

Bernie Townsend
Prophecy (paraphrase)
For Gateway Church, Kapiti Nov 2011.

“The weapons which you are using , although good for the time, are no longer effective for this current day and time. New weapons are needed for the ongoing battle, to defeat the enemies, and to extend My Father’s Kingdom.

Come aside, I will introduce you to the new armor and weapons, I will show you how to use them effectively.

Share this message with the church and with the elders.”

WW2 Soldier – in action, with weapons



Modern Soldier –with equipment



Features of modern war equipment:

Night vision	Heat sensing vision	Advanced helmet
GPS	Light-load multi-spraying rifle and magazines	
Rocket launcher	Infra-red aiming	Protective eyewear

Providing support for:

Knowing where you are, and where you are going
Fully protective environment
Sense presence and position of other people – in all conditions (Incl dark)
Pin-point aiming
Multi rapid bullets

Environmental commentary:

Modern warfare does not necessarily require soldier to be aggressive in seeking and destroying.

Modern enemy destruction is conducted by a back room operator seated in front of a screen, directing a missile to a target, chosen from aerial intelligence, with pinpoint accuracy, constantly adjusted in flight by onboard computers and TV cameras in the nose of the rocket.

While the role of a modern soldier will include mopping up resistance, the main role is for peacekeeping:-

- re-engineering building broken infrastructure (bridges, roads, etc)
- training and encouraging locals to protect themselves,
- rebuild their homes and shops,
- clear the mines,
- plant their fields.
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“Therefore go and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”. Matt 28:19 -***- Handout

Application of prophetic word (above)

Personal for Bernie Townsend – 2012/13

Vulnerable – Dawn journeyed with me, and in her own way

Because the old weapons pertaining to myself were now described as being redundant and ineffective for the tasks ahead, I was invited to honestly and comprehensively deal with, evaluate, and put aside all my previous convictions, about :-

Things spiritual	Knowledge and understanding of His omni-presence
Things worship	My work, play, relationships, reflections, scriptural reading
Prayer and intercession	Prayer form, intercessory practices

For I came to realise that my world the world of Bernie Townsend, his goals, objectives, dreams and structure were all of my own making.

To change this, I had to acknowledge the failings of my previous practice(s) and my habitual reliance on them as regards thing spiritual. Attitudes of and relationships with God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit.

I had to learn to listen to and respect my appointed/anointed instructors in things which are new for me.

I was being invited to become an open vessel – yielded, surrendered.

The journey would have me deal with unfamiliar emotions, oppressed judgments, attitudes.

Specifically, for me, the new “weapons” have included;-

Time, Mind, - Financial, Eating, Exercise, Prayer, and Attitude.

Time

Spend time listening for identifying and obeying the directions of the Holy Spirit.

Definitely not my will – scary; I thought that I knew Him.

Matt 4:24

“News about him spread **all** over Syria, and people brought to him **all** who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and **he healed them all**”

Acts 5:16

“Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and **all of them** were **healed**.”

He only did what He saw His father doing

John 15:10

“If you keep my commands, you **will** remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in **his** love.”

Mind

Listen to, acknowledge, follow and respect those instructors whom I have given and they have embraced of the use of the new weapons– yield to His will through them especially with regard to what you perceive and do:-

Holy Spirit says” I am the one who is more than you can begin to imagine. Yet I anchor your deepest longings. Your love for Me is not powerful enough for you to change yourself, yet I am the one whom you can trust. I am the voice in the wind, the smile in the moon, the refreshing of life that is water. I am the common wind that catches you by surprise and your very breath. I am a fire and fury opposed to anything that is not the Truth that is hurting you and keeping you from being free. I am the weaver, you are a favourite colour, and Jesus is the tapestry”

Financial

Luke 9:3

“He told them: “Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no **money**, no extra shirt.”

Luke 16:13

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and **money**.”

Dawn and I as a family have had to eliminate all debt (mortgages, credit cards, overdue bills) so that we can live within our means in the years ahead our financial resources can be used for the Kingdom.

This achievement required us to come together closely as a couple, to examine both of our spending habits, to submit wants and needs with one another, to compile a budget for monthly expenditure, and to review actual progress against the budget.

I was required to involve Dawn more in actual expenditure and financial planning. This was difficult for me, being a financial accountant most of my life. However, the deferral of this to my wife Dawn has provided a sound foundation for us both to live in the future on National Superannuation, alone. This wasn’t easy for me to relinquish control!

