

# **BEREAN 2.0** (12 weeks)

Acts 17:11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

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## **1. Spiritual Warfare** (2 – 35)

- a. Suit up and fight!
- b. Angels, Demons, Heaven, Hell
- c. Strongholds, Deliverance
- d. Mark Driscoll, Craig Groeschel

## **2. Worship** (36- 68)

- a. The Tabernacle of Moses and David
- b. Jack Hayford - Worship His Majesty
- c. Darlene Zschech – Extravagant Worship
- d. English and Hebrew terms

## **3. Relationships** (69 – 97)

- a. Friendships, Inner circles
- b. Conflict, communication
- c. Covenant Discipleship
- d. How to Cultivate the Good, when to Sever the Bad

## **Spiritual Warfare      class outline**

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1. Study guide
2. DVD – Craig 4 parts from Supernatural series (& Halloween)
3. DVD – to Hell and back 3 stories
4. DVD – demon possession and deliverance      23 minutes
5. Spiritual inventory – Mark Driscoll 13 pages, 2 hours
6. This Present Darkness – book review
7. Movie Trailers & reviews –  
    Narnia, Michael, Legion, Constantine, Divination, etc

### **Warning signs concerning the possibility of Spiritual attacks:**

1. Continuous problems with authorities in your life.
2. Feeling enticed, or recent curiosity about evil, or the occult.
3. Feeling emotionally & spiritually accused, guilty and condemned.
4. Flooded with the temptation to sin.
5. Recently caught lying to cover up more lies.
6. In the middle of malicious, slanderous Gossip.
7. Severe discouragement, depression, self loathing.
8. Feeling of intimidation, confusion and fear.
9. Extreme challenges to health, finances, or relationships.
10. Major lack of desire for prayer, reading God's word, or attending church.
11. Extreme desire / pressure to pursue ungodly friends for fun.

## **SPIRITUAL WARFARE** - (not what you might think)

Some people ignore it or pass it off,

others think the devil is behind every problem

### **1. Handling conflict** – passive, assertive, aggressive (passive/aggressive)

a. with family: kids, parents, siblings

b. at work – co-worker, boss, employees

c. with friends – neighbors, confronting – being confronted

### **2. Strongholds** – addictions, unforgiveness, bitterness,

### **3. open doors** – unresolved issues, entertainment, curiosity

Influences from worldly people (gossip, slander, rebellion)

movies, games,

### **4. Protection** – feeding / starving influences – prayer, reading (memorizing, speaking) Gods word

## **Weapons of our warfare –**

1. Prayer -
2. The blood of Christ –
3. The word of God -
4. Renewing your mind –
4. Love -
5. Forgiveness –
6. Our Testimony –
7. The Armor of God –
8. Repentance / confession -
9. Taking Authority –
10. Unity -

## **Tools of the Enemy**

1. Pride -
2. Accusations –
3. Fear –
4. Doubt -
5. Discouragement / depression -
6. Division, dissention –
7. Offenses –
8. Rebellion -
9. Revenge –
10. Distractions (stress, anxiety, business) –
11. Dysfunction / lack of order -
12. Lies / deception -
13. Temptation -

**1 Peter 5:8** - Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

**2 Cor 11:14** - for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light

*John 10:10* - <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

*Gen 4:7* If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

*John 3:6* <sup>6</sup>Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit<sup>[b]</sup> gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup>You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You<sup>[c]</sup> must be born again.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."<sup>[d]</sup>

*Gal 5:17* - For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

*"Be sober, **be vigilant**; because **your adversary, the devil**, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."* 1 Peter 5:8

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5

### **2 Corinthians 10:3**

"For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does." (NIV)

### **2 Corinthians 10:4**

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;" (KJV)

*"Therefore submit to God.' **Resist the devil** and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands [REPENT], you sinners; and purify your hearts.... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."* James 4:7:10

**1 Corinthians 2:14** The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

Rev. 12:11 - They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony;

## PRIDE -

### **Proverbs 8:13**

<sup>13</sup>To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech.

**Proverbs 11:2** <sup>2</sup>When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

### **Proverbs 13:10**

<sup>10</sup>Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

### **Proverbs 16:18**

<sup>18</sup>Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

### **Proverbs 29:23**

<sup>23</sup> A man's pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.

### **Ecclesiastes 7:8**

<sup>8</sup>The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride.

### **Isaiah 2:11**

<sup>11</sup>The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.

### **Obadiah 1:3**

<sup>3</sup>The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?'

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## Fear -

2 Tim 1: <sup>7</sup>For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

### [Psalm 27:3](#)

Though an army besiege me, my heart will **not fear**; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

### [Psalm 46:2](#)

Therefore we will **not fear**, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

### [Isaiah 35:4](#)

say to those with **fearful** hearts, "Be strong, do **not fear**; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."

### [Isaiah 41:10](#)

So do **not** fear, for I am with you; do **not** be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

### [Romans 8:15](#)

The Spirit you received does **not** make you slaves, so that you live in **fear** again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

### [1 Peter 3:14](#)

But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do **not** fear their threats ; do **not** be frightened."

## ACCUSATIONS –

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Revelation 12:10

**Psalm 35:20** "They do not speak peaceably, but devise false accusations against those who live quietly in the land." (NIV)

**Mathew 18:**<sup>15</sup> "If your brother or sister<sup>[b]</sup> sins,<sup>[c]</sup> go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. <sup>16</sup> But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>17</sup> If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

**[Psalm 109:4](#)** In return for my love they accuse me, but I give myself to prayer.

**James 1:2-4** "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."(NKJV)

**Luke 6:27**"But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you." (KJV)

**Isaiah 54:17**"But in that coming day no weapon turned against you will succeed. You will silence every voice raised up to accuse you. These benefits are enjoyed by the servants of the Lord; their vindication will come from me. I, the Lord, have spoken!" (NLT)

**1 Peter 3:9** "Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will bless you for it." (NLT)

**1 Thessalonians 5:15** "See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men."

**Proverbs 3:30** "Do not accuse a man for no reason, when he has done you no harm." (NIV)

**Proverbs 11:9**“The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.” (NKJV)

**1 Peter 2:1-12**“So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

## **2 Corinthians 12:20**

<sup>20</sup>For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be. I fear that there may be quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, factions, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.

# **Rebellion**

– **1 Sam. 15:23** For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."

**Lucifer – Ezek. 28** - ““You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

<sup>13</sup> You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you:

carnelian, chrysolite and emerald, topaz, onyx and jasper, lapis lazuli, turquoise and beryl.<sup>[a]</sup>

Your settings and mountings<sup>[b]</sup> were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared.

