.

And don't let Satan stand anywhere. It's...That's his duty to stand there and pound at you like that. But don't you listen to him.

#### 62-0311 — The Greatest Battle Ever Fought 62 This great, first battle that was ever fought, begin in Heaven, when Michael and His Angels fought against Lucifer and his angels.

It first started, the first battle was in Heaven. So, sin did not originate on earth, it originated in Heaven.

# 63 And then it was thrown down from Heaven, cast out of Heaven, to the earth, and fell on human beings.

#### Then the battle, from angels, become human battles. And Satan come to destroy God's creation, what God had created to be for Hisself. He had, Satan, come to destroy this.

That's what his purpose was, was to destroy it. Then the battle begin here on earth, and begin in us, and has been raging ever since.

#### 53-0729 — Questions And

#### Answers On Genesis 61 Now, the first man, now, He made the first man in His image, and we are returning back to that image, that's right, to our first created image.

# When God created me, William Branham, I was before the foundation of the world, He made my being, my spirit.

I wasn't conscious of anything as far as I know of, but the...I was there. Oh, I—I don't believe you're getting it.

But now, just a minute, Jesus told the disciples that He "knew them before the foundation of the world," and Paul said here that "He chose us in Him before the world began."

Now, there was some part of me, Orman Neville, and the rest of you all here, that's in Christ Jesus before the world ever began.

# And here's to my analysis of that. I think that the people today that are possessed with this Spirit,

or the spirit, a part of these angelic beings, spirits which rotated off of God, that never fell in the beginning and resisted the devil's lie in Heaven.

63 And two-thirds of the earth is in sin, and more than that, which two-thirds of the angels was kicked out. And those demon spirits come into people and habitate their body. See what I mean? They're demons that once...they was once existed and they come into the people and give them a nature.

Jesus cast seven of them out of Mary Magdalene. Pride, boast (big people, you see), unclean, filthy, vulgarity, emulations, strife. All these things, see.

64 Them was spirits that was made up back there when God began to make man off of there in His Own image. Created those supernatural beings, those spirits.

65 And then He put man in the dust of the earth, which was the first man, Adam.

# 62-0311 — The Greatest Battle

### Ever Fought

64 Now, before any battle can be put in array, they first have to choose a meeting ground, or a place where the battle is to be fought, a selected place.

67 There has to be a place selected. And in this, there's a—a mutual ground, no-man's-land, and they fight here at this place. They just don't, one fight over here, and one down here, and one run over here.

There's a battle front where they meet and test their powers, where each army tests its strength against the other army, a mutual meeting place. Now, don't (get) miss this.

# 68 When this great battle started on earth, there had to be a mutual meeting place.

There had to be a place selected for the battle to begin, and for the battle to rage. And that battlegrounds begin in the human mind.

There is where the battle starts. The human mind was chosen for the place of the battle, where it was begin, and that is because that decisions are made from the mind, the head.

Now, they never started it from some organization. They never started it from some mechanical affair. The grounds never started there.

Therefore, that organization can never, never do the work of God, because the battlegrounds, where you've got to meet your enemy, is in the mind. You've got to make your choice. It meets you.

# 65-0801M — The God Of This

#### Evil Age

54 And the world seems to be in the most evil age that ever was.

Never in any age did women ever act like that, never but just before the destruction of the antediluvian world. And Jesus referred to it. We'll get to that after a while.

55 Has God lost control, or is He just permitting another agency to control? I wonder. The true answer to this question is, to my opinion, there is two opposing spirits in the world today, at work.

Now, there can't be no more than two, two heads. And One of them is the Holy Spirit at work; the other one is the spirit of the devil, and, in this last days, in deception.

Now I'm going to base my thoughts right on here for the rest of the text, the rest of the...our Message.

56 The two spirits. One of them, God's Holy Spirit; the other one, the devil's spirit, working in deception. The people of the earth are now making their choice.

The Holy Spirit is here calling out a Bride for Christ. He is doing it by vindicating His Word of promise to Her, for this age, showing that It is Christ.

If the finger is supposed to move in this age, the finger will move. If the foot is supposed to move in this age, the foot will move. If the eye is to see in this age, the eye will see. See?

The Spirit of God, as It's growed into the full stature of God, is the age that we're now living in. The Holy Spirit is here vindicating the Message of the hour.

And the Holy Spirit is doing this, so that the people that believe God will be called out of this chaos. The devil's unholy spirit is here calling his church by the error,

as usual, by perversion of the Word of God, like he did at the beginning. See it coming right back to that seed time again, from Eden? Here it is again.

#### 63-0825M — How Can I

#### Overcome?

44 We see this age that we're living in. It's one of the grandest ages of all ages.

This Laodicea Church Age is the grandest of all the church ages, because it's the ending of time and the blending of Eternity.

