



Proclaiming the Truth of God by Ricardo Rodriguez

Ephesians 6:17 talks about taking up the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, but we have to unsheathe this sword so that it can produce definite effects. That means that it must be declared faith to a specific situation, and as a weapon of spiritual warfare.

On various occasions, Jesus prayed to the Father asking for His intervention. That is the case in John 17:20-21, where He asks God for His disciples to be one. Or in Luke 22:42, when He asks the Father if there is another way. But there are times when praying to God for his intervention is not enough. The Holy Spirit urges us to proclaim this word of faith with a conviction and authority to change things.

Jesus didn't pray for the sick, but He healed them through His word (Matthew 8:3; 9:6). He didn't pray to calm the wind and the sea in the midst of the storm, but He ordered them with His word (Matthew 8:26).

Neither did He pray asking for strength when He faced the enemy in the desert, but He proclaimed the truth (Matthew 4:1-11).

I was thinking of these things when I walked past the TV, and I saw that there was a program on, with a magician as the special guest. He was hypnotizing people, making them act in a humiliating manner. This magician had already appeared on the same program with an unusual success the week before which earned him an invitation to this week's show. When I was about to turn off the TV, the Holy Spirit convicted me not to, but instead, to proclaim the truth of God and rebuke these works of darkness. I ordered the magician behind the screen to be unsuccessful in his display of power. He looked very confident and sure of himself.

At first nothing seemed to happen. It seemed that his presentation would end with a clear success. Then suddenly something unusual happened. The presenters asked the magician to stop his performance because they had to switch to a live newscast. The presentation was supposed to continue after the newscast, but it didn't, as the magician and his assistants had mysteriously left the scene.

I left the TV on to see if the magician would return to the scene which, in fact, is what happened twenty minutes later. He was going to perform a new trick which involved swallowing an amount of surgical thread and passing it out of his stomach through his bellybutton. Suddenly, in front of the cameras he said that he could not concentrate and that he needed more time in his dressing room. After a while he came back, but he couldn't perform this special trick. It was a total failure, which turned out to be the highlight in the newspapers the next day.

The proclamation of the truth under the guidance of the Holy Spirit is a real sword that cuts down the works of the enemy, raises us up in victory, and encourages us to fight the Lord's battles.

Imagine: a group of proclaimers of the truth, led by the Holy Spirit, who could change different areas of society for his glory, using the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

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