<sup>14</sup> You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God;

you walked among the fiery stones.<sup>15</sup> You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created

till wickedness was found in you.<sup>16</sup> Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence,

and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, guardian cherub,

from among the fiery stones.<sup>17</sup> Your heart became proud on account of your beauty,

and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth;

I made a spectacle of you before kings.<sup>18</sup> By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the

ground in the sight of all who were watching.<sup>19</sup> All the nations who knew you

are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more.””

**Rom. 13:2** - Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

NUMBERS <sup>12</sup> - Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. <sup>2</sup> “Has the LORD spoken only through Moses?” they asked. “Hasn’t he also spoken through us?” And the LORD heard this. <sup>3</sup> (Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.) <sup>4</sup> At once the LORD said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, “Come out to the tent of meeting, all three of you.” So the three of them went out. <sup>5</sup> Then the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud; he stood at the entrance to the tent and summoned Aaron and Miriam. When the two of them stepped forward, <sup>6</sup> he said, “Listen to my words:

“When there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, reveal myself to them in visions,

I speak to them in dreams.<sup>7</sup> But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house.



<sup>8</sup> With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"<sup>9</sup> The anger of the LORD burned against them, and he left them.<sup>10</sup> When the cloud lifted from above the tent, Miriam's skin was leprous<sup>[a]</sup>—it became as white as snow. Aaron turned toward her and saw that she had a defiling skin disease,<sup>11</sup> and he said to Moses, "Please, my lord, I ask you not to hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed.<sup>12</sup> Do not let her be like a stillborn infant coming from its mother's womb with its flesh half eaten away."

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Numbers 16 - Korah son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and certain Reubenites—Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth—became insolent<sup>[a]</sup><sup>2</sup> and rose up against Moses. With them were 250 Israelite men, well-known community leaders who had been appointed members of the council.<sup>3</sup> They came as a group to oppose Moses and Aaron and said to them, "You have gone too far! The whole community is holy, every one of them, and the LORD is with them. Why then do you set yourselves above the LORD's assembly?" . . .<sup>28</sup> Then Moses said, "This is how you will know that the LORD has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my idea:<sup>29</sup> If these men die a natural death and suffer the fate of all mankind, then the LORD has not sent me.<sup>30</sup> But if the LORD brings about something totally new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them, with everything that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the realm of the dead, then you will know that these men have treated the LORD with contempt."

<sup>31</sup> As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart<sup>32</sup> and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them and their households, and all those associated with Korah, together with their possessions.<sup>33</sup> They went down alive into the realm of the dead, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community.<sup>34</sup> At their cries, all the Israelites around them fled, shouting, "The earth is going to swallow us too!"<sup>35</sup> And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men who were offering the incense.

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## Characteristics of Satan

1. **Created** by God, and **not equal** to God. (Prov 16:4)
  2. **Defies** God and **despises truth**. (John 8:44)
  3. Was given **limited power**. (Job 1:8-12)
  4. **Commands** a **hierarchy of demons**. (Eph. 6:10-12)
  5. **Masquerades** as "an angel of light." (2 Cor. 11:14-15)
  6. Came to **steal, kill** and **destroy**. (John 10:10)
  7. **Lost access** to *faithful, redeemed Christians*. (John 10:2-15, Gal. 2:20, 1 John 4:4)
  8. **Rules the masses outside God's protection**. (Eph. 2:1-3)
  9. Tries to **hide** the actual **truth** about our God. (2 Cor. 4:3-4)
  10. **Twists Scriptures** to fit his purposes. (Gen. 3:1-5)
  11. **Offers counterfeit promises** he can't fulfill. (Gen. 3:4-5)
  12. Always seeks an "opportune time" to **tempt** us. (Luke 4:13)
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## Satan the Liar –

John 8: 44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

2 Cor 11:13 For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. <sup>15</sup> It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

**Ezekiel 28:12-15** <sup>12</sup> “Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “You *were* the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. <sup>13</sup> You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone *was* your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created. <sup>14</sup> “You *were* the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. <sup>15</sup> You *were* perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you.”

## Taking Authority –

**Mathew 18:** <sup>18</sup> “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be <sup>[f]</sup> loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

Mark 1:27, "And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him."

Mathew 16:13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup> **I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven;** whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. <sup>21</sup> From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. <sup>22</sup> Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” <sup>23</sup> **Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan!** You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

## Offenses – (emotional and spiritual wounds and hurts)

Matt 18:7 Woe to the world because of offenses. **For offenses must come**, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes.

**Psalm 119:**<sup>165</sup> Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

Mathew 11:2 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?”<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> *The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.* <sup>6</sup> And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.”

Psalm 55: For it is not an enemy who taunts me— then I could bear it; it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me— then I could hide from him.<sup>13</sup> But it is you, a man, my equal, my companion, my familiar friend.<sup>14</sup> We used to take sweet counsel together; within God's house we walked in the throng.

Mathew 5:23 <sup>23</sup> “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

EPH 6: **For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.**

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LK 14:31 "Or suppose a king is about to go to **war** against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand?"

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REV 19:11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes **war**....<sup>14</sup> The armies of heaven were following him,

REV 12:7 And there was **war** in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back.<sup>8</sup> But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven.<sup>9</sup> The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

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2 Cor. 6:7... in the power of God; with **weapons** of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; 2 Cor. 10:4 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.<sup>4</sup> The **weapons** we fight with are not the **weapons** of the world.

## TOPICAL DEFINITIONS

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WAR— armed conflict, hostile fighting between opposing governments involving a series of battles

PACIFIST— opposed to conflict or confrontation at any cost, a “conscientious objector”, willing to sacrifice anything for peace.

MILITARY— members of an armed force, soldiers of war, militant followers, combined group of warriors

CIVIL WAR— a separation and division within normal ranks declaring internal opposition

DECLARATION OF WAR— formal announcement of hostile opposition

INITIATIVE— ability to begin or introduce the first step. Inventiveness, resourcefulness and effectiveness in responding to challenges

OBJECTIVE— determined offense or defensive purposes. Focus of intent

STRATEGY— tactics used against the enemy

LOGISTICS— “how to” , proper use and allocation of resources

MOBILIZATION— deployment, put into action

### **SOLDIERS... RECRUITED INTO ACTIVE DUTY**

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<sup>1</sup>TI 1:18 Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight,

2 Tim. 2: <sup>3</sup> Endure hardship with us like a good **soldier** of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup> No one serving as a **soldier** gets involved in civilian affairs--he wants to please his commanding officer.

