

STUDY GUIDE

Enforcing God's Covenant Word in Adversity (As an Ambassador, NOT a Warrior)

I. God's Way with Man: *Always* by the WORD of His Covenant

- A. God made covenants with Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and Israel, David, and (with us) by the blood of Messiah Jesus.
 1. Historically, tensions have existed about whether God related to man by works or by word of covenant.
 2. Covenant: A unilateral, unconditional, irrevocable promise (WORD) that shall not be broken.
 3. **(Ephesians 2:11–13)** If you are a stranger to the covenant, even having a covenant will not help you unless these three things are true:
 - a. You are a *partaker* in the covenant.
 - b. You know the *provisions* of the covenant.
 - c. You have enough confidence in the word of the covenant to enforce it against enemies.
- B. The battle in our current time is over God's Covenant Word enforced on earth:
 1. There is a battle taking place on the earth for the destiny of individuals, families, and nations.
 2. Example: TV waves beamed out from Heaven. Program is settled in the TV station:

- a. The Word is settled in heaven. (**Psalm 119:89**)
 - b. The battle is on earth (Your Kingdom come! Your Will be done!) (**Matthew 6:10**)
 - c. Satan governs the world system. (**1 John 5:19**)
 - d. Jesus came to DESTROY the works of the devil. (**1 John 3:8**)
 - e. He sent us with His authority. (**Matthew 28:19**)
- C. We are called to be Kingdom Ambassadors. (**Matthew 6:33; John 20:21**)
- 1. An ambassador serves at the pleasure of the King, not at his own pleasure.
 - 2. Why didn't our King just take us to heaven immediately after we were saved?
 - a. Because you are called to remain here at His Kingdom Ambassador.
 - b. If life were about you being happy, then He would have already taken you to heaven where there is no injustice, sickness, or sin, and everyone is happy.

II. Unleashing God's Word of Authority

To unleash God's Word of authority, you must transition from being a Warrior to being an Ambassador. Both will face battles.

- A. A warrior wins his king's battle through the use of his personal weapons.
 - 1. A warrior is armed with military weapons.
 - 2. Military victory is dependent upon the power of your weapons in comparison with those of your enemy.
- B. An ambassador is armed with a Word.
- C. Diplomatic victory is dependent upon the authority of your government and upon your enemy's assessment of the resolve and power of your government's ability to enforce your decree.
- D. Diplomatic defeat will result in economic and military enforcement.

E. <u>AMBASSADOR</u>	<u>WARRIOR</u>
Speaks decrees in the <u>name</u> of the government he represents	Has no authority to decree. He simply engages in battle with his weapons.
Is dependent upon the national moral, economic, and military might of his government for victory	Is dependent the might of his own weapons, or at best the weapons of his battalion for victory
Can be personally very unassuming	Must be personally very intimidating
His words are backed up by the treasury and military might of His nation	His words are backed up by his own personal might and weapons
Focuses on the national interests of the government he represents	Focuses on survival and overcoming the enemy before him
Uses words and decrees to release national power and win battles	Uses weapons to win battles
Carries out the policies of his government	Carries out his orders, using the weapons at hand

III. Biblical Examples of Ambassadors Enforcing the Covenant Word of God

- A. Moses was the ambassador. Joshua was the warrior. Who controlled the battle, the ambassador or the warriors? (**Exodus 17:12–15**)
- B. Joshua was the ambassador. The Israeli army was the warriors. (**Joshua 10:6–15**)
- C. King Saul the warrior, vs. Shepherd David, the ambassador:
 1. Saul was a warrior waiting for a man bigger than Goliath to show up.
 2. David was an ambassador coming to enforce the decree of **Deuteronomy 9:1–5**.
 3. Goliath was a warrior looking for a fight. (**1 Samuel 17:43–44**)
 4. Ambassador David: I come in **the NAME** of the Lord of Hosts. (**1 Samuel 17:45**)
 - a. A NAME has authority.

- b. Example: Sword and Shield vs. Drone overhead—and you have The Button!

