

Study Guide: Our Greatest Weakness

December 14, 2025

Short-Answer Quiz

Instructions: Based on the provided message, answer the following questions in two to three complete sentences.

1. According to the sermon, what is the primary definition of a spiritual "stronghold"?
2. How does a "foothold" evolve into a "stronghold"?
3. The message identifies two common and unfortunate worldviews prevalent in America today. What are they?
4. What role does Satan play in the life of a believer regarding strongholds after they are saved?
5. What biblical passage is cited to explain that the weapons of a Christian's warfare are not carnal but mighty in GOD?
6. Explain the analogy used in the sermon about "laying more bricks." What does this action represent?
7. How did JESUS model the way to fight the devil during His temptation in the wilderness?
8. What is the two-part instruction given from James 4:7-10 for overcoming Satan?
9. List at least five examples of common strongholds mentioned in the message.
10. What does the speaker mean by the statement, "As long as these old issues reign in your life, CHRIST's seat is taken"?

Quiz Answer Key

1. A stronghold is defined as a sin or sinful attitude that has been fortified by life choices or experiences to the point that a person cannot overcome it on their own. It is also described as the lens through which a person filters everything in life and a mindset filled with hopelessness that causes one to accept things contrary to the will of GOD.
 2. A foothold begins as an area in one's life that is willingly surrendered to Satan, where sin is allowed without resistance. Satan then fortifies this surrendered territory by turning up the heat and getting the person to reinforce it, elevating the simple foothold into a powerful, fortified stronghold.
 3. The two common and unfortunate worldviews identified are "entitlement," the belief that one deserves certain things whether they have earned them or not, and "political correctness," where attitudes and feelings are managed by what is seen and heard in news reports.
 4. After a person is saved, Satan loses their eternal soul but still has access to their mind and flesh. He will work to turn existing footholds into strongholds, tempting the believer and making their life difficult in order to harvest the "scraps" and taint their Christian witness.
 5. The passage cited is **2 Corinthians 10:3-4**, which states, "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."
 6. The analogy of "laying more bricks" refers to the act of committing a sin or repeating a negative behavior that strengthens an existing stronghold. Even when a person wants to be free, each time they give in to the sin, they are fortifying the walls of Satan's fortress in their life.
 7. JESUS fought the devil by using the Word of GOD. When Satan tried to manipulate JESUS by using scripture in a false way, JESUS, because He knew the Word of GOD so well, was able to use the truth of the Word to counter Satan's deception and stand against temptation.
 8. The two-part instruction from **James 4:7-10** is to first "submit yourselves therefore to GOD. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." The second part is to "draw near to GOD and He will draw near to you."
 9. Examples of common strongholds include: fear, resentment, bitterness, unforgiveness, pride, greed, drugs, alcohol, materialism, and discrimination.
 10. This statement means that if old sinful issues, habits, and strongholds are allowed to have control and authority (sit on the "throne") in a person's life, then CHRIST is not truly reigning as LORD. It implies that for CHRIST to be on the throne, the old lifestyle and its associated sins must be put on the cross and buried.
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Essay Questions

Instructions: Reflect on the core themes of the message to formulate a detailed response to the following prompts. Do not provide answers.

1. The speaker defines a stronghold as "the lens through which you see and filter everything in life." Analyze this definition in detail. How do the worldviews of "entitlement" and "political correctness" shape this lens, and how does that contrast with a biblical, Christian worldview?
2. Using the analogy of the Israelites wandering for 40 years before being commanded to "take possession of our territory," elaborate on the sermon's concept of spiritual warfare. Discuss the roles of surrendered territory, footholds, fortification, and the believer's responsibility to bring their life under the "rule and reign of GOD."
3. The sermon begins with anecdotes about perseverance from Thomas Edison and Michael Jordan, who both attributed their success to their repeated failures. How does this theme of "hanging on when others let go" connect to the spiritual struggle of demolishing a deeply entrenched stronghold?
4. Explain the process of "fortification" where a foothold becomes a stronghold, using the illustration of the Calvary setting up a camp. According to the message, how does Satan, who "has no authority," trick believers into building and reinforcing these fortresses for him?
5. Deconstruct the statement from Romans 7:24, "Oh wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?" How does this cry from the Apostle Paul illustrate the internal conflict of a believer who recognizes a stronghold but struggles to stop "laying bricks" to strengthen it?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Besetting Sin:** A term used to describe a stronghold; a particular sin that one cannot seem to get rid of.
- **Carnal:** Relating to the flesh or worldly things. The message describes the state of being at odds with GOD before salvation as being carnal.
- **Entitlement:** Described as the most common worldview in America, it is the attitude of "I deserve it," where a person feels they are owed certain things regardless of whether they have earned them.
- **Foothold:** A temporary area of a person's life, mind, or flesh that is willingly surrendered to Satan. It is the initial stage before a stronghold is built.
- **Fortification:** The process of reinforcing, strengthening, and thickening a foothold until it becomes a stronghold. This is done by repeatedly giving in to a particular sin.
- **Stronghold:** The central theme of the message, defined in multiple ways:
 - A sin or sinful attitude fortified by life choices until it cannot be overcome.

- A fortress in one's life where Satan has built a wall around a sin.
 - The lens through which one sees and filters everything in life.
 - A mindset impregnated with hopelessness that causes acceptance of things contrary to GOD's will.
 - Any argument or pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of GOD.
 - **Worldview:** The fundamental perspective from which a person sees and interprets the world. The message contrasts a Christian/godly worldview with an unchristian/materialistic worldview.
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Note on Greek Words

No specific Greek words were used or defined within the provided source context.