<sup>PHM</sup> 1:1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker, <sup>2</sup> to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow **soldier** and to the church that meets in your home:

## CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD SOLDIER:

1. Endures training (boot camp)  
experiences a tearing down before building up some want to be general overnight
2. Understands obedience to orders by authority
3. Willing to lay down their life (foxes book of martyrs)

### **Doctrine of War according to Encarta Encyclopedia**

The goal of military training is to equip members of the services with the basic skills and discipline needed for appropriate action under the stress of combat.

Tactics— The term *guerrilla* (Spanish, "little war") originated in the early 19th century . Lacking the numerical strength and weapons to oppose a regular army in the field, guerrillas avoid pitched battles. The tactics of guerrillas are those of harassment. Striking swiftly and unexpectedly, they raid enemy supply depots and installations, ambush patrols and convoys, and cut communication lines, hoping thereby to disrupt enemy activities and to capture equipment and supplies for their own use. Consider this analogy:

1. supply = “the word”
2. Patrols / convoys = fellowship of believers
3. Communications = prayer, preaching, etc.

Guerrillas have an ability to disappear among the civilian population, and are extremely difficult to capture.

### **These sneaky, covert tactics are often the type used by demonic enemies !**

The overall plan devised to defeat an enemy is called strategy. The actual techniques carried out against the enemy are tactics, which consist of the procedures for winning on the battlefield, in naval battle, and in aerial combat. Once the overall strategic plan has been approved, planning cycles at lower echelons are implemented. The execution of plans, making possible the attainment of military objectives, involves functions carried out by a field commander whose tactical judgment and leadership are critical. Logistics, which involves transporting troops and furnishing continuous supplies in support of military operations, is essential to the success of the mission.

**Should the church have a strategy? (mission statement)**

**Should the local church define its tactics? (methods or channels to carry out its mission)**

The Armor ...

.Eph. 6: [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. [14] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the **breastplate of righteousness** in place, [15] and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. [16] In addition to all this, take up **the shield of faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the **helmet of salvation** and **the sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God.

**ar·mor** **1.** A defensive covering, worn to protect the body against weapons. **2.** A tough, protective covering, such as the bony scales covering certain animals or the metallic plates on tanks or warships. **3.** A safeguard or protection. **4.a.** The combat arm that deploys armored vehicles, such as tanks.

**SWORD:**

HEB 4:12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

**BREASTPLATE:**

Rom.4[20] Yet he (Abraham) did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, [21] being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. [22] This is why **"it was credited to him as righteousness."** [23] The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, [24] but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him

2 Cor.5: [21] God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**HELMET:**

Rom. 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

1CO 2:16 "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But **we have the mind of Christ.**

**SHEILD :**

HEB 11:1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. [2] This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command,

RO 10:16 But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?" [17] Consequently, **faith comes from hearing the message**, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

**Many are defenseless:** Matt. 9: [36] When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matt. 10: [16] I am sending you out like sheep among wolves.

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|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Many don't study the Bible-                          | they have no sword       |
| 2. They don't go to church enough to grow their faith - | they have no sheild      |
| 3. They depend on their own good works -                | they have no breastplate |
| 4. They don't know the mind of Christ -                 | they have no helmet      |

**VICTORY !!!-**

RO 8:37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

LK 10:18 He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. <sup>19</sup> I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

REV 12:11 They **overcame** him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony;

Zech. 4:6 `Not by **might** nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

PS 44:3 It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them **victory**; it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them. Through you we push back our enemies; through your name we trample our foes. I do not trust in my bow, my sword does not bring me **victory**; but you give us **victory** over our enemies,

1 Cor. 15: 57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the **victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you.

**M.I.A.'S AND P.O.W.'S ???!**

An alarming number of Christians are now “Missing in Action”. They begin a walk of faith and then soon disappear. No one sees them in services for worship, prayer, fellowship, or Bible study. They have forgotten that faith comes by hearing the word and we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together. They have withdrawn from active service of any kind. They never look for opportunities to serve God or His people and are truly Missing in Action.

Others would be considered “Prisoners of War”. They are saved and belong to Christ but have let the enemy take them prisoner. They are held captive to all types of bondage in the flesh. This includes doubt, lust, pride, greed, over-indulgences, slothfulness, and the list goes on and on. Many are comfortable in their habits and refuse to grow or change. Even though the power of God is ready, willing and able to set them free, they choose to stay in bondage as prisoners of war!

## SCRIPTURAL COMMAND TO FIGHT !

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<sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."

EX 14:19 Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them.

<sup>24</sup> During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. <sup>25</sup> He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Duet. 3 <sup>22</sup> Do not be afraid of them; the LORD your God himself will fight for you."

JOS 10:25 Joshua said to them, "Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Be strong and courageous. This is what the LORD will do to all the enemies you are going to **fight**."

Neh. 4:<sup>8</sup> They all plotted together to come and **fight** against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. <sup>9</sup> But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.

2 Tim. 4:7 I have fought the good **fight**, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

1 Tim. 6:<sup>12</sup> **Fight** the good **fight** of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

### **JOSHUA—**

JOS 5:13 Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"<sup>4</sup> "Neither," he replied, "but as **commander** of the army of the LORD I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?" The **commander** of the LORD's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

**GIDEON—** DG 6:11 The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son **Gideon** was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. <sup>12</sup> When the angel of the LORD appeared to **Gideon**, he said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."

<sup>2</sup> The LORD said to **Gideon**, "You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her, <sup>3</sup> announce now to the people, 'Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.' " So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained. But the LORD said to **Gideon**, "There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will sift them for you there. If I say, 'This one shall go with you,' he shall go; but if I say, 'This one shall not go with you,' he shall not go."

JDG 8:4 **Gideon** and his three hundred men, exhausted yet keeping up the pursuit, came to the Jordan and crossed it

**DAVID—** ISA 16:18 One of the servants answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the harp. He is a brave man and a **warrior**. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the LORD is with him."

ISA 17:38 Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of **armor** on him and a bronze helmet on his head. <sup>39</sup> David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. "I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off. <sup>40</sup> Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.



## WEAPONS OF DEFENSE !

Eph.6:18 And **pray** in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

JUDE 1:20 But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and **pray** in the Holy Spirit.

1CO 16:13 Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be **strong**.

ISA 54:16 ; no weapon forged against you will prevail... and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD.