And, then, it's the greatest sinful age. It's more sin in this age than there's ever been. And the powers of Satan is—is many times harder to fight against than it was in any age. See?

45 Here, back there in early ages, a Christian could, for his profession of being a church...of belonging to Christ, could be beheaded for it. He could be killed,

and put out of his misery, and go to meet God, quickly. But now the enemy has come in, in the name of the church, and it's so deceiving.

This is the great age of deception. When, Christ said so, "The two spirits would be so close in the last days till it would deceive the very Elected if it was possible."

See? See? Remember, Christ spoke of an elected people for the last day. See? "It would deceive the very Elected if it were possible." So close!

The people so live, people can live a clean, holy life; not be sinful, adulterers, and drinkers, and liars, gamblers. They can live above that, and still not with It.

46 This is the—the age of Life, personal Life of Christ, where, the—the chemical of His Body, what was in Him.

The Bride Is To Come Against The Same Thing That The Bridegroom Came Against

65-0801M — The God Of This Evil Age 37 We find now, this evil age is to prove, to Satan, She is not like Eve, that She is not that type of a woman.

And She will be tried by His Word, the Bride, as Adam's bride was tried by the Word. And Adam's bride believed every bit of the Word,

all, but confused on one promise, that, "He's the same yesterday, today, and forever," today, see; but failed on one promise, under the temptation of the enemy, face to face.

And now, the people that's called for His Name, of course, is His Bride. She is to come in contact again by the same thing; not by just denominational truth or something, but every Word!

#### <u>CAB-01 — 1 - The Revelation Of</u> <u>Jesus Christ</u>

Now remember this. Christ in the True Church is a continuation of the Book of Acts.

But the Book of Revelation shows how that the antichrist spirit would come into the church and defile it, making it lukewarm, formal and powerless.

It exposes Satan, revealing his works (attempted destruction of God's people and the discrediting of God's Word) right down to the time he is cast into the lake of fire. He fights that. He cannot stand it.

He knows that if the people get the TRUE REVELATION of the TRUE CHURCH and what she is, what she stands for and that SHE CAN DO THE GREATER WORKS, she will be an invincible army.

If they get a true revelation of the two spirits within the framework of the Christian church, and by God's Spirit discern and withstand the antichrist spirit, Satan will be powerless before her.

He will be as definitely thwarted today as when Christ withstood his every effort to gain power over Him in the desert. Yes, Satan hates revelation.

But we love it. With true revelation in our lives, the gates of hell cannot prevail against us, but we will prevail over them.

## Satan's Attack

62-0607 — Putting On The Whole Armor Of God 68 Now, we find that this great enemy of God thought, "Now, as long as they will believe that Word I can never get to them.

# As long as that little family in Eden keeps behind that Word, I can never touch them."

Neither can he today. That's right. He's still blocked off. Right. "But if I can use some real good strategy and just reason, I give some human reasonings,

because she's human, and if I can just give human reasonings, then we'll-we'll-we'll win the battle," Satan and his Angels. But then Eve gave way.

69 So therefore we know our enemy by his attacks. Maybe you didn't get it just right, the way I said it. We know our enemy:

When anyone, any spirit, any person tries to disagree with God's Word, remember, that's your enemy, that's your enemy. We know his old attack, that's the one he broke the human race down,

and that's the way he breaks them down yet today, and that's the way he gets you away from God, is to disbelieve His Word.

70 And the only way that you can ever stay in fellowship with God, and talk to Him in the cool of the evening, is stay fortified in the Word on both sides,

let the curtain of God's Word drop all around you, and you be a drop right in the middle of It. That's right. Then you're fortified. Glory!

71 Now, in order to do this, <u>he</u> has to make it very appealing, reasonings, and that's the way Satan does.

He's good at the job, and he's a good adversary. And he makes it appealing, he had to make it appealing to Eve,.....

### 62-0311 — The Greatest Battle Ever Fought 400 See his attack? Watch, listen close, this closing. His attack is what?

### Disbelieve God's Word, that's his attack. There, can you see the greatest battle was ever fought? There's only two forces: Satan and God.

And what is Satan's weapon against you? Is to try to get you to disbelieve your Weapon. He disarms you. Let's-let's listen real quiet now.

Listen. If he can get you to disbelieve your Weapon is equivalent, if he gets you to believe that your Weapon is not strong enough, he has disarmed you.

65-0829 — Satan's Eden 23 Look back here at my text, tonight. Satan was the one that preached the Word to Eve, first, "God hath said," see.

24 It's that misconstruing that part of the Scripture that applies to the day. He'll let you know all Jesus did was perfectly well.

He'll let you know all that Moses did was perfectly well. But when you take the promises that They gave for this day, then That was applied to another age.

That's just all he has to do, see, is to get the people to believe It that way, and that—that's all. For, "You cannot take one Word away from It, or add one word to It." But that's what he does.

