

No. 6 "No Weapon Formed Against You Will Have Any Success"

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes two videos]

PERSECUTION DOES NOT SURPRISE JEHOVAH'S PEOPLE (4 min.)

Jesus foretold that his true followers would be persecuted (Mt 10:22, 23; Joh 15:20)

Persecution would intensify in the last days (Mt 24:9)

Satan and his agents are now engaging in a merciless war against faithful anointed Christians and all who support them (Re 12:17)

Yet, we have nothing to fear!

[Read Isaiah 54:17] Jehovah's ironclad guarantee fills us with courage and confidence

Jehovah did not say: 'No weapon will be formed against you'

He said: "No weapon formed against you *will have any success*"

This talk will review the weapons that the Devil uses

We will consider the overwhelming evidence that such weapons have had no success

We will see why this will always be the case for the courageous and faithful worshippers of Jehovah

THE WEAPONS USED BY THE DEVIL (2 min.)

Satan has used the same weapons consistently

These include lies, threats, humiliation, imprisonment, torture, and even execution (Mt 5:11, 12; 26:59-61)

He used these weapons against Jesus and the apostles

He uses them against God's modern-day servants

Have such powerful weapons had any success against Jehovah's people?

What does the evidence show?

THE DEVIL'S WEAPONS HAVE NO SUCCESS (5 min.)

Early Christians faced Satan's henchmen courageously

The apostles were flogged and ordered to stop preaching [Read Acts 5:40]

They responded by intensifying their activity [Read Acts 5:41, 42]

At times, persecution resulted in the good news being spread more widely (Mt 10:23; Ac 8:1; 11:19)

Modern-day servants of Jehovah have shown similar courage

When World War II began in 1939, there were 72,475 publishers worldwide

The Witnesses were intensely persecuted during the war;

nevertheless, the report for 1945 showed 156,299 active publishers

The number of publishers worldwide had more than doubled in just six years!

Hateful schemes of enemies often backfire and result in a blessing for God's people (Ps 7:15, 16; yb08 128-130, 138, 200-201)

Why do Satan's weapons prove unsuccessful?

ALMIGHTY GOD, JEHOVAH, IS ON OUR SIDE (5 min.)

Jehovah is supporting his faithful servants [Read Psalm 118:5-7]

Although a few individuals prove disloyal, Jehovah's servants as a whole stand unitedly and receive his support and protection

Jehovah's means of supporting his people are much more powerful than Satan's weaponry

We are strengthened by holy spirit, myriads of angels, and faithful Christians (Col 4:11; 2Ti 4:17; Re 5:11)

Jehovah supported our brothers who faced harsh persecution in Nazi Germany, the Soviet Union, and many other countries

In recent years, Jehovah's people in Russia have experienced intense persecution

[Share recent news published about Russia on jw.org; look under NEWSROOM > LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS]

The following video shows how Jehovah's people have experienced his unfailing support

VIDEO (3 min.)

STRONG FAITH AND LOVE FOR JEHOVAH WILL ENABLE US TO DEFEAT PERSECUTION (4 min.)

Our strong faith and love for Jehovah equip us to conquer Satan no matter what weapons he uses [Read Revelation 12:11]

Our courageous stand even in the face of death proves the Devil a liar (Job 2:4; Ac 20:24; *it-2* 784 ¶6)

By our fine works and firm stand, we 'condemn any tongue that rises up against us' (Isa 54:17; *w07* 12/15 22 ¶5-7)

[Mention the comments of Nathan H. Knorr quoted in the June 2017 *Watchtower*, pages 11-12, paragraph 11]

The following video highlights the strong faith of our brothers and sisters who have faced persecution

VIDEO (3 min.)

COURAGEOUSLY TAKE YOUR STAND WITH JEHOVAH'S PEOPLE (3 min.)

Jehovah's faithful servants in pre-Christian times were not conquered by Satan (Heb 11:32-34, 36-38)

The apostles and other early Christians were not overcome (2Co 11:22-27)

Our brothers today have not been subdued by satanic bullies
As Isaiah 54:17 promises, "this is the heritage of the servants of Jehovah" (*w07* 12/15 25 ¶16)

Satan has no weapon that can take away our spiritual peace and prosperity

Yes, imperfect people, like you and me, can be victorious against Satan and all his weapons [Read Romans 8:37]

What will you do? Will you stand courageously with God's people?

If you do, you will be victorious because no weapon formed by Satan against God's people will have any success!

TO BE COVERED IN 29 MINUTES

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