JER 50:25 The LORD has opened his arsenal and brought out the weapons of his wrath, for the Sovereign LORD Almighty has work to do in the land

2 Cor. 10:4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

JOB 1:9 "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. <sup>10</sup> "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has?"

## ARENA OF BATTLE -

LK 11:17 Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them: "Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and a house divided against itself will fall. <sup>18</sup> If Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom stand? I say this because you claim that I drive out demons by Beelzebul. <sup>19</sup> Now if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your followers drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. <sup>20</sup> But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.

LK 11:21 "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. <sup>22</sup> But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils. <sup>23</sup> "He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me, scatters. "When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' <sup>25</sup> When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. <sup>26</sup> Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first."

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ARENA— a scene where forces contend or events unfold, an ancient Roman amphitheatre used for personal battle challenges.

Principalities— Powers— Rulers - Spiritual hosts - Heavenly places—

Major Battlegrounds— air, land, sea...

1. **The mind**—thoughts, lust, depression, suicide, etc.movies, magazines, t.v.
  2. **The heart**— hurt feelings, offenses, unforgiveness ungodly relationships,
  3. **The soul**— emotional abuses, dysfunctional behavior physical body, sickness, disease.  
alcohol, drugs, etc.
- we must renew our mind, guard our heart, and free our soul!

## THE ENEMY'S TACTICS

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<sup>1PE 5:8</sup> Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

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<sup>Acts 13:8</sup> But Elymas the sorcerer (for that is what his name means) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul from the faith. <sup>9</sup> Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, <sup>10</sup> "You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? <sup>11</sup> Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun."

Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he groped about, seeking someone to lead him by the hand. <sup>12</sup> When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was amazed at the teaching about the Lord.

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2 Cor.2:<sup>11</sup> in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes. (ignorant of his devises)

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<sup>2CO 11:13</sup> For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. <sup>15</sup> It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

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<sup>MT 16:21</sup> From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, **Satan!** You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

### 1. ACCUSATION—

Rev. 12:10 For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.

One who brings charges against you, to point out faults, failures and shortcomings. Often using slanderous words, intending to ruin your reputation by launching a character assassination as to discredit the gospel. (gossip and here-say)

### 2. DECEPTION—

John 8: <sup>44</sup> You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he **lies**, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of **lies**.

Being misled or ensnared by the allurements of false appearance. A fake, hoax, counterfeit, phony, fraud, or imposture.

2JN 1:7 Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist. (false teachers, religions, cults)

### 3. TEMPTATION—

<sup>MK 1:12</sup> At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, <sup>13</sup> and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan.

Enticement to sin or violate conscience, especially by the promise of reward, seemingly inviting or attractive. (“just one drink wont hurt”, “a little flirting is really harmless”, “ the pleasure will out way the consequences”

### 4. FEAR—

2 Tim. 1:7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, (fear) but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (sound mind) The feeling of dread and apprehension, panic, alarm, terror: the state of agitation and anxiety caused by the presence of immanent danger.

## *Who is your enemy?*

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One who intends injury toward you, or opposes your interests. A hostile force bent on hindering your progress.

Lucifer fell by his own pride and lost what we now have.

(relationship with God, blessing and promise) He’s motivated by jealousy and resentment, He knows his destiny! He will use anyone and anything to prevent Gods people from their purpose. Consider the example of a Father who sends his child to their room, puts them on restriction, and separates them from friends. Often this child will take it out on his siblings!

We often battle people when they are not the real problem. We fight with our Mother-in law, our boss, or spouse. It is important to pin blame where it belongs. Some curse the devil when it is really a flesh issue they struggle with. For example, a person doesn’t balance their checkbook and spends all day in prayer trying to rebuke the banker for charging overdraft fees. Others pray for healing in their body when they don't regulate their diet and exercise.

Jesus even experienced this with his closest disciples. Peter didn’t have the mind of God but was motivated by self centered ambitions, and Christ knew where the root problem really came from. It is vital to distinguish the difference between sin, the flesh, and the devil.

**MANY GIVE CREDIT TO THE DEVIL AND REFUSE TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR BEHAVIOR.**

## THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION...

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ANGELS— invisible, immortal spiritual being. An agent of God, a guardian of Christians.

DEMONS— invisible evil supernatural being. A wicked, cruel, and tormenting spirit.

SATAN— ultimate evil, fallen Archangel Lucifer, Beelzebub, Lord of Hell, ruler of demons, the devil

GHOSTS— the unseen spirit of a dead person without a physical body, haunting memory or presence (demon)

HEAVEN— eternal firmament overshadowing the universe. A place of combined celestial power, the abode of God, angels, and saved souls

HELL— place of eternal punishment for Satan, demons, and condemned souls. A place of misery, torture, anguish and separation from God.

### ANGELS...

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Order / Rank of power, importance

1. Seraphim—
2. Cherubim—
3. Archangels— (Gabriel, Michael)
4. Ministering Angels—

Col. 1:<sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

EZE 10:<sup>3</sup> Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the temple when the man went in, and a cloud filled the inner court. <sup>4</sup> Then the glory of the LORD rose from above the cherubim and moved to the threshold of the temple. The cloud filled the temple, and the court was full of the radiance of the glory of the LORD. <sup>5</sup> The sound of the wings of the cherubim could be heard as far away as the outer court, like the voice of God Almighty when he speaks.

ISA 6:<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

PS 103:<sup>20</sup> Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. <sup>PS 91:11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

- |                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| A. excel in strength    | Heb. 1:14 |
| B. Perform His word     | Acts 8:26 |
| C. Respond to his voice | Gen. 19:1 |
| D. Minister to God      | Luke 1:26 |
| E. Protect the saints   |           |
| F. Messengers of God    |           |

\* there are twice as many angels as demons

## DEMONS ...

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1/3 of the created angels fallen with Lucifer. Unclean, wicked, and at war with the saints, searching for an earthly dwelling place (a being to inhabit)

Structured in military fashion by legions. First principalities, then powers, rulers, and host of wickedness. Often manifested by deaf, mute, blind, mental disorders & disease.

Jude<sup>6</sup> And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home--these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.

MT 25:41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels

<sup>2</sup> When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him. <sup>3</sup> This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain. <sup>4</sup> For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. <sup>5</sup> Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. <sup>7</sup> He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" <sup>8</sup> For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!" Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

"My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many."

**Oppression**— To keep down by severe and unjust use of force or authority. To weigh heavily on. To overwhelm or crush.

**Possession**— To acquire mastery of, To gain or exert influence or control over; dominate. To cause to be influenced or controlled, as by an idea or emotion.

**Exorcism**— To expel (an evil spirit) by or as if by incantation, command, or prayer. To free from evil spirits or malign influences.

Mark 16:17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons;

## SATAN ...

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His demise—

1. I will ascend to...
2. I will ascend above...
3. I will raise...
4. I will sit...
5. I will be like...

His purpose—

1. Steal
2. Kill
3. Destroy
4. deceive
5. tempt
6. accuse

ISA 14:11 All your pomp has been brought down to the grave,  
along with the noise of your harps; maggots are spread out beneath you and worms cover you. How you  
have fallen from heaven,  
O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!  
You said in your heart,  
"I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of  
assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make  
myself like the Most High." But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.

John 10:<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy;

Rev. 12:<sup>9</sup> The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or **Satan**, who leads the  
whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Rev. 20:<sup>2</sup> He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or **Satan**, and bound him for a thousand  
years. <sup>3</sup> He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations  
anymore

## HEAVEN ...

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3 levels or references in scripture—

1. earths atmosphere, 600 miles through the clouds
2. Through the planets, milky way and the galaxy (firmament)
3. Beyond the stars, where we find... The city of God!

2 Cor. 12: <sup>2</sup> I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know--God knows. <sup>3</sup> And I know that this man--whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows-- <sup>4</sup> was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell.

REV 7:9 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne  
Rev.21,&22

1. About the size of the U.S.A., 1400 square miles
2. With great mansions and houses built by a Jewish carpenter!
3. Great jasper walls 216 ft high filled with 12 jewels
4. 12 pearl gates
5. Foundation and streets of gold
6. Illuminated by the glory of God
7. A pure crystal river of the water of life
8. The tree of life with twelve fruits (one every month)
9. 24 thrones of elders (govt. order)
10. A beautiful rainbow surrounding Gods throne
11. Multitudes of worshippers, to many to number
12. Clothed in robes and crowns

a place of serving, learning, worshipping, & rewards

## HELL ...

Grave—a burial or resting place for the physical body.  
the soul and spirit continue existence for eternity.  
Num.16:32,33 / Matt.25:41,46 / Mark 9:43-48

Sheol—Hebrew word for Abrahams bosom, O.T. dead - before Christ

<sup>LK 16:22</sup> "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

Hades— Greek word in N.T. for Hell

Rev. 20: <sup>14</sup> Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Tartaros— bottomless pit, prepared for the devil and fallen angels (final)

Gahanna—lake of fire, prepared for the wicked dead

A place of :

1. Punishment
2. Torment
3. Separation from God
4. Darkness
5. Fire, heat, and smoke
6. No relief
7. Confinement behind gates, below the earth
8. Sorrow, weeping
9. Eternal decay

## STRONGHOLDS

A stronghold is more than an occasional battle in life. It is more of an ongoing habit, or addiction. It is where the enemy has set up camp. It is often associated with bondage or oppression. There is a difference in oppression and possession of demons. A born again Christian has the spirit of God in him and Satan can not co-mingle in the same body or soul. Jesus said that we can not serve two masters, One of them has to go! Demons will, however, attack relentlessly as often as God permits. (Remember that God will not put on us more than we can bear). They will take over if we permit it to happen.

The dictionary says that a stronghold is a fortified place or a fortress. It is a place of survival or refuge An area dominated or occupied by a special group or distinguished by a special quality, or entity. The following scripture explains how a stronghold is created:

JAS 1:13 When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives **birth to** sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives **birth to** death.

If a stronghold is not dealt with, it will eventually rob a person of his relationship with God



**DELIVERENCE** To free from bondage or restraint. To liberate, redeem or rescue.

PS 18:2 The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

2 Peter 2:9— the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials

John 8:32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin

**Steps and / or process:**

1. On rare occasions it may be an instantaneous work of the Holy Spirit during prayer. This must be followed up by filling yourself with Gods word.  
(memorizing and meditating)
2. Pray for wisdom to see the root of the problem.
3. Take responsibility and stop blaming others.
4. Repent and confess the sin openly
5. Forgive anyone who has hurt or offended you.
6. Cleanse your closet, your cabinet, your desk drawer, or any place that might harbor temptation for sin (booze, magazines, etc.)
7. Be accountable to a spiritual authority or friend.

MT 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but **deliver** us from the evil one. '

**1. Handling conflict** – passive, assertive, aggressive (passive/aggressive)

- a. with family: kids, parents, siblings
- b. at work – co-worker, boss, employees
- c. with friends – neighbors, confronting – being confronted

**2. Strongholds** – addictions, unforgiveness, bitterness,

**3. open doors** – unresolved issues, entertainment, curiosity

Influences from worldly people (gossip, slander, rebellion)  
movies, games,

**4. Protection** – feeding / starving influences – prayer, reading (memorizing, speaking) Gods word

## **Spiritual Warfare** Pastor Mark Driscoll

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

Note: Both NIV and ESV are used in this lecture.

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.”

— C. S. Lewis, *Screwtape Letters*

In each of the synoptic gospels, Satan appears as the tempter of Jesus Christ (Matt. 4:1–11; Mark 1:12–13; Luke 4:1–13). From the opening to the closing pages of Scripture, Satan is presented as an enemy of God and, subsequently, an enemy of God’s people. He is named in a variety of ways, as the following list demonstrates, with varying titles each relating to the various aspects of his work.

### **Satan’s Names**

- Abaddon (“destroyer”) (Rev. 9:11)
- The god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4)
- Accuser (Rev. 12:10)
- Great Dragon (Rev. 12:9)
- Adversary (1 Pet. 5:8)
- Lawless One (2 Thess. 2:18)
- Apollyon (“destroyer”) (Rev. 9:11)
- Liar (John 8:44)
- Beelzebul (Matt. 12:24)
- Morning Star (Isa. 14:12)
- Belial (2 Cor. 6:15)
- Murderer (John 8:44)
- Deceiver (Rev. 12:9)
- Prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2)
- Devil (Luke 4:13)
- Ruler of this world (John 12:31)
- Enemy (Matt. 13:28, 39)
- Satan (Acts 26:18)
- Evil One (Matt. 13:28, 39)
- Serpent (Rev. 12:9)
- Father of lies (John 8:44)
- Tempter (1 Thess. 3:5)

Foundational to our study of Satan is to recognize that he is in no way equal to God. His knowledge, presence, and power are limited because he is an angelic being (a guardian cherub according to Ezekiel 28:14) created by God for the purpose of glorifying and serving God. However, he became proud in his heart and desired to be worshiped and exalted like God. So, he declared war on God and one-third of the angels joined his army to oppose God. Judged by God for his sin, the Serpent was then cast down to the earth (Isa. 14:11–23; Ezek. 28:1–19). Upon the earth he appeared as a serpent to tempt Adam and Eve by twisting God’s word and lying (Gen. 3:1–24). After successfully tempting Adam and Eve to sin, he was judged and cursed by God for his sin and told that Jesus

would ultimately come to completely defeat him, though Jesus would suffer physical harm in their conflict (Gen. 3:14–15).

