

Spiritual Warfare – Two Kingdoms

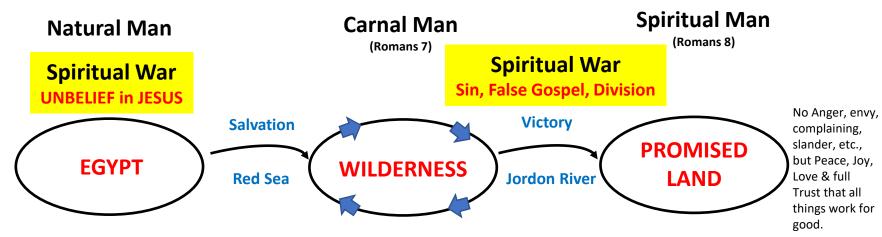
Course Outline

- 1 a) Two Kingdoms
 - b) Who is Satan
- 2. The Fall of Man
- 3. How Does the Enemy Operate: Temptations of Jesus
- 4. The Lessons of Job
- 5. The Battle of the Mind
- 6. Occult/Demons/Sin
- 7. Armour of God

The Spiritual Journey

- The moment you choose to believe that Jesus Christ is God who died on the Cross so your sins can be forgiven, and rose again after the 3rd day, defeating death and Satan, you will immediately enter the Kingdom of God in the Spiritual realm, and begin the spiritual journey. This is what the Bible calls Salvation.
- At the moment of Salvation (trusting Jesus), you become spiritually alive and is when the spiritual battle really begins.
- Satan will become very real once you are saved and he will stop at nothing to defeat you along this journey.
- Let's begin this Pilgrim's Progress together and learn how God says we can defeat this evil foe with the Power of Jesus Christ and His Word. Accept Jesus now & Let the Battle Begin!

The Spiritual Journey



- Lost Unsaved Person
- Spiritually Dead
- Slavery & Bondage
- Condemned & Born in Sin
- Cannot Understand Spiritual Truths (Blind/Deaf)

- Saved by Faith in Jesus
 Christ, but Defeated by Sin
- Backsliding Christian
- Wandering, <u>Victory</u>
 <u>sometimes</u>, and also <u>Defeat</u>
- SIN is the Problem
- Murmuring (complaining),
 Unbelief, Disobedience

- Victorious Life
- Filled with the Holy Spirit*
- Sanctification Separation
- Victory is not in a doctrine, but in the Person of Jesus Christ
- Better to be right in the heart and wrong in the head (doctrine)
- Outliving of the indwelling Christ
- You just do the Trusting, and let Jesus do the Fighting (2 Chron. 20:15)

* Requirements to be Filled with the Holy Spirit – to receive POWER over SIN & in SERVICE

- 1. Confession & Renunciation of Sin (daily)
- 2. Obedience & Dedication (Bible, Prayer, Forgiveness, etc.)
- 3. Surrender (time, \$, self "Deny Yourself")
- 4. FAITH TRUST IN JESUS like a child, Don't Fear, just Believe

Biblical Facts

If you Reject Jesus (natural man in Egypt) DEATH



If you accept Jesus as God and your Savior LIFE

- You are permanently living in the Kingdom of Satan or utter spiritual darkness.
- This is where we all are naturally born into.
- You are Child of Satan & your Father is the Devil
- You are spiritually dead
- You are spiritually blind with no ability to discern spiritual truths of the Bible.
- You are condemned already and under the wrath of God.
- You are destined to hell which is eternal separation from God upon physical death.

- You are "born again" spiritually
- You pass from death to life
- You pass from the kingdom of Satan to the Kingdom of God in the Spiritual Realm
- You are adopted into the Kingdom of God as a Child of God.
- You receive the gift of ETERNAL LIFE and will spend eternity in Heaven with God.

Spiritual Warfare's Main Principle

Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

If you don't know you are in a Spiritual War, you are already losing!

Don't believe me? Let's start with one example of how you have been deceived - MUSIC

Outcomes of Losing the Spiritual Battle

Individual Outcomes

- SIN in your life = DEFEAT = Wilderness Wandering
- Uselessness to God in Service
- Depression, Anger, Complaining, discontentment/unthankful/ungrateful, gossiping that causing division in relationships and the church, etc.
- Not wanting to read the Bible or fellowship with other believers on a regular basis

Societal Outcomes

- False Christian teaching that misleads church goers to believing a false gospel
- False religions (New Age) that claims to know God, but denies that Jesus Christ is God and the Cross is the only way to receive Salvation
- Attacks on the Bible and God's Laws
- Supporting new societal morals and teachings that are in opposition to the Bible (creation; sexual and gender morals; abortion; communism/socialism)
- Occult deception movies, games, music, books, yoga, witchcraft, magic, mediums, tarot cards, Ouija boards, and even some societal causes that claim to represent a noble social cause (i.e. equal rights) but really are teaching a new ideology or theological world view, etc. - all open doors to the demonic and ultimately separate people from the One True God – Jesus Christ.

Spiritual Warfare - Overall

- 1. Spiritual warfare is the analysis of the opposing forces of good and evil, the strategies of Satan & the strategies for overcoming the enemy. It includes the application of these strategies in life.
- 2. One of Satan's main strategies is to keep believers ignorant of his devices. Unbelievers usually don't even believe Satan is real.
- 3. You must recognize that all battles of life, whether physical, spiritual, emotional, mental, are only outward manifestations of a spiritual cause.
- 4. Society is trying to correct the evils of this world through education, legislation, environment and social services (social gospel). It has not worked because the evils of the world are the results of an underlying spiritual cause. They cannot be corrected by natural means.
- 5. Sin is the problem and the Gospel is the solution. Man's sin nature as opposed to individual sins is the real problem.

Spiritual Warfare - Christians

- 1. We are at war against SIN (Satan is trying to keep people captive in sin through deceptive methods).
- 2. Sin is when Satan gets us to act in accordance to our will and disobey God and is often a result of temptations that we do not resist.
- 3. The penalty of sin is death for the unsaved, remedied only by the Gospel.
- 4. For Christians to overcome sin you must be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- 5. Types of Sin that Satan often attacks us with:
 - Have you found it difficult to get along with people, or don't want to read your Bible, don't want to comfort people in need, you get easily angry, depressed/discouraged/suicide, self pity, comparison to others, greed, impatient, not content, addictions, infidelity, divorce, resentment, ashamed to share the Gospel with others, etc.
 - Ask yourself where to do these thoughts come from? (Romans 7)

Battle Plan - Knowledge

- 1. First rule of Battle is to know your enemy Army Generals always start with a thorough knowledge of the enemy's weapons, probable line of attack and weaknesses.
- 2. If you don't know you are in a war, then you are already losing
- 3. The Bible states that God's people are destroyed because of lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6).
- The early Church viewed their spiritual experience in terms of warfare. Military terminology is used throughout the New Testament. (https://www.gotquestions.org/military-Christian.html)
 - Protection was seen in the armor of God.
 - The Word of God was compared to a Sword.
 - Satan's attacks were called fiery darts.
 - Faith was the "good fight" & believers are told to "wage a good warfare" or fight the battle well (1 Tim. 1:18)
 - Christians are call "soldiers" (2 Tim. 2:4; Phil 2:25, etc.)

Natural Realm vs. Spiritual Realm

- To understand this invisible war, you must first understand that humans exist in two worlds: the natural and spiritual worlds.
- Some refer to the Spiritual realm as the "Invisible World" we live in 2 worlds Visible & Invisible; Light & Dark the invisible world is as real as this world, and some day we will see it.
- We have a natural and a spiritual body (1 Cor. 15:40-50)
- All men have a natural body which lives in the natural world, but man is also a spiritual being with an eternal soul and spirit.
- SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS In our natural, unsaved sinful state, we can
 not understand spiritual things. It is necessary to be saved (put
 your trust in Jesus) to understand spiritual things. (I Cor 2:14)
- 2 Kings 6:17 Elisha prayed that God would open his servant's spiritual eyes so he could see the angelic hosts surrounding and protecting them.

Two Spiritual Kingdoms

1. NATURAL KINGDOMS:

- All people live in a natural kingdom of this world (city & country). That nation is a kingdom of the world. The Bible speaks of these natural kingdoms as "kingdoms of the world."
 The kingdoms of the world have come under the power and influence of Satan: (Matt. 4:8-9; John 5:19)
- Satan fights to maintain control of the kingdoms of the world.
 He does not want them to come under God's authority.
- The battle also rages within the hearts, minds, and souls of men and women.
- Satan blinds the minds of unbelievers (2 Cor. 4:4; Mark 4:15)
- Satan attacks believers in the areas of worship, the Word, their daily walk, and their work for God. SIN & SERVICE (Satan wants us to sin and be useless in serving God)

Two Spiritual Kingdoms

2. SPIRITUAL KINGDOMS:

- The Kingdom of Satan (Darkness-death-child of the Devil) and the Kingdom Of God (Light-Life). Every person is a resident of one of these two kingdoms.
- The Kingdom of Satan consists of Satan, spiritual beings called demons, and all men who live in sin and rebellion to God's Word. These, plus the world and the flesh, are the spiritual forces of evil at work in the world today.
- The Kingdom of God consists of God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, spiritual beings called angels, and all Christians.
- At the present time in the natural world, the Kingdom of God exists individually within every Christian by the Holy Spirit. In the future, there will be an actual visible manifestation of God's Kingdom. See Kingdom of God class https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EDLI2EO1TR4&feature=youtu.be

What Jesus Said about the Kingdom of God

John 18

v. 33 Then Pilate...called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

v.36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

Mark 1 – Jesus said

v.15 "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel."

Luke 17

of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; ²¹ nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

What Jesus Said about the Kingdom of Satan

- Luke 4:5-6: The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to.
- Matthew 12:26 Jesus said: 18 If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand?
- Ephesians 2:2 "in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,
- James 4:4: Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Which Kingdom are You in?

- You are either a citizen of the Kingdom of God or the Kingdom of Satan (Phil 3:20).
- People are born into the Kingdom of Satan through natural birth.
- The whole message of God's written Word, the Holy Bible, is the appeal to people to move from this evil Kingdom of Satan and death to the Kingdom of God to be able to obtain eternal life.
- They must be reborn into the Kingdom of God through spiritual birth (regeneration – born again). Entrance to the Kingdom of God is by new birth experience explained in John chapter 3.
- There are only two divisions in the invisible war. Jesus said, "He that is not with me is against me" (Luke 11:23). You cannot be neutral in this spiritual war. You are on one side or the other.
- You are either a Child of God or a Child of Satan. Anyone who
 has not accepted Jesus as their savior is a Child of the Devil and
 condemned already to eternal damnation (hell).

Two Dominions – God's Purpose

Acts 26:16-18

• 16 But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. ¹⁷ I will deliver you from the *Jewish* people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, ¹⁸ to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the **DOMINION** of Satan to God that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'

DOMINION

- Sovereign or supreme authority
- The power of governing and controlling.
- Power to possess, direct, control, use and dispose of at pleasure.
- Territory under a government; region; country; district governed, or within the limits of the authority of a prince or state
- Human Example: The Dominion of Britain
- Every human is in either the Dominion of Satan or God.

A Kingdom Divided Cannot Stand

- Luke 11: 13-26 ¹⁴ And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. ...¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."...
- ¹⁷ But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house *divided* against a house falls. ¹⁸ If **Satan** also is divided against himself, how will **his kingdom** stand?
- ²⁰ But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.
- ²¹ When a **strong man**, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. ²² But when a **stronger than he** comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils.
- ²³ He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

A Kingdom Divided Cannot Stand

- 1. Jesus uses logic to refute accusation Satan's kingdom is NOT divided
- 2. A divided Kingdom cannot stand is a principle Jesus states. This principles applies to countries, families and churches.
- 3. Satan has armour and is strong once someone goes into his kingdom, it's hard to come out of it. Only Jesus can free a person from Satan's control.
- 4. Satan is a slanderer here he makes a false accusation against Jesus (1 Tim 3:11)
- 5. Satan is strong man with a palace and a house, who holds people bound
- 6. The only way to escape the Strong Man is to have a STRONGER MAN to bind him (Jesus)
- 7. Col. 2:15 when Jesus dies, he "Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."
- 8. Life is not neutral You are either for Jesus (in the Kingdom of God) or against Him (in the Kingdom of Satan).

The Invisible War

- The spiritual war is a battle which involves all men and women.
- Spiritual warfare is not a natural battle between flesh and blood. It is an invisible struggle in the spirit world (Luke 24:39)
- It is a battle both 1) within and 2) around people.
- Every person alive is engaged in this battle, whether he realizes it or not. There is no neutral ground.
- Unbelievers are in bondage to evil and have been taken captive by enemy forces. They are victims of the war.
- John 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.
- Believers have been freed from the enemy through Jesus Christ and are victors, but they are still engaged in the war. You are in the midst of conflict whether you acknowledge it or not. If you believe it will get better, you are wrong. The Christian warfare never ceases.

Dimensions of War

- 1. Individual level sin & temptations
 - Between the flesh and the spirit: Galatians 5:16-26
 - A supernatural battle between believers and evil spiritual powers: Eph 6:10-27
- 2. Societal Level between the believer and the world- John 15:18-27 (opposition to the Church, Jesus Christ and God's Word)

3. Extreme Supernatural Level

Demon Possession and Evil Spirits.

Satan's Top Strategies

- 1. Tempts us to Sin Lust of the Flesh, Eyes & Pride
- 2. Discouragement, Worry & Anxiety These are sin. Matt. 6:25-34; Phil 4:6; discouragement was the sin of Elijah (1 Kings 19)
- 3. Division in your relationships and the church
- 4. Doubt causes us to doubt God's promises & power
- **5. Discontentment** he tries to make us compare our lives to other people so we are ungrateful and discontent
- 6. Distractions short term = work;
- 7. Deception attacks our minds tries to make us think that what God says is right, is really wrong (i.e. marriage)
- 8. Destroy Us even though he can't steal our salvation, he can put us on the sidelines and make us ineffective for God.

How to Defeat Satan

- 1. Recognize that Christ has already defeated Satan when he redeemed mankind from sin at the Cross – 1 John 3:8; Heb 2:14; Rom 8:21
- 2. Recognize that the power that defeated Satan is dwelling in you 1 John 4:4; Mark 16:17-18
- 3. Resist Satan in faith your WILL is the key! 1 Peter 5:8-9
 - Do not be ignorant of his devices Cor 2:11 –1 John 2:16 Lust of flesh, eyes and pride of life (Gen 3)
 - Flee from his devices 2 Tim 2:22
 - Read & Know the Bible it is the "Sword of the Spirit"
- 4. Take Thoughts Captive to Christ 2 Cor 10:3-5 the battle is not a physical one – weapons are spiritual – Recognize sinful thoughts and confess them to Jesus immediately. This will defeat them.