



Marlboro Heights Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.

2901 Illinois Avenue - Killeen, Texas 76543

P.O. Box 11568 - Killeen, Texas 76547

254. 690.4521 Office - 254.690.4546 FAX

Shaun L. Moton, Pastor/Teacher

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Spiritual Warfare is the inevitable conflict confronting each aspect of every believer's identity in Christ. It is the adversarial attack against the body to shock the mind and ultimately wound or break the believer's spirit. In doing so, the adversary contends our devotion to God will be disclosed by our willingness to deny Him of our love and loyalty.

Proverbs 17:22 says, *"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones."* The word spirit in the context of this verse refers to the mental and emotional disposition of an individual. It refers to one's inner emotional state of being that, when crushed or broken, dries up the bones (sickness and depression.)

Proverbs 18:14 says, *"The spirit of a man can endure his sickness, But as for a broken spirit who can bear it?"* Here, spirit refers to the strength and resilience empowering one to endure life's hardships and afflictions. However, a spirit that has been wounded or broken makes it difficult to survive, let alone overcome life's adversities.

The Classic Example

In the book of **Job 1:8-12**, we are exposed to the adversary's attack launched against a servant of the Lord.

In **verses 13-15**, the Sabeans attacked his servants and stole his oxen and donkeys, leaving one servant to inform Job of the matter.

While this servant was still reporting, **in verse 16**, another showed up to inform Job that lightning from heaven fell and burned up his sheep and the servants, destroying them, leaving him alone to tell Job of the matter.

While he was still making his report in **verse 17**, another came to inform him that the Chaldeans formed three bands to raid his camels, killing his servants, leaving only him alive to tell Job of the matter.

While he was still reporting in **verses 18-19**, another servant came in to inform him that while his sons and daughters were feasting in his eldest son's house, a windstorm struck the four corners of the house, killing all of his children and only he escaped to inform Job.

In **verses 20-22**, Job's resolve was to demonstrate worship and declare praise. The Warfare for Job in Chapter 1 continued in **Job 2:1-10**. It progressed beyond the devastations of destruction and death to being persecuted under the progressive pressures of personal pain and perplexities. Even in this, the adversary could not break the spirit of Job, causing him to curse God and die. Although wounded, bruised, and bleeding amidst this Warfare, Job's mind maintained its resolve.

We may conclude that Job's experiential knowledge of The Will of God enabled him to persevere under the adversary's adamant attacks. He persevered and ultimately prevailed by the Wisdom, Knowledge and Understanding derived from and directed by the Truth he applied to his life.

What is the assignment of Truth to the course of Wisdom?

Truth *discloses my need for Wisdom, admonishing me that in its absence, I have no direction for my thoughts, choices, words, and deeds. I may be informed, instructed, inspired, and influenced by Truth, but in the absence of Wisdom, I am at the mercy of my own ways.*

What is the assignment of Truth to the course of Knowledge?

Truth holds accountable the partnership between one's Attentiveness to the Word and one's Application of the Word. In the absence of one's Application to the Word of God, one may attend to learning but fail to attain the Knowledge of Truth.

1 Timothy 2:4 tells us, *“God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the Truth.”* In 2 Timothy 3:1-7, we are told, *But realize this, that in the last days, difficult times will come. ² For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. ⁶ For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the Truth.*

John 8:31-32 tells us the only hope of deliverance that comprises the certainty of becoming a reality in the life of believers from the vices of Error is the Truth to which they are found willing to subscribe and submit.

This Truth discloses our Need for **Wisdom**, directing our course to **Knowledge** that authenticates **Understanding** through our consistent and continual Application of the Word of God.