2. Next week's LifeLine is 1 Peter 5:10.

LifeLines October 10, 2022

Today's Scripture: 1 Verse

Isaiah 54:17

No weapon that is fashioned against you shall prosper, & you shall confute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord & their vindication from Me, says the Lord.

WHY WE'RE HERE

2 Timothy 3:16-17, All scripture is inspired by God & is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, & for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

CONTEXT (Our verse begs the question – Who are the 'servants of the Lord'? Are we? How can we tell?)

Isaiah is delivering a message from God about the restoration of Jerusalem after it was destroyed by the Babylonians. In the midst of chaos & confusion, God promises a day when they will return & live without fear. Even though He created the devil, those forging weapons & those who will use them, He's still in charge & assures His people that the enemy's weapons will be ineffective against them. This promise will see its fulfillment when Christ returns.

Even though this speaks about the end of days, it applies to us as we deal with spiritual enemies. Satan still attacks God's people, but God has been, is & forever will be our protector. He will defend us. The child of God who truly believes in & relies on God will find himself strengthened & protected for battles now & in the days to come. God is our Salvation.

DIFFERENT VERSIONS

KJV

No weapon that is formed against thee shall proper; & every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, & their righteousness is of Me (a beautiful statement), saith the Lord.

MSG

"But no weapon that can hurt you has ever been forged. Any accuser who takes you to court will be dismissed as a liar. This is what God's servants can expect. I'll see to it that everything works out for the best." God's decree.

NLT

But in that coming day no weapon turned against you will succeed. You will silence every voice raised up to accuse you. These benefits are enjoyed by the servants of the Lord (remember His benefit package?); their vindication will come from Me. I, the Lord, have spoken!

AMP

"No weapon that is formed against you will succeed; And every tongue that rises against you in judgment you will condemn. This (peace, righteousness, security, & triumph over opposition) is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And this is their vindication from Me," says the Lord.

GNT

"But no weapon will be able to hurt you; you will have an answer for all who accuse you. I will defend My servants & give them victory." The Lord has spoken.

SELAH

BREAKING DOWN THE VERSE

No weapon that is fashioned against you shall prosper... Weapons turned against us (the Body of Christ & individually members of it) will not succeed. The evil one keeps trying to come up with new "weapons" to use against believers. The weapons will not accomplish their purpose. Nothing the enemy tries to use against us will work if we stand fast in our faith. This doesn't mean we will never be attacked or even struck by weapons (trials, tests, suffering). There may even be *casualties*, but the enemy will not succeed against God's people or His ultimate purpose. God has promised that the Church will live to see the coming of the Lord.

& you shall confute (prove wrong) every tongue that rises against you in judgment... Weapons the devil uses are designed to hurt & destroy us, the children of God, but they will be rendered useless *against us* by the power of God. We mustn't forget - the devil has no power over COG. He constantly rails against us, tries to bring judgment against us & make us feel guilty – these are some of his weapons, but he only has power over us if we start to believe *him* instead of *the Living God* who loves us & gave His life for us.

Jesus refuted every tongue when He was challenged by others. We are to do the same. We can rely on God. He will lift us up & out of trouble, cause trouble to turn back on those who impose the trouble, or turn the trouble around for good (think Romans 8:28).

God will speak through His servants, through us. Jesus told the disciples not to practice what they'd say when dragged before judges for preaching the gospel. He told them the Holy Spirit would give them the right words at the moment they needed them. He'll do the same for us.

When we walk in faith, we refute every judgment the devil tries to throw our way. The Holy Spirit gives us truths to believe & speak. He gives us power to face evil forces, & His truths will prevail.

This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord... Our heritage or inheritance is **everlasting life**, & it includes protection from slander & accusation on earth. We will receive the reward of our inheritance in heaven, as sons & daughters of the Most High God.

& *their vindication from Me, says the Lord*... This comes from the definitive word of the Lord through His prophet. His righteousness is imputed to us; all charges against us dropped; we are acquitted for all time, declared righteous.

SELAH

RELATED VERSES

Psalm 34:7 (Of David), The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, & delivers them.

Psalm 34:11-18, Come, O children, listen to Me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Which of you desires life, & covets many days to enjoy good? Keep your tongue from evil, & your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil & do good; seek peace & pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, & His ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against evil doers, to cut off the remembrance of them from

the earth. When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, & rescues them from all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, & saves the crushed in spirit.

Psalm 46:1-2a, God is our refuge & strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear...

Psalm 61:5 (Of David), For You, O God, have heard my vows; You have given me the heritage of those who fear Your name.

Psalm 91:9-11, Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Isaiah 3:10-11, Tell the innocent how fortunate they are, for they shall eat the fruit of their labors. Woe to the guilty! How unfortunate they are, for what their hands have done shall be done to them.

Isaiah 7:9c, If you do not stand firm in faith, you shall not stand at all.

Isaiah 12:2, Surely God is my salvation; I will trust & will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength & my might; He has become my salvation.

Isaiah 26:2-4, Open the gates, so that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in. Those of steadfast mind You keep in peace because they trust You. Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.

*Isaiah 54:15, If anyone stirs up strife, it is not from Me; whoever stirs up strife with you shall fall because of you.

*Matthew 10:19, "When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time."

Matthew 16:18b, "I will build My church, & the gates of Hades will not prevail against it."

John 10:28, "I give them eternal life, & they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of My hand."

Romans 8:31-33, What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold His own Son, but gave Him up for all of us, will He not with Him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.

Romans 12:19, Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." (This is from Deuteronomy 32:35)

2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Indeed, we live as human beings, but we do not wage war according to human standards; for the weapons of our warfare are not merely human, but they have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments & every proud obstacle raised up against the knowledge of God, & we take every thought captive to obey Christ. (Give examples!)

Ephesians 6:10, Finally, be strong in the Lord & in the strength of His power.

Revelation 12:10, Then I heard a loud voice in heaven proclaiming, "Now have come the salvation & the power & the kingdom of our God & the authority of His Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day & night before our God."

SUMMARY

Our confidence is in the sure promises of our all-powerful God. Throughout His Word, we are reminded that He is Almighty, Sovereign, the God of our salvation & so much more. He delights to protect & bless His children. His love for us never fails. No enemy of His Church will prevail against His chosen ones, His children. Devious schemes will be condemned; conspiracies will fail; weapons of warfare will not succeed against God's elect. God alone, our God, will prevail.

Rejoice in the Lord! Our eternal souls are secure in Christ, for through Him, we are declared righteous.

Let this verse be a *LifeLine* for you!

Let's Continue Learning!

SCRIPTURE <u>IS</u> OUR –

LifeLine!

References: walkonwaterfl.com; biblegateway.com; connectusfund.org; biblehub.com; dailyverse.knowing-jesus.com; biblestudytools.com; Christianity.com; bible.com; gotquestions.org; openbible.info.