



BREAKTHROUGHS

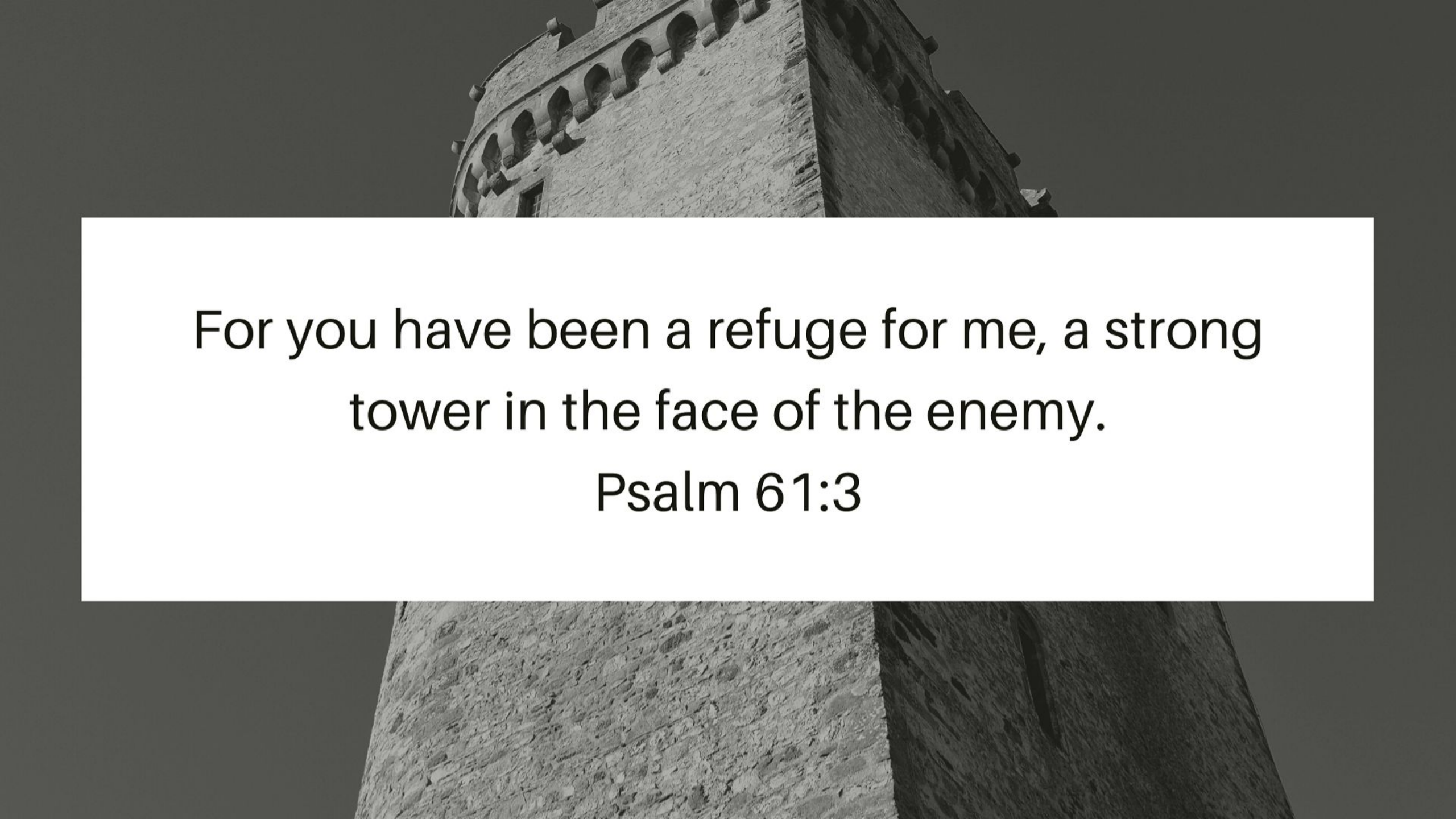
FINDING FREEDOM AND TRUE
FULFILLMENT IN JESUS