We as a family have sufficient, more than enough, this is **not** the message of retailers, banks, or consumer society. And so for the 50th year of our marriage – the year of jubilee!

Eating

I am a product of what I eat.

“Why spend money on **what** is not bread, and **your** labor on **what** does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and **eat what** is good, and **you** will delight in the richest of fare.”

(Is 55:2)

“So whether **you eat** or drink or **whatever you** do, do it all for the glory of God”.

(1 Cor 10:31)

My health was not fancy, with diabetes, asthma, and hypertension; I was not a picture of good health to fulfill all that the Lord has for me to do. With Diabetes, I could not ordinarily be asked to work in Nepal for example, where regular access to good quality insulin is not readily available.

Since last March, as directed by the Holy Spirit, Dawn and I consumed no animal products – dairy, milk, cheese, meat or any products from those sources. We ate predominantly plant-based food. We developed a high reliance on our home garden to provide most of our food needs. Now I have been for 70 years a meat and three vege person, love pies, love fish and chips, love all roast and especially crumbed cutlets!

I was to learn that meats from the farm provided through supermarket chains are in general so treated with chemicals, hormones, and anti-biotics for various reasons known to the growers and suppliers from their very birth through the works to the supermarket shelf. The ineffectiveness of my body’s immune system was being compromised by partaking of these items. It was not the sugar, but the fat that was harmful, fat in the animals and in the preparation, as well as the various chemicals, hormones, and anti-biotics fed to the animals on the farm.

This is of little concern to primary producers (farmers), food processors, or retailers. Them and the medical profession and drug companies had little interest in my being healed.

Exercise

“Do you not know that in a **race** all **the runners run**, but only one gets **the prize**? **Run** in such a way as to get **the prize**.”

(1 Cor 9:24)

“**Therefore**, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and **the** sin that so easily entangles. And let us **run** with perseverance **the race** marked out for us,”

((Heb 12:1)

The requirement for me was to be fit for His tasks and for what I might be asked to do for and with Him.

In His day, Jesus walked everywhere, no cab, bike, plane for the Son of God!

The exercise regime which I undertook both in the gym and along the tracks in the hills around Kapiti and beyond was hard and painful. It hurts to walk for 5 -8 hours at a time, it is uncomfortable not knowing where you are going in the bush except for following a small orange triangle but successful., it is fearful climbing 900 metres vertical over rocks, tree stumps and roots and then descending almost as directly.

Dawn and I covered a total of 124km recently on three private walks at the top of the south island, successfully.

Prayer

Prayer is about listening, not talking -Listen to Him and His voice; knowing Him and what he desires. Prayer initiates and further relationships, with the Holy Spirit, Jesus, and His Father, all who are seeking intimacy with me.

Matt 12 :50

“For whoever does **the will of my Father** in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”:

Gal 1:4

“who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from **the** present evil age, according to **the will of our God and Father**,

I was invited to learn to become intimate with His Holy Spirit.

Continual prayer, carrying the presence of Holy Spirit with me at all times.

I am being asked to be constantly aware of His presence in all circumstances as His representative.

His presence features: - love, patience, joy, and power – signs and wonder. He responds to specific prayer requests – which He prompts, and then He proves His presence and His will.

This requires sometimes addressing the devil front on, and his pomp and works.

Isaiha 52; 1-2

“We do have an enemy”

Isaiha 45;2-3

“That war is against your heart, which is the place of your glory.”

John 1; 4-5

“The question is not are we spiritually oppressed, but where and how.”

Fighting for your heart

“It is the image of God reflected in you that so enrages hell; is it this at which the demons hurl their mightiest weapons” William Gurnall.

Attitude:

The exercise regime which I undertook both in the gym and along the tracks in the hills around Kapiti and beyond was hard and painful. It hurts to walk for 5 hours at a time, it is uncomfortable not knowing where you are going in the bush except for following a small orange triangle. It is fearful climbing 900 metres vertical over rocks, tree stumps and roots and then descending almost as directly. Most of my thoughts were about identifying a flat clearing which a rescue helicopter could land.