D. Yeshua never prayed for healing. He just decreed and healed people:

1. Two blind men: *“Be it unto you according to your faith.”* (**Matthew 9:27–29**)
2. Paralytic, *“But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,”* (to the paralytic), *“I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home.”* (**Mark 2:7–11**)
3. Jairus’ daughter, *“Child, arise!”* (**Luke 8:49–56**)
4. Withered arm, *“Stretch out your hand!”* (**Mark 3:1–5**)
5. Lazarus in the tomb, *“Lazarus, come forth!”* (**John 11:42–43**)

E. An ambassador can be very meek.

F. A warrior must be very intimidating.

IV. Is God in Control?

A. Control implies responsibility.

B. One who is in control is responsible for the outcome of that which he controls.

C. We observe that there is an abundance of sin, evil, and injustice on the earth.

1. WHY? Because God wants it so? Because He doesn’t care? Because He is distant? Because He wants to teach us something through injustice and evil?
2. If God is in control, then is He not ultimately responsible for this sin, evil, and injustice? Yes, of course He is.

V. God Is Sovereign, But He Is Not in Control!

A. Sovereignty vs. control:

1. **Governing by exercising control:** Control implies an absolute dominion over that which is governed, possessing supreme power and utilizing it in

such a way as to ensure a particular outcome.

- a. **Control is the process of governing through a manipulative power that forces people and circumstances to conform to the will of the one in control and to always produce the desired outcome.**
 - b. Control eliminates the will or choices of others and only recognizes one will; that of the one who exercises control.
2. **Governing by exercising sovereign authority:** Sovereign authority implies an absolute ownership of that which is governed, but not absolute control.
- a. **Sovereignty, therefore, governs through delegated authority, offering choices with corresponding applied consequences.**
 - b. It is the state of being the highest authority, with submission to no higher authority.
 - c. Sovereignty means possessing supreme power and utilizing it by subjecting power to legitimate delegated authority.
 - d. Sovereignty recognizes the will and choices of all subordinates.

B. God is not a controller, and He does not control anyone.

1. Analogy: An apartment lease situation.
2. God is the owner; man is the lessee.

C. We are neither Muslims nor fatalists who do believe that God is in control.

D. In our current age, there is one thing that God lacks on earth: Authority.

1. Authority was delegated to Adam and Eve. (**Genesis 1:26–28**)
2. Man was made to rule over the earth. (**Psalm 8:3–8**)
3. The earth has been given to men. (**Psalm 115:16**)
4. Man's (Adam and Eve's) delegated authority on earth was so complete that they—not God—had authority to give the earth over to the evil one, and they did.

Note: Jesus did not dispute this fact with Satan. (**Luke 4:6–7**)

V. Justice on the Earth

FOUR POTENTIAL POSITIONS REGARDING RESPONSIBILITY AND JUSTICE

Questions: 4 Positions	Is God Responsible?	Is This Just?	Who Believes This?
1.	Yes	Yes	Muslims and many Christians
2.	Yes	No	Unbelievers
3.	No	Yes	Sadists
4.	No	No	Covenant Believers

VI. Satan's Strategy: To Create Disappointment in God because of Injustice

- A. Satan always wants to make God's actions look random.
- B. God always acts according to His covenant, not randomly. (**Romans 3:1-4**)
- C. Satan wants to get men to relate to God by works rather than by His covenant word.
- D. The longer you have walked with God, the more you think you have to offer Him.
- E. Example: A woman who was not healed because she thought she deserved healing.

VII. We Are Messiah's Ambassadors of His Covenant on Earth

- A. **Change your paradigm from being a victim, or even a warrior, to being an AMBASSADOR! (Matthew 6:33)**
- B. Jesus sent us as His ambassadors. (**John 20:21**)
- C. Jesus' prayers were very short commands: "See! Walk! Be healed! Lazarus, come forth!" THESE ARE AMBASSADORIAL EDICTS, not beggar requests, or even warrior battle cries.
- D. We are distributors and enforcers of His Covenant Word.
- E. It is critical for you to learn the critical details of what a covenant is, what authority your Covenant with God gives you, and how to practically partner with God as His Covenant Ambassador on earth.
- F. How can I learn about the covenant? Enroll today in my class, "**Exercising Covenant Authority in Times of Trouble.**"