### 62-1231 — The Contest 14 .... And always, God uses His Word. We must remember that God uses His Word to defeat His enemy.

If God could think or could have give His people anything better to defeat the enemy with, He would have done it. So as I have always said, "When God makes a decision, that's the best that there is.

He never has to alter His decisions." So the first decision God gave His people in the garden of Eden, to combat the enemy, was His Word. They were fortified with His Word.

15 And now the enemy is going to study the...our strategy with the Word. And, now, Satan studied that all out so perfectly till,

when he come to Eve, he had the—the best strategy he could use upon her, and that was to reason with the Word. Now, you never want to reason with God's Word.

Just believe It. Don't try to explain It. Don't try to figure It out. Now, you cannot figure out God, so God is the Word, and It's just made to believe.

And that's our Strength, just accept the Word. And anyone knows that a seed in the right kind of ground will produce its kind. And we just take the Word.

### Our Weapon/Armour Is A Hidden Power

### 62-0607 — Putting On The Whole Armor Of God 161 What was it? He had the whole armor of God on. Whew! Not so much as the high priest's dress, but he had something inside of him, the armor of God comes inside,

the spiritual, hidden power of God that the intellectual eye doesn't see at all. Jesus never did say, "Did you see it?" He said, "Did you believe it?" Amen. Yes, sir. Oh, my!

62-0607 — Putting On The Whole Armor Of God 147 So all of our intellectual means nothing if there isn't a hidden power of the Holy Spirit there, hallelujah, to break the hold of the devil.

But we are, wrestling match, we're wrestling not with fine-dressed intellectual psychology,

but we're wrestling with the power and the promise of God which can break any hold on any devil at any time. Jesus, our Lord, proved it when He was Emmanuel, God Himself made flesh among us.

And when He met Satan, to show that Satan could be defeated by the Word, every time Satan would come to Him, He said, "It is written. It is written."

149 Yes, we need that hidden strength like Samson had. I've seen the intellectual picture of Samson somebody drawed, he had shoulders, honest, I don't believe the man could've stood on the platform.

I never seen such shoulders! That would be no mystery, how he could pick up a lion, tear him apart, or pick up the gates and walk up on the hill with it, or something like that.

Wouldn't be no mystery, a man that size, but he was a little bitty, curly-headed shrimp, about like that, mama's little boy, little curls hanging down.

150 But where that thing was, they couldn't understand where that how he could take a jawbone of a mule and upon them helmets about a inch and a half thick,

and that old jawbone would have broke the first lick, an old powder-dry jawbone, but he just knocked those Philistines right and left with it. What was it? It was a hidden power. That's it. Didn't know where it was at. See?

# 151 That's what's the Church today, They got a hidden Power, oh, my, Something that fortifies Them.

What is it? It's the Word, the manifestation of God's grace with His people. Um-hum. Yes, sir. Yes, if you don't have the hidden Power...

Today we study in schools, we send our children to Bible schools, that's all right, remember, nothing against it, not a thing, but that's not what counts.

63-0320 — The Third Seal 86 Now, He knew that Satan would be loosed among them, so He gave them a—a place to stay behind; fortify them.

Well, there, who could know any better place to be fortified, than God, if He's trying to take care of His Own children?

87 If I wanted to take care of my little Joseph, well, brother, everything...And I knowed his life depended on it, why, l'd...and I was able to do it.

Well, if forty-foot concrete, reinforced, would—would be the thing would do it, that's...I'd make it ninety foot, to be sure, that.

88 And if I can think that about my little boy, (which, if his mortal life had lost, I believe a child would be saved,)

how much more, to God, to His child that would be Eternally lost! What should He place him behind? He placed him behind His Own Word.

As long as you're in that Word, you're safe. "If ye abide in Me, and My Words in you, then just ask what you will." That's it, the Word.

## 64-0305 — Perseverant 52 Samson, another man very perseverant. He was born a Nazarite birth.

53 A Nazarite means "separated to the Word." What a nice thing it would be tonight if all Christians would be Nazarites to the Lord; separated not to creeds, but to the Word. Christ is that Word. Separated to the Word!

54 He had seven locks of hair that hung down his back, which was the sign that he was separated.

### 64-0121 — God's Word Calls For A Total Separation From Unbelief 22 Now we find out, in Numbers, the 6th chapter, that a Nazarite's call,

# a Nazarite call was to separate themselves from all the world, to the Word of God. That is a Nazarite call, separated.

23 We find out that Samson was a Nazarite, unto the Lord, and he was separated from the...by a sign.

And this sign was that he was to wear his hair long, with seven locks. It was a—a sign of separation, that he was called for a purpose.