LESSON 8
STRONGHOLDS - PART 2





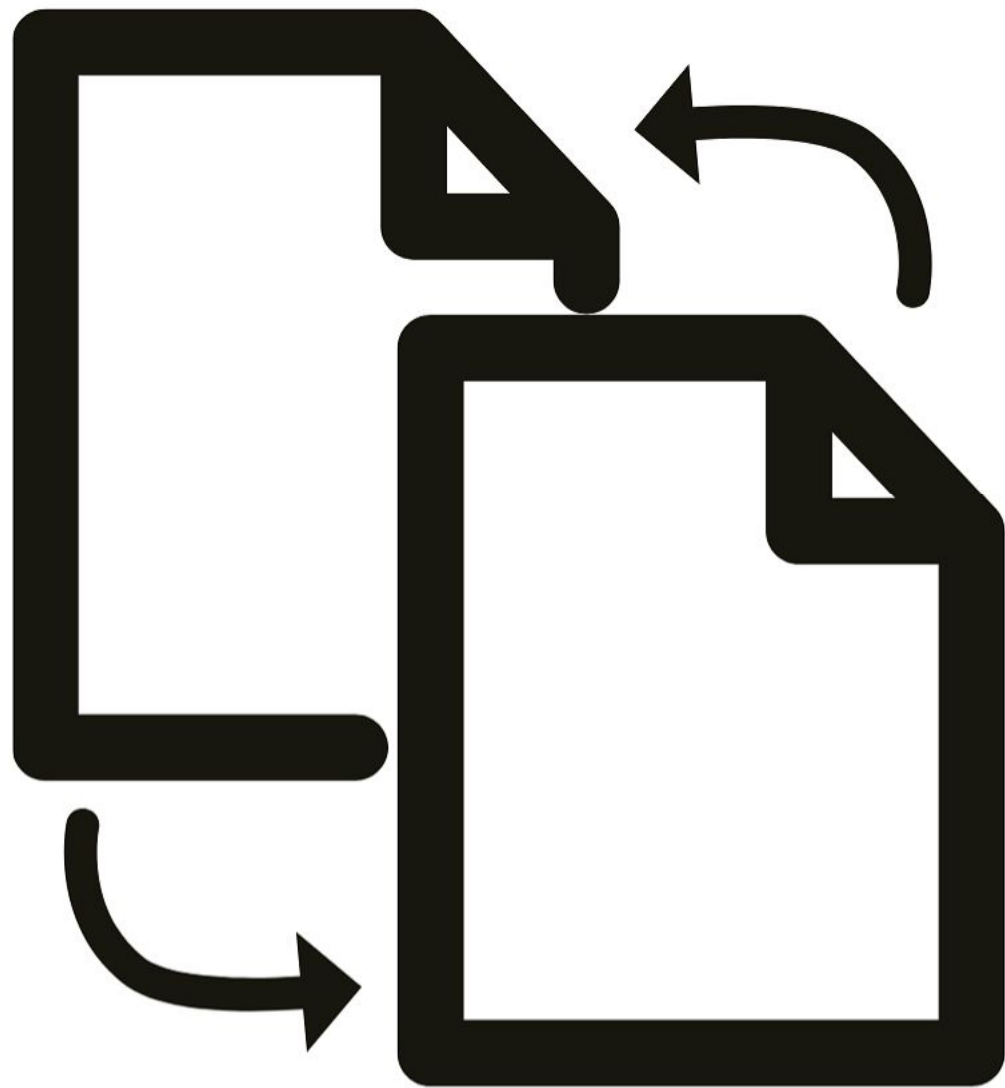
A Stronghold Is a "Fortress" or a "Refuge"



For you have been a refuge for me, a strong
tower in the face of the enemy.

Psalm 61:3

Good



Strongholds

Evil



Strongholds

How does this happen?

We experience pain, hurt, rejection, loss, pits, etc.

We follow the enemy's markers and step away from God.

We try to heal our hearts and free ourselves through building our own walls and strongholds.

How This Works

For although we live in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh, since the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds. We demolish arguments and every proud thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to obey Christ (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

Arguments

*Argument - verbal
opposition, opposite views*

*"logismos"- a computation: a
thought, a conception*

*Computation - calculating,
precise process, the action
of calculating something*

Arguments

What arguments are set up against the knowledge of God?

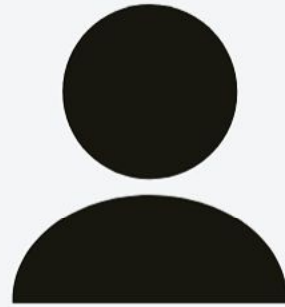
- God doesn't love you
- God doesn't care about you-
You're on your own
- It's up to you - heal, protect, care, provide

Proud Things

**"Lofty
Opinion"**

**"A
Towering
of Self-
Conceit"**

OURSELVES



**don't ask
God for
help, don't
let others
know you
need help,
depend on
yourself**

**OUR
INTELLECT**



**our
accomplish-
ments, our
success,
children,
status,
material
things**

**OTHER
PEOPLE**



**their
approval,
their praise;
fear of
being
rejected**

FEAR OF MAN

**The fear of mankind is a
snare, but the one who
trusts in the LORD is
protected (Proverbs 29:25)**

**The fear of human opinion
disables; trusting in God
protects you from that
(The Message)**

**For am I now trying to
persuade people, or God? Or
am I striving to please
people? If I were still trying
to please people, I would not
be a servant of Christ
(Galatians 1:10)**

The 'Orphan Spirit'

Orphan - "bereaved of parent"

An orphan is not adopted and does not have a relationship with their father or mother. They are longing for a home, a place to feel wanted, chosen, loved, valued and accepted.

"I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Because I live, you will live too. On that day you will know that I am in my Father; you are in me, and I am in you"
(John 14:18-20)

How do we get an 'Orphan Spirit'?

Adam and Eve's perfect relationship with their Father was assaulted. God shepherded their hearts as their perfect Father.

REJECTION, ABANDONMENT, ABUSE, NEGLECT

Our wounds, our imperfect fathers/mothers leave us vulnerable to the enemy's attempt at shepherding our hearts.

An 'Orphan' Mindset



- *Strive for approval of others*
- *Self-rejection from comparing yourself to others*
- *See God as Master and not loving Father*
- *Insecurity*
- *Duty to earn God's favor*
- *Competition, rivalry and jealousy towards others*

An 'Orphan' Mindset



- *Expect rejection*
- *Don't let others get close to us*
- *We struggle with boundaries*
- *Hurt others before they hurt us*
- *No sense of purpose or direction*
- *Work for people's praise/approval*
- *Name dropping*
- *Flaunting title or accomplishments*
- *Independent/Self-Reliant (extreme)*
- *Insecurity*
- *Put on masks/perform*

Spirit of Adoption

Romans 8:14-17

For all those led by God's Spirit are God's sons. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear. Instead, you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father!" The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and coheirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him

Spirit of Adoption

- *See God as a loving Father*
- *Dependent on God*
- *Rest in our identity in Christ (son/daughter)*
- *Peace in the midst of storms*
- *Freedom from striving and performance*
- *Totally accepted in God's love and grace*

Spirit of Adoption

- *Sense a close and intimate presence with God*
- *Feel like a son or daughter*
- *Seek times of quietness and solitude in God's presence*
- *Affirmed because you know you have value to God*
- *Humility and unity as you value others and are able to rejoice in their blessings and successes*
- *Sonship releases your inheritance!*

The Gospel

**No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life; nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord
(Romans 8:37-39)**