

2 Corinthians 10:3-5: Strongholds

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

NEW KING JAMES

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

PHILIPS NT

The truth is that, although we lead normal human lives, the battle we are fighting is on the spiritual level. The very weapons we use are not those of human warfare but powerful in God's warfare for the destruction of the enemy's strongholds. Our battle is to bring down every deceptive fantasy and every imposing defense that men erect against the true knowledge of God. We even fight to capture every thought until it acknowledges the authority of Christ.

PASSION TRANSLATION

For although we live in the natural realm, we don't wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims. Instead, our spiritual weapons are energized with divine power to effectively dismantle the defenses behind which people hide. We can demolish every deceptive fantasy that opposes God and break through every arrogant attitude that is raised up in defiance of the true knowledge of God. We capture, like prisoners of war, every thought and insist that it bow in obedience to the Anointed One.

For though we live... 4043 peripateo (from 4012 and 3961)

to walk; to make one's way, progress; to make due use of opportunities; Hebrew for, to live; to regulate one's life; to conduct one's self; to pass one's life

...in the world... 4561 sarx

flesh (the soft substance of the living body, which covers the bones and is permeated with blood) of both man and beasts; the body; born of natural generation; the sensuous nature of man, the physical nature of man as subject to suffering; the earthly nature of man apart from divine influence, and therefore prone to sin and opposed to God

...wage war... 4754 strateuomai (middle voice from the base of 4756)

to make a military expedition, to lead soldiers to war or to battle, (spoken of a commander); to do military duty, be on active service, be a soldier; to fight

...according to... 2596 kata

down from, through out; according to, toward, along

...the weapons... 3696 hoplon (probably from a primary hepo to be busy about)

any tool or implement for preparing a thing; arms used in warfare, weapons; an instrument

- ...we fight with...** 4752 strateia (from 4754)
an expedition, campaign, military service, warfare
- ...of the world...** 4559 sarkikos (from 4561 fleshly, carnal)
having the nature of flesh, governed by mere human nature not by the Spirit of God;
having its seat in the animal nature or aroused by the animal nature; human, with the
included idea of depravity; pertaining to the flesh; to the body, related to birth, lineage
- ...they have divine power...** 1415 dunatos (from 1410 able, powerful, mighty, strong)
mighty in wealth and influence; strong in soul; to bear calamities and trials with fortitude
and patience; to be able (to do something); mighty, excelling in something; having
power for something
- ...to demolish...** 2506 kathairesis (from 2507)
a pulling down, destruction, demolition
- ...strongholds...** 3794 ochuroma (from 2192 to fortify, through the idea of holding safely)
a castle, stronghold, fortress, fastness; anything on which one relies; of the arguments
and reasonings by which a disputant endeavours to fortify his opinion and defend it
- ...we demolish...** 2507 kathaireo (from 2596 and 138 including its alternate)
to take down; without the notion of violence, to detach from the cross, one crucified;
with the use of force, to throw down, cast down; to pull down, demolish; the subtle
reasonings (of opponents) likened to a fortress, i.e. to refute, to destroy
- ...arguments...** 3053 logismos (from 3049 a reckoning, computation)
a reasoning; a judgment, decision, such as conscience passes
- ...every...** 3956 pas
each, every, any, all, the whole, everyone, all things, everything; some of all types
- ...pretension...** 5313 hupsoma (from 5312 a thing elevated, height)
of space; elevated structure i.e. barrier, rampart, bulwark
- ...that sets itself up...** 1869 epairo (from 1909 and 142 to lift up, raise up, raise on high)
metaph. to be lifted up with pride, to exalt one's self
- ...against...** 2596 kata
down from, through out; according to, toward, along
- ...the knowledge...** 1108 gnosis (from 1097)
knowledge signifies in general intelligence, understanding; moral wisdom
- ...take captive...** 163 aichmalotizo (from 164)
to lead away captive; metaph. to capture ones mind, captivate
- ...thought...** 3540 noema (from 3539)
a mental perception, thought; that which thinks, the mind, thoughts or purposes
- ...to make it obedient...** 5218 hupakoe (from 5219)
obedience, compliance, submission