The motivation for all of the Serpent's work is pride and self-glory instead of humility and God-glory (Ezek. 28:2; James 4:6–7). Subsequently, one of his most powerful allies in opposing God's people is their own pride. Some have speculated as to why the Serpent continues in his war against God even though Scripture is clear that ultimately he will be defeated and painfully judged. It may be that the Serpent is indeed so proud that he has deceived himself and now believes that God is a liar who can be beaten.

In his war against God, the Serpent not only has the fallen angels who are now known as demons, but also has people who are allies in his army either by demonic possession, demonic influence, or simply living according to their sinful nature and flesh (2 Pet. 2:4; Rev. 9:1; 12:3–4). Such people include false prophets who speak for the Serpent (2 Pet. 2:1), false apostles who begin ministries for the Serpent (2 Cor. 11:13), false Christians who divide churches (Gal. 2:4), and false teachers who teach heretical doctrine for the Serpent (2 Pet. 2:1). Regarding spiritual warfare as it is experienced on the personal level, 2 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV) says, "Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes." Therefore, knowing Satan's tactics helps us anticipate his work and live in victory rather than as victims.

### **Scheme #1 – The World**

What is meant by the term "world" in its negative sense? The world is an organized system in opposition and rebellion against God. Richard Lovelace says, "The world is corporate flesh and the structures it produces." In 1 John 2:16 the world is defined as the following:

- Lust of the flesh (wanting physical desires)
- Lust of the eye (wanting beautiful externals)
- Boastful pride of life (selfish ambition)

In response to the world, Scripture instructs Christians to:

- Not love it (1 John 2:15)
- Not let it shape their values (Rom. 12:2)
- Live through Jesus as crucified to the world (Gal. 6:14)

### **Scheme #2 – The Flesh**

The flesh refers to our capacity and disposition to put self-interests above God. In short, the flesh is an internal resistance to obey God (Mark 7:21–23; Gal. 5:19–21; Col.3:5–8; James 1:14–15).

In response to the flesh, Scripture instructs Christians to:

- Recognize that they are no longer under the flesh's bondage (Rom. 6)
- Walk in conscious submission to the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:16)
- Put to death (mortify) sinful desires (Rom. 8:13–16)

### **Scheme #3 – The Devil**

"Where God is on one side, you may be sure to find the devil on the other."

William Gurnall, 1655

As Satan engages in combat against us he deftly uses his hands of pride and fear. With pride he tempts us to join him in arrogance and self-sufficiency apart from God's grace (Ezek. 28:17; Prov. 3:34; 8:13). Satan seeks to convince us that we are equal to God and can exist happily apart from His grace and govern our lives by our own wisdom and strength (Gen. 3:5; Isa. 13:11). If we yield ourselves to pride, we will boastfully think too highly of ourselves and think too lowly of our God. With fear he tempts us to revere him more than God and submit ourselves to his lies, accusations, temptations and the like (Isa. 8:12–13; 35:3–4; Luke 12:4–5; Rom. 8:15). If we yield ourselves to fear we will think too highly of Satan and his servants and think too lowly of God and His powerful authority. Jesus said, "Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:19–20). Whatever his tactics, the Serpent's ultimate goal for believers is typically a compromised and fruitless life beset by heresy and sin (1 Tim. 4:1–2; 1 John 3:7–10) and ultimately death (John 8:44; 1 Pet. 5:8).

#### Ordinary Demonic

Puritan Thomas Brooks, in his book *Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices*, speaks of the ordinary demonic as Satan coming to us as our Tempter and baiting our hook with various pleasure and temptations, including:

- Sexual sin (2 Cor. 7:5)
- Marriage between Christians and non-Christians (2 Cor. 6:15)
- False religion, false teaching, false Jesus (1 Cor. 10:14–22; 1 Tim. 4:1–2; 2 Cor. 11:1–4)
- Bitterness (Eph. 4:17–5:2)
- Foolishness and drunkenness (Eph. 5:8–21)
- Idle gossip and busybodying (1 Tim. 5:11–15)
- Lies (John 8:44)
- Idolatry (1 John 5:18–21)

#### Extraordinary Demonic

- Torment (Acts 5:16)
- Physical injury (Matt. 9:32–33; 12:22–23; Acts 8:4–8)
- False miracles (Acts 8:9–23; 16:16; 2 Thess. 2:9–10)
- Accusation (Rev. 12:10)
- Vain regrets and condemnation (Rom. 8:1)
- General guilt vs. specific conviction
- Second person ("you" language instead of "I")
- Death, e.g., food, sex, drink, recklessness (Prov. 8:36)
- Murder/Suicide (John 8:44)
- False spirits (1 John 4:1–6)

## **Christus Victor**

- “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son” (Col. 1:13).
- “And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him” (Col. 2:13–15).
- “Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).
- “. . . in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:37–39).
- “Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil” (1 John 3:8).
- “Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery” (Heb. 2:14–15).
- “But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head” (Ps. 3:3).
- “My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart” (Ps. 7:10).
- “The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold” (Ps. 18:2).

## **Spiritual Inventory**

Satan is a liar (John 8:42–47) and God tells us the truth so that we can be free of Satan and his lies and our besetting sins (John 8:31–41). Therefore, it is imperative that we confess our sins, are truthful, and invite the light of God to shine into our darkest places (1 John 1:5–2:6). This process of complete and total honesty can be very painful as we name our sins and the most private and scarred portions of our soul. Your temptation may be to partially confess or withhold a few things that you feel are too embarrassing or painful to admit, but you must be completely honest with yourself and with God so that you can join God in the truth and be forgiven and restored. So, please take some time to answer the following questions truthfully on another sheet of paper, trusting that God loves you as His child and desires to make you whole and well through His grace.

\_ Please read Galatians 5:19–21 and list each thing that has been a besetting and/or habitual sin for you.

\_ Please read Colossians 3:5–8 and list each thing that has been a besetting and/or habitual sin for you.

\_ Please read Mark 7:21–23 and list each thing that has been a besetting and/or habitual sin for you.

