WEAPONS OF THE SPIRIT
II Corinthians 10:1-6

Introduction
The Scripture often uses military metaphors to describe the battle we are in.

- I Timothy 1:18 – “Fight the good fight.”
- II Timothy 2:3 – “Endure hardship as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”
- I Peter 2:11 – “Avoid sinful desires which war against your soul.”
- Matthew 16:18 – “The gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

We also see the battle in our own experience.

- In our struggle against sin.
- In the attacks on Christians around the world.
- In the opposition to Christ and the Gospel.

We are in a battle for the heart and soul of men and women.

How do we fight this battle?

I. We follow Christ as our example.
Verses 1-2
The false teachers charged Paul with being weak and unqualified as an apostle.
Paul was following the example of Christ.
- Meekness is not weakness. It is strength under control.
- Gentleness - kindness and fairness.

We are to follow Christ’s example of meekness and gentleness in dealing with others too.

- In Evangelism – I Peter 3:15 – “With gentleness and respect.”
- In Apologetics – II Timothy 2:24-25 – “Gently instruct.”
- In Suffering – I Peter 2:21-23 – “He made no threats.”
- In Church Discipline – Galatians 6:1-2 – “Restore him gently.”
II. We fight with the weapons of the Spirit. Verses 3-4

We don’t wage war as the world does. The weapons we have been given are divinely powerful for the destruction of strongholds.

What are the weapons of the Spirit?
Ephesians 6:10-18

• Belt of Truth
• Breastplate of Righteousness,
• Gospel of Peace,
• Shield of Faith,
• Helmet of Salvation
• Sword of the Spirit — The Word of God
• Prayer

They are scorned by the world, but they are the weapons Satan fears the most.

“The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work and prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.” Samuel Chadwick

III. We take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ. Verses 5-6

“This passage is an admonition to the church and her leaders that we don’t meet the challenge of the world with human wisdom and philosophy; with secular entertainment and attractions; nor with massive organization. We meet it with prayer, faith and the Word of God.” Philip Hughes

The Word of God has power to demolish:

• Arguments – reasoning and philosophies – the wisdom of man.
• Pretensions – high things and proud thoughts – the arrogance of man.
These strongholds belong to the realm of the will and intellect. Unless they are torn down, his tower will be his tomb.

What are the strongholds of the enemy? They are the arguments and lies of the evil one that keep people from coming to Christ.

**Conclusion**

How do fight this battle?
- We follow Christ as our example.
- We use the weapons of the Spirit – the Word of God, faith and prayer.
- We take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ.