

Divine Romance - Spiritual Warfare

Week 8 – Wednesday

Eph. 6:16 – Footnotes 16¹, 16², 16³
Rom. 10:17

Now we come to my burden. “Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one” (v. 16). Faith is a shield. I don't know if it is popular here but in the States a lot of the teenagers and even the children know about a cartoon and movie called The Avengers. It has Captain America but there is no Captain Canada. I used to read these comic books when I was a little boy, and Captain America has a shield. Sometimes in a place like an airport you see people with the emblem of the shield. He fights with his shield. Many of us have a spiritual shield that is about the size of our hand or even smaller. We need a bigger shield of faith. I saw some documentaries that reenact battles from old times and in some places I saw that they have shields that are the full length of the person with a little slit so that you can see. They carry that, put it down, and then send arrows the other way. That is a good picture of the shield of faith. If I have a shield of faith and my brother has an even bigger shield of faith, when we stand together our faith becomes like a wall. I would like to stand behind his shield of faith. That is the body. We need a shield of faith; we need faith to increase. We need to pray, “Lord, increase my faith.” Then He will say, “Look away to the Author of faith. Just look at Me. When you look at Me, you will have more faith.”

We need to quench the flaming darts as we shared in the first message. Faith quenches the flaming darts. What are these darts? These darts in the old time were flaming arrows. They would wrap the end of the arrow with cloth, saturate it with oil, light it on fire, and then shoot it over the wall. They would send many arrows. They did not need to be precise but sooner or later something flammable will be hit if they shot enough arrows. In the old time many of the rooftops were straw so just hitting one corner of the house would set it on fire. That is how the enemy attacks us with thoughts and more thoughts. Has it never happened to you that when you are sitting in the meeting and you are thinking, “What is for lunch?” I won't ask you to raise hands if you thought that already today, but then you are thinking, “I had Chinese yesterday and the day before, maybe Italian would be good today.” You were distracted three minutes in the meeting and you think that does not mean anything. Actually, that was the enemy. Faith comes by hearing and hearing through the word of Christ (Rom. 10:17). So if you were distracted for 5 minutes in the meeting, that is 5 minutes less shield.