\_ Please consider the following list and list each thing that has been besetting and/or habitual for you: bestiality, habitual lying, physically unhealthy, masturbation, lying, pornography, ongoing depression, suicidal thoughts, alcohol abuse, drug use, anger, blasphemy, violence, self-inflicted injury, rape, incest, eating disorders, mental illness, pedophilia, and anything else that comes to mind.

\_ Please consider the following list of sins that may have been committed against you or by you: rape, incest, molestation, other forms of abuse (e.g., physical, sexual, mental, emotional), as well as anything else that comes to mind.

\_ Please briefly explain any involvement you may have had with the occult, witchcraft, or anything spiritual other than orthodox biblical Christianity.

\_ Please briefly list any of your ancestors and any activity they may have been involved in with the occult, witchcraft, other religions, drug use, alcohol abuse, sexual deviancy, rape, incest, mental illness, and anything else listed above or that comes to mind.

\_ Please briefly describe your sleeping patterns, including any inability to sleep and ongoing nightmares or disturbances.

\_ Please briefly list any paranormal/supernatural experiences you have had.

\_ Please briefly list any voices you hear and what they generally speak to you in the exact words that you hear or think.

\_ Please briefly list the main two or three things that you would like resolved immediately.

\_ Please read 1 John 4 slowly and pray each part that strikes you, honestly speaking with God about the things His Holy Spirit brings to mind.

\_ Please name the godly person you want to join us.

### **Satan and Demons in Scripture**

For further insight on Satan, demons, and their involvement in our world, it would benefit you to set aside some time to read the following passages of Scripture. Since this list is exhaustive, you may wish to simply read the sections in Genesis, Isaiah, Zechariah, Luke, Acts, 2 Corinthians, Ephesians, Colossians, 1 Timothy, James, 1 Peter, and 1 John.

**Genesis** 3

**Exodus** 20:5

**Leviticus** 17:7–9; 19:31; 20:27; 19:31

**Numbers** 22–24

**Deuteronomy** 32:16–17

**Judges** 9:23–24

**1 Samuel** 10–12; 16:14–23; 18:10–12, 19, 28, 31

**1 Kings** 22:1–28

**1 Chronicles** 21:1–2  
**Job** 1:6–2:10; 26:6  
**Psalms** 106:37  
**Proverbs** 27:20  
**Isaiah** 14:1–23  
**Ezekiel** 28:1–19  
**Zechariah** 3:1–2; 13:1–2  
**Matthew** 4:1–11, 23–25; 7:21–23; 8:14–17, 28–34; 9:32–34; 10:1, 8, 24–25; 11:18; 12:22–37, 43–45; 13:37–39; 15:21–28; 16:22–23; 17:14–23; 25:41  
**Mark** 1:21–28, 32–34, 39; 3:10–11, 14–15, 20–30; 4:15; 5:1–20; 6:7, 13; 7:24–30; 8:31–33; 9:14–32, 38–41; 16:9, 17–18  
**Luke** 4:1–13, 31–37; 6:17–19; 7:33; 8:1–3, 26–39; 9:1–2, 37–43; 10:17–24; 11:14–28; 13:10–17, 31–32; 22:1–6  
**John** 6:70; 7:14–20; 8:42–52a; 10:19–21; 13:2, 27; 17:15  
**Acts** 5:1–11, 16; 8:4–8, 9–25; 10:38; 13:9–10; 19:11–22; 26:15–18  
**Romans** 8:37–39; 16:20  
**1 Corinthians** 5:1–6:11; 7:5; 10:14–22  
**2 Corinthians** 2:10–11; 4:2–4; 6:15; 11:1–15; 12:7–10  
**Galatians** 1:8; 2:21  
**Ephesians** 1:19b–2:3; 2:10–11; 4:17–32; 5:8–21; 6:10–20  
**Colossians** 2:13–15  
**1 Thessalonians** 2:18–19  
**2 Thessalonians** 2:1–12  
**1 Timothy** 1:18–20; 3:6–7; 4:1–2; 5:11–15  
**Hebrews** 2:14  
**James** 2:19; 4:1–12  
**1 Peter** 5:8–11  
**2 Peter** 2:1–22  
**1 John** 2:15–27; 3:4–15; 4:1–6; 5:18–21  
**2 John** 7  
**Jude** 5–16  
**Revelation** 2:8–11, 12–17; 3:7–13; 9:1–11; 12:1–17; 13:4–9, 11–15; 16:13–14; 18:2; 20:1–4, 7–15

### **Spiritual Warfare Trial**

Step #1 – Share the gospel and make sure they are a Christian.

Step #2 – Explain the world, flesh, and devil, and how ground is given.

Step #3 – Explain our trial.

- 1 John 4:1–6
- Ephesians 6:10–18
- 1 Peter 5:8
- Explain demonic oppression, occupation, and possession

Step #4 – Explain the counselee's participation.

- Our authority is in Christ.
- You must tell the entire truth.
- Tell me everything the demon tells you, no matter how odd it may seem.
- Tell me everything you see, no matter how odd it may seem.
- Pride and fear will hinder our progress.

Step #5 – Explain confessing and canceling sin.

Step #6 – Establish the ground rules.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ . . .

I will be using the personal pronoun we because I stand with

\_\_\_\_\_ united with them as their brother in Jesus Christ and since the Holy Spirit lives in us we command you in the name and authority of the One True God who rules as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You are an unwanted intruder and who is going to have to leave upon command.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we . . .

- establish our authority over Satan and demons delegated to us by the Lord Jesus Christ
- bind the strong man
- command that you convey your answers to \_\_\_\_\_ and they will convey your answers to me. You will not speak to me because you are on trial and under the authority delegated to me by the Lord Jesus Christ.
- command that you not change your authority structure, hide, duplicate your identity, or change your name
- there will be no profanity
- you will answer every question directed at you clearly, concisely, immediately, completely, and truthfully
- command that you will not have any outside help or reinforcement during this trial
- command that the answers you give must stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty
- there will be one-way traffic only from the demon to the pit. You will not in any way bother anyone else anywhere at any time, especially those in the room and their families, including but not limited to entering another person.
- bind you by any name you give, and will name you if needed
- command that you speak only that which can be used against you
- bind you by the ground rules we lay down
- command that there will be no control of the mind, confusion of the mind, tongue, or body, that they will maintain complete self-control and there would be no harm done to them in any way
- you will take all of your associates and your collective works and effects with you
- ask you Holy Spirit to rule over all spirits and force them to cooperate according to the ground rules and punish any who seek to disobey them

Step #7 – Declarations of truth.