### 62-0607 — Putting On The Whole Armor Of God 83 But God just brings His Word more positive all the time.

He don't have to refortify It, and bring something else up, He just makes His Word more real all the time. And the Bible said,

"When the—when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of God raises a standard against it." See? Now, what is...? Then if the enemy comes in like a flood,

and God's Fortification to His people to fortify them is the Word of God, so He just raises the Word, a Standard against him. Amen.

63-0412E — God Hiding Himself In Simplicity 107 Now, when God knowed this was going to come to pass, He did for His children just like the United States does for their army. We give a man a helmet to wear, because we know he's going to use it.

We give him a—a spade to dig in. We know it's a big pound, about ninety-pound pack on his back. Some little rookie packing it, he certainly is a—a hard thing for him.

But the army knows they got to train him for that, because he's going to need it. Every piece of equipment, he's going to need it when he hits the battlefront.

108 And that's what we ought to do today, friend. We got to take the whole Word of God, 'cause we're going to need lt. We got to use every Word that's in There.

It's THUS SAITH THE LORD, and we've got to use the full Gospel, all of It. Now, when God had fortified His Church, He fortified It with the best thing that He could find,

because it's His Own children. And He fortified the Church by the Word, His Own Word. Just ask them to believe His Word, that's all there was.

# Close Your Mind To Everything But The Word

# 62-0311 — The Greatest Battle

## Ever Fought

111 See, it's your mind that opens up the door; or closes the door, and listens to your conscience, listens to your memory, listens to your affections.

But when your mind closes itself to these things, and let God, the Spirit of His Word, come in, It blows the rest of the stuff out. Every doubt is gone. Every fear is gone. Every sensation of doubt is gone.

Every feeling is gone. There's nothing standing there but the Word of God, and Satan cannot battle against That. No, sir. He cannot battle against lt. Now, we know that's true.

#### 62-0311 — The Greatest Battle

#### **Ever Fought**

394 God's army, close up your mind. Don't stop for a minute, to think of anything the devil has got to offer you through your senses. But remember, God's Word can never fail.

395 These two great armies! When the enemy comes in like a flood, as is coming today, what did God say He'd do? "The Spirit of God would raise up a standard against it." Are you one of them? Yes, sir.

396 We are taught in James 4:7, I don't have time to read it, James 4:7, to, "Resist the devil, and," he just won't walk away, but, "he'll flee." "Resist the devil." How do you resist the devil?

The same way our Chief Captain told us to do it. Take the Word of God. That's how you resist the devil, is by the Word of God. The Chief Captain told us just how it was done. All right.

397 Now, in closing, I want to say this. That old devil, now, you think he's brazen. You think he'll attack a child?

He'll attack anything. He attacked Jesus Christ. He come at Him, with three wild attacks. Did you know that? Satan didn't just only attack once.

He'll attack you with a disease, then here he'll come back and attack you, tell you, "Days of miracles is past. You didn't get healed. There's nothing to It." You know that's right?

398 He attacked Jesus three times. Three wild attacks, he run in on Jesus, with his unbelief in God's Word.

Jesus was the Word. Sure, he didn't believe it. "If Thou be...If Thou be..." Here he come, wild attacks, like sometimes the enemy today.

Here they come, said, "If Thou be the Son of God, show me a miracle. Let me see it done." Brother, three wild attacks he flew in, "If Thou...If Thou be..." 399 Now, what did Jesus? Jesus was the Word of God. He was the Word. He attacked the Word. Glory!

l-l'm just getting...just feeling good, to preach now, honest I am. That's right. Jesus is the Word. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was

And the Word dwelled, made flesh, and dwelled..." Jesus was the Word. What did He do? He cut him to ribbons. Oh, my! I'm going to quit. What did Jesus do? He was the Word.

So, with the Word, He cut Satan on his wild attack. He flew in there like a bunch of para-, storm-troopers, or something another like that, flew in on Jesus, the Word, like that.

And Jesus took that Word, and sliced him to pieces. Hallelujah! Sure, sliced him to pieces, defeated him with the Word.

### 50-0819 — Show Us The Father

#### And It Suffices

43 Jesus had all the fine qualities of God in Him. Do you believe it? He had powers upon powers, but when He met Satan, He never used His power,

He give an example for the weakest of Christians. When He met Satan, He said, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

The weakest Christian can take that stand, hold it. Sure, God's in His Word.

Every time when He meet the enemy, He said, "It is written."

I believe He had power to do it, but He met Satan on the same grounds with the same Word that you can meet him with, every one: "It's written."

You believe it? Why, it's written, "Whatsoever things you desire, when you pray, believe you receive them." Watch the order of the Word: "Believe," now, present tense, "you receive it, and you shall have it." It'll be given to you later, but believe it now. Before you can get your crop, you got to plant the seed, water it, believe it.

Don't dig it up every morning to see if it's...every time you dig it up, you'll delay it that much more, it'll never grow if you keep digging it up.