



# THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BIBLE OUTREACH

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## MONTHLY VIGIL

**Pastor A.S.O Olaleye**

**September 16, 2022**

Topic: Overcoming the Attack of the Enemy.

Text: Isaiah 59:19 (NKJV)

*"So shall they fear The name of the Lord from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him.."*

For some years ago till now in Nigeria we have been experiencing terror in this nation. Insecurity, killing, kidnapping, rapping, banditry, scarcity, e.t.c.

The Bible says we have a real adversary who seeks to steal, to kill, and to destroy. In fact, Peter warns us in his letter in 1Peter 5:8-9 *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."*

1 Peter 5:9 *Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.*

Sometimes the roaring of lion can be deafening (Loud enough to cause temporary or permanent hearing loss), because it pursue relentlessly. It is the same with the case of the enemy.

How are we to stand firm against him and remain strong in our faith?

Isaiah sheds some light on what to do when the enemy attacks which offers us hope and confidence.

The prophet says, "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him and put him to flight." Isaiah 59:19 (Amp)

Someone commented on that passage with a perspective that has to changed our outlook on the attacks of the enemy in our life.

It will give us greater confidence and transform our thinking about the nature of spiritual warfare!

We must not accept defeat and we need to understand the passage.

Every word in the Bible is inspired by God, what was not inspired are the chapter divisions, verse numbers, and punctuations.

These were inserted later by translators to make the Bible easier to read and locate verses for study.



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So, what if you moved the comma in this verse from where it is now and placed it after the word in?

Just simply moving the location of the comma would change the emphasis of the passage.

No longer would it read When the enemy comes in like a flood, ... (with the emphasis on the enemy's attack). Instead, it would read like this:

"When the enemy shall come in, LIKE A FLOOD THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD WILL LIFT UP A STANDARD AGAINST HIM AND PUT HIM TO FLIGHT."

No longer do we need to feel overwhelmed by the attack of the enemy.

Yes, the enemy may have come in, but like a flood, the Spirit of God will lift up the standard of His Word and His promises and His power against him and put him to flight! How awesome is that? The emphasis now is on the irresistible power of the Spirit of God to fight on behalf of His people!

You are no longer a victim! You are a victor in Christ!

Has the enemy attacked you? Your family? Your possessions? Take heart! Like a flood the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him and put him to flight! What you need to do is to stand firm against him and be strong in your faith! The victory is yours and the battle is the Lord's!

What Does It Mean When God Raises Up A Standard?

A standard was an old English word that was used in battle when a standard or flag was raised; it was the signal for all the troops to rally at that point. It means to fly (to the attack) on horseback and to re-strategize.

What to do when the enemy come in like a flood to overcome:

1. Understand The Spiritual Nature Of The Attack.

First and foremost you need to understand that when you come under attack that it is spiritual in source and nature.

Many times that we are tempted to look at the circumstances or people and view them as the enemy.

They may be tools of the enemy, but the enemy is spiritual, not physical.



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Your enemy is not people, finances, or obstacles of any kind.

The cause is a spiritual agenda that wants to stop you from doing the things you are doing to stop you from being fulfilled.

2. Use Spiritual Weapons Against The Attack.

Next, you need to understand that the weapons of our warfare are not physical but spiritual. (2 Cor. 10:4)

If you are going to fight a spiritual battle, you have to use the weapons that work in that realm. These weapons are prayer, fasting, and the word of God. When you are in a spiritual battle, you need to increase your prayer time, skip some meals, and get into the word of God for both direction and the building of your faith.

Don't try to win this battle with human reasoning and methods, let the Lord win the battle for you.

Let His Holy Spirit lift up the "battle standard" against the enemy.

So let the Holy Spirit be the one that lifts up that standard that repels the enemy.

3. Do Not Give Up Before The Battle Is Over.

One of the greatest temptations and mistakes any one can make is to give up when things were getting hotter.

I have learned that many times that battle rages and become very hot when the victory is almost won.

You need to understand that the enemy of our souls has an intense hatred for anyone that will follow Jesus wholeheartedly.

He will not just lay over like a beat dog and expose his neck at the first sign of battle. He goes around like a roaring lion, not a whipped puppy. (1 Peter 5:8) He is looking to devour you.

So when things get hot, when they get tough, when they get scary, don't give up.

Your Redeemer draws near. Luke 21:28 "Luke 21:28 Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."



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### 4. Understand That The Battle May Cost You.

Most of us have a concept of a lossless victory. As in warfare in the physical realm, war costs lives and resources, so too in the spiritual realm, it may cost you.

That is the price of taking up your cross and following Jesus.

The Apostle Paul is an excellent example of how spiritual warfare cost him. He was beaten, stoned, imprisoned, left for dead, famished, etc.

All of those things are the cost of the war that the enemy brought against him. But he learned a crucial lesson in all of it that he recorded for us in

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 "And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. 8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. 9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