We claim the following declarations of truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty . . .

- we claim protection from and authority over Satan and all his demons (Luke 10:18–20)
- we claim our position in Christ and that all things under Christ's authority are now under our authority (Eph. 1:18–2:8)
- we claim our victory in the Lord Jesus Christ (Col. 2:13–15)

Step #8 – Determine two or three primary areas to begin.



Step #9 – Confess sins and cancel grounds and command leaving in each area one at a time.

Take each category and have the person pray to God to confess and repent of their sins in each category. Then have them cancel any ground given, command that the named spirit and all of his works and effects and all of his servants and their works and effects be cast away to the pit for judgment by God. Then, have them request that the Holy Spirit reclaim all the ground they had given and rule in that area of their life.

Step #10 – Ask the Spiritual Inventory questions.

Often it is best to begin with addressing ancestral sin and address it first because it tends to have the deepest root in someone's life. The counselee can pray something like, "Lord Jesus, if there are any spirits who have anything to do with me, body, soul, or spirit because of my ancestral sin, I ask that you please forgive this sin and cancel any ground they have held against me."

*If there are any demons working in (name) in the area of (issue), we bind all of you together along with all of your works and effects and command that you come forward.*

*We now command that spirit holding highest authority of all those bound and brought forward in the area of (issue) to step forward alone. We put a hedge of thorns around you, above you, and below you. You will not be interfered with by anyone.*

Then address that spirit holding highest authority of the group bound and brought forward and ask them.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ . . .

1. What is your name?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
  - b. You have responded to the name \_\_\_\_\_, we bind you by that name and upon command you will go to the pit bound by that name with all of your works and effects and all of your associates and their works and effects as well.
2. When did you come?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
3. What work were you commissioned to do?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
4. By what means do you hope to destroy them?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
5. What habitual lies have you told them?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
6. Who sent you?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
7. How many associates are working under you?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
8. What effects have you had on them?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?
9. Do you still hold any ground against (name) that would keep you from leaving him/her upon command?
  - a. Will that stand as truth before the White Throne of the Lord God Almighty?

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we command (demon's name) to leave (person) with all of your works and effects and all of your associates and their works and effects and go to the pit immediately. We command this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Then pray for the Holy Spirit to fill the areas just vacated.

This process can then be repeated through each major area.

Finally, command that the highest-ranking spirit remaining other than the Holy Spirit (if there is one) step forward and identify themselves to ensure none has been overlooked. Complete the process of cleansing. Close with a general prayer to cover anything that may have been overlooked.

Step #11 – Recommended ways to keep the trial moving.

Stop and pray to the Holy Spirit asking Him to intervene as needed and enforce the ground rules. Stop to read Scripture such as Psalm 18, Psalm 27, Psalm 31, Psalm 35, Psalm 83, etc.

Step #12 – Follow-up recommendations for the counselee.

- Keep short sin accounts with God.
- Pray offensively.
- Read Scripture.
- Do not obsess over lies and accusations.
- Be in fellowship.
- Schedule another appointment if things arise.
- Exercise the authority Christ has given you.
- Be careful to avoid arrogant pride.
- Keep a journal to record lies and accusations.
- Read the recommended resources.

### **Answers to Common Questions about Spiritual Warfare**

Can Christians be possessed by demons?

This is one of those questions that many people answer too quickly. The problem is that the word *possess* has several meanings. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary it can mean three things. First, *possess* can mean “own” so that a Christian would essentially belong to Satan. Second, *possess* can mean “dominate” so that a Christian would be controlled by Satan. Third, *possess* can mean “influence” so that the life of a Christian would be marked by the influences of Satan. Obviously, what one means when they use the word *possessed* matters very much when answering the question, “Can Christians be possessed by demons?”

In the first sense, the devil never *owns* a Christian. We have been rescued from the dominion of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of the Son, Paul tells us in Colossians 1:13.

In the third sense, the devil can *influence* a Christian. We are in warfare against the enemy who seeks to steal and kill and destroy (John 10:10). Even Jesus was attacked by the devil in this way according to Matthew 4:1–11 and Luke 4:1–13.

It is the second sense where there is a lot of debate among Christians.

Can demons dominate a Christian? While some teach that through personal sin,

generational sin, or even curses, demons can have authority to dominate believers, Scripture is clear that Christians are never under the ruling authority of darkness. The devil can never take authority over a Christian. Others teach that if we pray and feast on God's Word we never need fear a demonic attack. But if Jesus can be attacked, how can we say we cannot?

We believe Christians may be deceived, accused, or tempted by Satan and may yield to those attacks (though they do not have to). If believers begin to wrongly respond to such things, they may give demons influence in their lives. Apparently an evil spirit can empower, energize, encourage, and exploit a believer's own sinful desires. Examples would include Peter (Matt. 16:22–23) and Ananias (Acts 5:3). As children of God, regenerated and indwelt by the Spirit, we are responsible to and empowered by God to resist Satan and if we do we need not suffer from his influence (Eph. 6:10–18; James 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:7–9; 1 John 4:1–4; 5:1–5, 18–19).

Can sins done against me defile me?

They can. But Jesus can cleanse that aspect of sin too. For example, Matthew 8 begins with Jesus healing a leper instantaneously by his power, and ends with Jesus driving demons out of two men instantaneously by his power. The point is that whether we are physically or spiritually defiled, Jesus can cleanse us. In 1 John 1:9 we are told to confess or talk about our sin. That sin can be either sin we have committed or sin committed against us. In either case, bringing the sin to Jesus and his people will result in forgiveness of any and all guilt and cleansing of any and all defilement. This usually involves a process, not an immediate result, but the outcome is sure because "we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:1–2).

I have some questions about Satan and demons. What else can I read to learn more?

Books on the world and flesh:

- \_ *Getting to No: How to Break a Stubborn Habit* by Erwin Lutzer
- \_ *Sin and Temptation* by John Owen
- \_ *Addiction and Grace* by Gerald May
- \_ *Flirting With the World* by John White
- \_ *The Enemy Within: Straight Talk About the Power and Defeat of Sin* by Kris Lundgaard

Books on the devil:

- \_ For a good introduction to the demonic in the New Testament much insight can be found in *Powers of Darkness* by Clinton E. Arnold.
- \_ For a practical understanding, I recommend *Three Crucial Questions about Spiritual Warfare* by Clinton E. Arnold, *Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices* by Thomas Brooks, *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis