

Binding the Strongman

Free Your Family

[by Mahesh Chavda](#)

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CHAPTER ONE

Chapter Subtitle

CHAPTER TWO

Binding the Strongman

Hindu Warrior

I came from a Hindu background. I could trace back my Hindu ancestry by name 800 years. Not one person in my line had ever believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. They were all Hindus. They took pride in their Hinduism. When I was growing up I was told, "Your ancestors have died fighting for the faith. You must be a warrior for Hinduism." But when I was sixteen, I laid hold of the Lord Jesus. I was able to lead my sister to the Lord shortly after. But year after year, I kept praying for the rest of my family. I would go to the nations and see thousands saved, but part of my heart was asking, "O, God, what about my family? Lord, I want my sisters to be saved. I want my niece to be saved. I want my mother to be saved. I want my brother, who I love so much, I want him to be saved."

The Lord gave me a key, and in June of 1985, I had the privilege of leading my entire family to the Lord Jesus Christ. Not only were they born again, but they were delivered from all of their spiritual oppression. Instantly God healed my sister of a horrible ailment that had bothered her for years. One day I was at a pastors' luncheon, and I got a phone call. It was my wife Bonnie. She said, "Your family has become evangelistic. They are getting people saved!" I was amazed. These had been Hindus, steeped in Hindu tradition. But they were born again. They said to me, "There is something bubbling inside all the time now. We love Jesus." Their lives were totally transformed.

I want to impart faith to you, first of all. Then I want you to get a vision for the salvation of your mothers and fathers, of your sons and your daughters, of your brothers and your sisters, of your nieces and your nephews, of your uncles and your aunts. I believe as you start praying, you're going to see them saved.

How many of you would like to see some of your relatives saved? Almost everybody reading this would like to see someone come to know the Lord.

There is a strongman who guards your spoils. He is a minion of the prince of darkness, who comes only to kill, steal, and destroy you and those you love. He has armor. He has weapons. He thinks he is strong. He is holding people under his oppression, under his evil domain. He tries to do whatever he can to hurt them. He keeps them in blindness and keeps them from knowing Jesus Christ. If he cannot keep them from that, he keeps them from experiencing the Holy Spirit's power. If he cannot do that, he will try to put infirmity over them.

CHAPTER THREE

Jesus is Stronger

Overpowering the Strongman

Ephesians 6:10 gives a great example of what the church as God's people can do. It says, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God." Only soldiers put on armor. We are soldiers of Almighty God. The Church of Jesus is the army of the Living God. He is saying to the army, "Put on the full armor of God, so that you can stand." Take your stand against the devil. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, and the authorities, and the powers of this dark world. Don't waste your time fighting flesh and blood and getting angry at human beings. The battle is against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. You carry an authority which nobody has except those who are soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Remember that we are not taking a defensive posture. This is aggression. We are not going to retreat. We are going to take the devil's territory and free our loved ones. There are important weapons of defense that enable you to be on guard to protect yourself. But now is a time for you to storm the gates of hell, to overcome the strong man, and to take the spoils away from him.

There are no limitations to the Lord's soldiers. What the Lord did, you are going to do, and even greater things. That is the pleasure of our Father. When a son does well, a father says, "Glory to God, son, go!" That is the pleasure of Jesus Christ. He is proud for us to achieve everything He did and more. Do not get into a falsely humble posture. Humility is a key, but not religious traditional humility. Those who begin to take that stance will start saying, "Poor me, we can't do anything. Don't talk about Satan, he might hear us." That is ridiculous

posture. I will scream at 300,000 people and say, "Satan, I take authority over you! You must bow to the name of Jesus!" The devil must bow. He hates it, but he has to. Even demons know the Word. The kingdom of darkness is terrified of the Blood of Jesus.

Some of the things that we suffer from are because we do not wage war. We have mighty weapons to pull down and demolish strongholds. II Corinthians 10:3 says, "For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does." Many have misunderstood that to mean, "though we live in the world, we do not wage war," period. This is one reason why the enemy has been taking advantage of us. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. They have divine power to demolish strongholds. I have seen the poor throughout the world. I have seen their faces, oppressed with poverty, oppressed with witchcraft, left with no education or future. I was in places where there had not been missionaries for a hundred. Those who had come before were trying to help, and started giving a form of godliness, but they denied the power of God. Many of these Africans were Christian by name, but whenever they wanted anything, they would go to their witch doctors. Witchcraft was still their main religion because they knew there was some power there. Africans would come to me and say, "Brother Mahesh, we are so glad you came. Why did those missionaries say that Jesus does not do what He did in the Bible? They would say, 'He does not heal. Demons are just in your mind. Don't talk about them.' We know better! We know witch doctors command demons. Why didn't the missionaries tell us that we have power over these demons? Now we know we have greater power in the Lord Jesus Christ than these witch doctors have."

There are strongholds and the strong men over nations, over churches, and over families. Daniel Chapter 10 says, "I, Daniel, mourned three weeks. I ate no choice food, no meat, no wine touched my lips, and I used no lotions until the three weeks were over." In verse twelve an angel comes and tells him, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people." The answer to his prayer was delayed because this demon prince of Persia fought the angel of God. The archangel Michael had to come and join the battle. Then the answer came after that strongman had been defeated.

There are strongmen over cities. If your city is not enjoying the blessings it needs to, massive salvations and outpourings of the Holy Spirit, and of miracles, it may be due to an evil power. Ask God to give you the name. He will break through for your city, and you will see great revival. It will be so easy. It will be like cutting through butter instead of iron.

You need to pray for your individual churches as well. Bind the strong man keeping away blessings of Almighty God from your church and the church in general. Pray the Lord will show you the strong man that's holding back salvations, healings, deliverances, and finances. There is a strong man just loves to keep financial blessings away from churches and families. It is important that finances are loosed so that the kingdom of God is blessed, and we can spread the gospel of Jesus. Come against that strong man and say, "Devil, you have got to let go of these finances, in the name of Jesus!"

The Holy Ghost will tell you what the name of the strong man is. It might be witchcraft. It may be the occult. In one family I prayed for, the strong man was anxiety. There was a woman I knew whose husband had a tremendous potential in his life, but he was waylaid by the enemy into alcoholism. I told his wife, "God will give you the Holy Spirit even tonight, and He will show you who that strong man is over your family. The Holy Spirit will give you a name." She came back and she said that the Lord showed her it was the strong man of rock music. She started praying against it and her husband began seeking help. Her husband told her, >Funny thing is, even though I tried to seek the Lord in the church, I was never as happy as I was when I was listening to rock music." It was that stronghold which was binding blessings away from him.

The Lord revealed the strong man over my family. I had to use the weapons that God has given us and demolish that stronghold that Satan had built over them. I had to bind that strong man in faith. I did not use carnal weapons. I could not argue with my family, and I did not need to. God showed me the strong man of idolatry, and others. I started praying and fasting, and shortly after, I saw every member of my family come to know the Lord in one day. I prayed for deliverance for each of them individually, and they were saved. God wanted to drive home this principle so much that every member of my family was healed and delivered because I learned about the strong man.

Weapons of Warfare

There are several weapons of warfare that God has given us to defeat these strongmen. In Ephesians 6, we see armor that we need to put on. Armor is a defensive element which enables you to go into warfare. Gird your waist with truth, put on the breastplate of righteousness, put on the shoes of the preparation of the gospel of peace. We have aggressive weapons as well, we go beyond the defensive. We are told to take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. The sword can defend, but it can also attack. Arm yourself with the Word. We can also rely on the name of Jesus. We have power in the name above every name, use it. Use it because you have personal faith in the Lord Jesus.

You cannot use it like the sons of Sceva did in Acts 19. They said, "We adjure you, you demons, come out in the name of the one that Paul preaches, this Jesus." That is like an incantation. This is not magic, but spiritual warfare. When you know that you know that you know that Jesus is our Savior and Lord, and the devil knows you know, you can take authority in the name of Jesus. The third weapon of warfare is the Blood of Jesus. Revelation 12 says, "They overcame Satan. They overcame him by the Blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony." This may sound simple, but the Church and most believers have not used these weapons for centuries. We have been overtaken and devastated by the enemy and our weapons just lie there. Get excited about these weapons. Here they are. Take them.

There are only three kinds of people in the world, soldiers of God, soldiers of the enemy, and those who are prisoners of war. Soldiers of God will fight in the name of Jesus. They will know their rights, take authority, and conquer the devil and his minions. But there are those who are just prisoners of war. They are no good to anyone. The tragedy is so many Christians end up being prisoners of war. They do not know about their weapons. They do not know about their authority. And they do not know the destiny of God for us. There are prisoners of war who the enemy has kept in cages, mistreated and deprived. God wants us to save them. We have to be courageous and rescue them.

Watch and Pray

Aggressive prayer is a very powerful tool for loosing your weapons. And it is intensified by fasting and by watching. In Acts 4:23, you see the praying church, "On their release Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. 'Sovereign Lord,' they said, 'You made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them.'" They went on exalting the Lord and who He is. Then in verse 29, they pray, "Now Lord, consider their threats, and enable Your servants to speak Your word with great boldness. Stretch out Your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of Your holy servant Jesus." The prayer of the church is an aggressive prayer. They are not going to give in. They ask that the Lord enable them to take this territory and to confirm it with miraculous signs and wonders and healing. That is the Church of Jesus.

Praise is another major launching pad for our weapons. You can look at Acts 16. You find when Paul and Silas were praising the Lord in prison, there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken.

Proclaim the Word. It is a powerful way to loose your weapons. Mighty miracles happen when we declare the supernatural works of the Lord. Believe

His word. Proclaim His word. Preach. You may not consider yourself a preacher, but proclaim. Become a proclaimer of His word. That's what preaching is—proclaiming.

Life in the Testimony

Prayer, Praise, and proclamation are your arsenal. Add to these your testimony, and the testimonies of others. Testify to what God has done. You find Jesus saying, beginning with Acts Chapter One, "You will be my witnesses. You will testify. You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea, and to the ends of the earth, you will testify. You will be My witnesses." Acts Chapter 22 shows Ananias, giving a prophecy to Paul. He says, "You will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard." We testify of what we have seen and what we have heard, what has happened in our lives. Acts 26:12, Paul is testifying, "On one of these journeys, I was going to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. About noon, O king, as I was in the road, I saw a light from heaven." This is years and years after his experience, yet, Paul is testifying still about what happened to him. Jesus appeared and changed his life. The devil hates testimony. You are to be obedient to testify, but be humble. Don't be satisfied with just sharing it one time. There is life in the testimony. You will find that your testimony will have a rippling effect, so share it as often as you can. It is alive. It is what Jesus did for you. He set you free. I remember standing before hundreds of thousands of people in Zaire, saying, "My son had congenital kidney birth defects, and 97 percent of the children in his condition die. But God recreated his kidneys. Now he is totally healthy because God healed him. Jesus Christ took my son's pains and his sicknesses. By His stripes, my boy was healed. You can be healed, too!" That testimony from years earlier was used by the Lord to bring about 25,000 people to know Jesus in one outreach to a city. I am not ashamed to testify. Jesus Christ heals us and sets us free.

Bind the Strongman

Use the weapons that God has given you. Bind that strong man and take the spoils. Let me impart fresh vision to you to claim your family. It does not matter where they are. You get results when you pray. The proof is the hundreds of thousands saved. The proof is the deliverances. The proof is the healings and miracles. The proof is that my family was saved, and yours can be also. Claim those people in your family that need to be saved for the Lord Jesus, and bind the strongman that's holding them back.

If you want to specifically bind the strong man over your family and confess

that they are saved, or if you want to bind the strong man over your church, or city, or nation, I want to lead you in a prayer:

Heavenly Father, I thank You for what Jesus Christ has done for us. I thank You that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but they are mighty through God for the pulling down of strongholds. I thank You, Jesus, that You purchased redemption for all of mankind. Therefore, You purchased redemption for my loved ones. In the name of Jesus, I take authority over the strong man over my family. I take authority specifically over the strong man . . .

The Lord may have shown you what the strong man is. Name that strong man if he has been named, and take authority over it in the name of Jesus.

I take authority over the spirit of religious tradition, of witchcraft, of occult, of humanism, intellectualism, the spirit of the world, the spirit of blindness, the spirit of anxiety, the spirit of infirmity, all these powers. I bind the strong man because of the word of God. The word of God says I have authority to tread over serpents and scorpions. Because I have authority now, I tread over this strong man in the name of Jesus. Because of the Blood of Jesus Christ, I overcome this opposition through the Blood of Jesus. I confess that I am redeemed through the Blood of Jesus. I am washed in the Blood of Jesus. I am sanctified, set apart to God, through the Blood of Jesus. My body is a temple of the Holy Spirit through the Blood of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I take authority over Satan and his principalities that rule over my family, and I command you, foul powers, to let my family go in the name of Jesus! Amen.

Send us your testimony!

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Mahesh Chavda, founder of Chavda Ministries International, has been releasing the reality of Heaven's power for salvation, healing, deliverance and transformation for over thirty-five years. In that time more than a million people have come to salvation and thousands more have received healing from critical diseases like AIDS and Stage-IV cancer. Mahesh desires that every person be fully awakened to Jesus and flourish with power and purpose for living!

In addition to leading a worldwide apostolic ministry, Mahesh and his wife Bonnie are prolific authors, having written over fourteen books, including the best-selling *Hidden Power of Prayer and Fasting*, and their latest books, *The Power of the Cross: Epicenter of Glory* and *Getting to Know the Holy Spirit*. Mahesh and Bonnie are founding pastors of All Nations Church in Charlotte, NC and spearhead a global prayer network, The Watch of the Lord®.