

Identifying and Destroying Strongholds

2 Corinthians 10:3-5:

3: For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5: **Casting down imaginations, and every high thing** that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and **bringing into captivity every thought** to the obedience of Christ;

What is a stronghold?

“In the Old Testament, a stronghold was a fortified dwelling used as a means of protection from the enemy.”

- Francis Frangipane: “*The Three Battlegrounds*”, chapt. 2, pg.28, para. 1

“A stronghold is any type of thinking that exalts itself above the knowledge of God, thereby giving the devil a secure place of influence in an individual’s thought-life.”

-Francis Frangipane: “*The Three Battlegrounds*”, chapt. 2, pg.28. para. 2

Webster defines a *stronghold* as:

“A well-fortified place; fortress.”

Things to consider:

1. According to 2 Corinthians 10:4-5, the devil’s base of operations is in our **minds**. He fights us with what we know or **do not know** about God.
2. According to Francis Frangipane, a stronghold is a demonic pattern of thinking that is well entrenched in our minds, sometimes so well entrenched that a person can be deceived without knowing that he or she is deceived.
3. Strongholds are **spiritual** creations that harbor **spiritual** enemies, and therefore cannot be dealt with by physical, carnal, or fleshly means. (2 Cor.10:3-5, Matt. 12:29)
4. In order to pull down strongholds, our minds must be renewed by the Word of God (Romans 12:1-2, Eph. 4:22-23, Col. 3:10)
5. In order to rid ourselves of demonic strongholds, we must rid ourselves of everything that gives comfort, rest, and residence to the enemy (Phil. 4:6-8), (John 14:30). satan lives and thrives in **darkness** (John 3:19, 1 John 1:6, 1 John 2:11)