

Notes: June 25, 2016

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Jeri - Drash
8. Praise and Worship Songs
9. Message
10. Aaronic Blessing
11. Kiddush
12. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: Waging War in the World

Being a Believer alone, does not guarantee you the power of God or victory. Just like keeping a Bible under your pillow does not protect you from attacks in the night. A bible can be purchased in the bookstore but the holiness and power in it is not for sale. The words and the power come to life only when we work with God as He intended for us to do.

Our greatest fear should not be of failure, but of succeeding at something that doesn't really matter. Your life is an amazing gift from God. Living life to the fullest and in victory is only achieved by filling it with all God has planned for you. Don't waste the life He has given you.

Jeri just explained how to achieve spiritual victory so you can move forward in your life. She provided three primary steps:

Step # 1: Know! *If you want victory, you must know certain things. Living as a Believer is always dependent upon Biblical learning. If the adversary can keep us ignorant, he can keep us powerless. So if you want victory, it's got to start with knowing biblical truths.*

Step # 2: Consider or Reckon! *In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Messiah.*

Step # 3: Yield! *“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master.*

But once you have achieved spiritual victory, what now?

1Ti 6:12 Fight the good fight of the faith, take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you testified so well to your faith before many witnesses.

1Ti 6:13 I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before the Messiah Yeshua, who in his witness to Pontius Pilate gave the same good testimony,

1Ti 6:14 to obey your commission spotlessly and irreproachably until our Lord Yeshua the Messiah appears.

He has given you the keys to the Kingdom, yet the Kingdom will be attacked and you are be expected to do battle.

Mat 11:12 From the time of Yochanan the Immerser until now, the Kingdom of Heaven has been suffering violence; yes, violent ones are trying to snatch it away.

The Greek is difficult. As rendered, it means that **violent ones** (demons and their human vehicles) are trying to keep God from carrying out his plan through Yeshua, e.g., through Herod's having put Yochanan in prison (**Mat 11:2**). An alternative understanding, "... the Kingdom of Heaven has been advancing forcefully; and forceful people are seizing hold of it,"

The Kingdom of Adonai is being challenged.

In a similar manner there was a battle this past week, involving a Kingdom and its sovereignty...

The United Kingdom had a referendum regarding its status in the European Union on June 23rd. The issue at hand had to do with its sovereignty as a nation / Kingdom.

The European Union is comprised of 28 nations, including the United Kingdom. Within the EU, each nation still has their own government, yet as part of the EU, much of the legislation relating to such things as borders is instituted from the capital of the EU, Brussels, Belgium.

A sovereign nation's control over its borders are in the hands of another entity, in another country within the union. What is even worse, decisions being made that impact the citizens of the United Kingdom are being made by appointed officials. Not elected by citizens of the UK or for that matter anyone in the EU. They are appointed.

Concern has arisen as a result of the "open borders within the EU and the rise in terrorism.

A sovereign nation, a Kingdom has lost its sovereignty and the people are fed up. The vote on June 23rd reflected the sentiment of the people whereby 52% voted in favor of leaving the EU and in essence taking back their country from a government that was not representative of the people.

In so doing, United Kingdom Independence Part (UKIP) leader Nigel Farage declared, June 23rd is our Independence Day

What does this have to do with the Kingdom of Adonai?

Believers are becoming more and more passive in their walk. So much so, that a Scripture such as...

Joh 16:33 "I have said these things to you so that, united with me, you may have shalom. In the world, you have tsuris. But be brave! I have conquered the world!"

Implying the war is over, Yeshua has won, we are victorious and now we just have to wait, creates weak believers, passive, lacking boldness.

The battle the Kingdom of Adonai is predominantly spiritual, but can also be ideological The ideological battle can

be waged against the Kingdom from outside, or even more troubling can be waged from within the Kingdom, when there is a division.

We see immense division within the body of Messiah. This division is ideological and requires the same weaponry as any spiritual battle waged from outside the Kingdom.

The battle that is being waged towards believers is intensifying to where we can not afford to be passive, but must take on the armor Adonai has provided us in order to do battle.

He has conquered the world, yet Sha'ul instructs us that there is still war that is to be waged in the world...

Sha'ul provides us with the tools we will require as believers in Ephesians 6...

The one thing that I want to emphasize and therefore want you to notice is the action that is required by us, in order to fully and effectively utilize Adonai's tools.

Eph 6:10 Finally, **grow** powerful in union with the Lord, in union with his mighty strength!

We are to grow powerful through our union with Messiah. This means we are not and cannot remain passive in our relationship. It is through our growth that we obtain the power afforded us, while in union with Messiah.

Eph 6:11 **Use** all the armor and weaponry that God provides, so that you will be able to stand against the deceptive tactics of the Adversary.

We are to use the armor and weaponry. It does us no good if we leave it hanging in our closet. Like the Word of Adonai, we may have it, but it does us no good if we never crack open our Bibles and study the Words of Adonai.

Eph 6:12 For we are not struggling against human beings, but against the rulers, authorities and cosmic powers governing this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm.

One of the biggest errors we can make, is failing to identify who the real enemy is. We have seen this in our government today regarding terrorism. They state the issue has to do with gun control, yet the Islamic terrorists can use more than guns. In failing to rightfully identify the enemy leads to miscalculating the true target. Likewise, here, Sha'ul is telling us who the true enemy is and where we are to focus our efforts.

Throughout the following verses I have highlighted the key words of action required by believers to effectively utilize that which has been given to us.

Without action on our part, the tools Adonai has provided are useless. If we are not continually using them in our lives at this time when spiritual warfare is rising at an ever increasing rate, we leave ourselves open to attacks.

Eph 6:13 So **take up** every piece of war equipment God provides; so that when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist; and when the battle is won, you will still be standing.

Eph 6:14 Therefore, **stand!** Have the belt of truth **buckled** around your waist, **put on** righteousness for a breastplate,

Eph 6:15 and **wear** on your feet the readiness that comes from the Good News of shalom.

Eph 6:16 Always **carry** the shield of trust, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One.

Eph 6:17 And **take** the helmet of deliverance; along with the sword given by the Spirit, that is, the Word of God;

Eph 6:18 as you **pray** at all times, with all kinds of prayers and requests, in the Spirit, vigilantly and **persistently**, for all God's people.

Take up
Stand
Put On
Wear
Carry

All are verbs, action words that indicate action is required, our action. Action does not convey passivity, yet believers have become passive. A passive believer is a defeated believer.

We are not struggling against human beings but against the unseen agents ([Eph 1:20-23](#)) of **the Adversary**, Satan.

This is why "the weapons we use to wage war are not worldly. On the contrary, they have God's power for demolishing strongholds" of demonic spirits ([2Co 10:4-5](#)).

Look at the attacks that are being waged today.

- The unborn child – an attack against Adonai, who brings forth life
- Marriage – an attack against Adonai who established the union between man and woman with the intention of bringing forth life. The only intimate relationship identified by Adonai that can do this.
- Gender Identity – an attack against Adonai regarding His authority in relation to our identity.

We are His soldiers in this battle.

This description of **the armor and weaponry that God provides** confounds people who are used to fighting people by worldly methods and have no sensitivity to God's methods, which are: **truth, righteousness, readiness** grounded in **the Good News of shalom, trust, deliverance** (or: "salvation"), **the Word of God** given by **the Spirit**, and **prayers**.

We are to overcome demonic **principalities and powers** by God's prescribed methods.