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**shofar**  
Christian church





# Renewing the mind: Part 1

## Understanding Strongholds



## “MERRIAM WEBSTER”

- : an area where most people have the same beliefs, values, etc. : an area dominated by a particular group
- : a protected place where the members of a military group stay and can defend themselves against attacks





# “Your-Dictionary”

- The definition of a stronghold is a place that has been secured tightly in case of attack, or a place where a particular belief or ideology is firmly believed and staunchly defended.
- a place where a group having certain views, attitudes, etc. is concentrated

# Stronghold

- 1) Physical fortified place
- 2) Spiritual fortified place





# Physical Old Testament Strongholds

- (1Ch 11:5) The inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You will not come in here." Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the city of David.



# Physical Old Testament Strongholds

- (Neh 1:3) And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."
- (Neh 1:4) As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.





# The “Stronghold” of Jerusalem

- (Neh 4:3) Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, "Yes, what they are building—if a fox goes up on it he will break down their stone wall!"
- (Neh 4:6) So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.





# Spiritual Strongholds in the New Testament

- (2Co 10:3) For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh.
- (2Co 10:4) For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.
- (2Co 10:5) We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,



- In your life you have strongholds of beliefs
- These strongholds (beliefs) originated from a thought, that became thoughts, and were invited by you as truth. It then becomes “walls” of definition in your life.





# Godly Stronghold in the mind

- (Jas 5:16) Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.



# Believers and demonic Strongholds

- (Mat 16:17) And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.
- (Mat 16:23) But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."





# Believers and demonic Strongholds

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# He invites you to freedom

- (2Co 3:16) But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.
- (2Co 3:17) Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
- (2Co 3:18) And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.