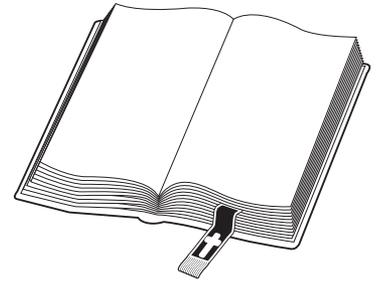


God's Word Protects My Mind in Battle

"Princes also sit and speak against me, but Your servant meditates on Your statutes." Psalm 119:23



Number 7 in the series "The Joy of Obeying God's Word"

Beloved, you and I know the devil is a very real enemy. One of his main areas of attack is against our mind. We need to recognize we are in battles daily, and the real enemy is Satan—not our mate, our children, our parents, our co-workers, etc. Over the years of my Christian walk, I have learned the importance of reading the Bible daily. Then whenever people hurt me or the devil attacks me, I run to God's Word. I meditate on scripture. The Lord gives me comfort, encouragement, and His wisdom to how to handle the situation in a way that will glorify Him.

Psalms 140:7 reads, *"O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have covered my head in the day of battle."* In the midst of sorrow, tests, trials, temptations, and pain when the enemy of my soul would be bombarding my mind with doubt, fear, worry, and unbelief, I have often prayed, "Help me Lord, I need Your strength. Please cover my head in this battle." The Lord has always been faithful. He would start to bring to my mind the exact scriptures I needed to combat the attacks of the enemy.

Beloved, we cannot fight the devil in our own strength. He will defeat us every time. 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 reads, *"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."* Here the Bible clearly tells us we are in a war, and we need spiritual weapons and the power of God to fight and be victorious.

Let me give you a personal example. My husband Richard and I had been married eight years when we became believers in 1976. Our marriage had been very bad for years. Constantly, my mind was flooded with thoughts of divorce, but as I cried out to God to

help me, He brought to my mind what I had read in Malachi 2:11-16 that God hates divorce. It was a war in my mind. Every time the enemy came with thoughts of divorce, Jesus covered my head in the battle with these words, "Janice, God hates divorce." Daily, the enemy would fill my mind with all the ways that Richard had hurt me, with all his weaknesses, and with all his failures. Before I became a Christian, I did not know that Satan was real, that he hated God, Richard, and me, and that he was trying to destroy our lives and our home. Whenever thoughts against Richard came, I would get angry, bitter, resentful, and full of self-pity. I would try to change him, and I would think of divorce. But as a believer, I cried out to God to help me, to cover my head in the battle. And He was so faithful to give me the exact scriptures I needed with which to fight the enemy.

I started to see many good qualities in my husband that I had allowed myself to be blinded to, and I repented of all my sin. It was not only Richard who needed to be changed; I needed to be changed. Beloved, it was a daily war. God's amazing grace has changed both of us. We have a good marriage now, and we have been married over 30 years. Beloved, first you have to fill your heart and mind with scripture, and then Jesus will bring these scriptures to your mind as weapons to fight every time you are in a battle.

— Janice McBride

All scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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Preparing Christ's Bride Ministries is an international ministry. Janice is from Scotland and lives in St. Louis, Missouri with her husband, Richard. They minister at retreats, churches, military bases and prisons, helping people to glorify Jesus through obedience to His Word.