I found it very difficult to embrace a plant-based diet and to get enjoyment from barbecuing lettuce, celery, silver beet, onions and potatoes, only. My body cried for a steak, a sausage, a pie – but that would only tie up my stomach and digestive system. I observed and spent time with my chief instructor. I saw sin in his life, I saw blind adherence to the principles being taught me, I saw intolerance towards my old habits.

I found it very difficult working with my instructor. No academic qualifications, No praise, just constant correction. Never minding if I embraced the new lifestyle or not.

How did I relate to the household, its resources, purchase and resources being home most of the time, and not being the principal bread winner?

I slowly began to see that my attitude stunk!

I was judgmental, critical and unhelpful. I was angry and short, argumentative, I was frustrated.

My attitude needed to change!

How is your attitude - it determines your altitude. If you can identify with my journey, and need an “attitude fix”; then come up the front and let us pray with you.

Yield and surrender to the work of the Holy Spirit. ***. Altar call

Handout

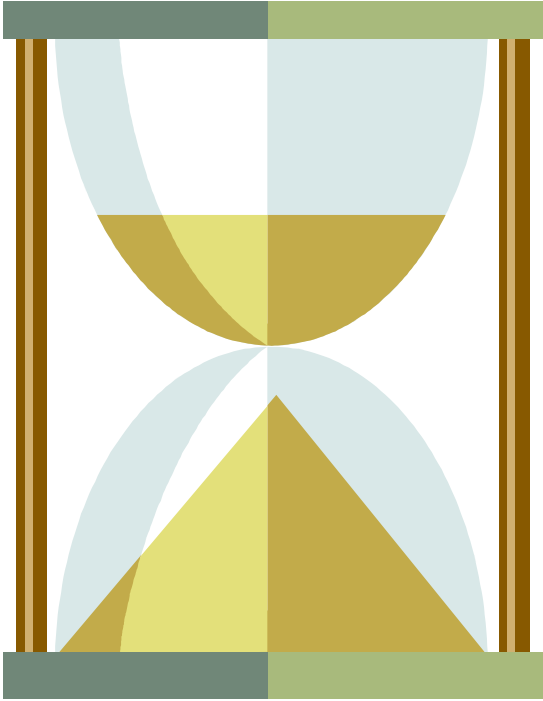
Scriptural paradigm for modern warfare weaponry

Features	Scripture reference	Commentary
Night vision, Heat sensing vision Infra red aiming	He came to give ..sight to the blind (Ps 146:8; Luke 4:18)	To accept and see the spiritual dimension of life, to recognize things spiritual, to deal with them appropriately
Global positioning system	“Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going.” (John 8:14; Roms 15:26)	Maintain an acute awareness of one’s position and mission in life – and to “go for it”! Constant search concerning to whom we belong and where we belong. “I have decided to follow Jesus” Is this really true?
Advanced helmet	“But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet ” (1 Thes 5:8; Eph 6:17)	The helmet is one of continually covering our head with the fact and all the aspects of personal salvation. Importance because our head contains our thoughts and our memories. Our head is truly the battlefield – for the heart and for the mind! (Roms 15:5, 15:6,16:18, 1 Corr 1:10, 2:16, Phil 4:7).

Features	Scripture reference	Commentary
<p>Light-load multi-spraying rifle and magazines Rocket launcher</p>	<p>“ Let your sharp arrows pierce the hearts of the king’s enemies; let the nations fall beneath your feet”. (Ps 45:5) He said to them, “But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don’t have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one” (Luke 22:36) “For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” (Heb 4:12)</p>	<p>We are in a life- long battle. War has been declared upon each of us, we have no option but to fight, To fight well, bravely, and conclusively. To fight as the Lord directs, with spiritual weapons, to overcome the enemy and the world</p>
<p>Protective eyewear</p>	<p>“The LORD protects and preserves them— they are counted among the blessed in the land— he does not give them over to the desire of their foes.” (Ps 41:2) “These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.” (Ps 42:4) “In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.” (Eph 6:16) “But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.” (2 Thes 3:3)</p>	<p>The enemy (and we all have one – or more –) seeks to take out our eyes, so that we cannot see properly. When we see, we can focus and make decisions and act. Jesus healed people who were blind. His protection is consuming, all pervading, constant and effective, we need to stay in His presence, at all times and in all circumstances. Not a matter of morning prayers and then get on with the day, no, He comes with us, His Spirit dwells within us!</p>

Pictures:

Time,



Mind



Financial



Eating



Exercise



Prayer



Attitude

