

The Unseen Realm – Understanding Satan’s Kingdom

Part Two

Biblical Descriptions of Satan:

- the prince of this world (Jn 12:31; 14:30; 16:11).
- the god of this age (2 Cor 4:4).
- the prince of the power of the air (Eph 2:2).
- the evil one (Mt 13:19).
- the enemy (Mt 13:39).
- a murderer, liar, father of lies (Jn 8:44).
- He is called the tempter (Mt 4:3; 1 Thes 3:5).
- an adversary like a roaring lion (1 Pet 5:8).
- He is also spoken of as the great dragon who deceives the whole world (Rev 12:9).
- the ancient serpent (2 Cor 11:3; Rev 20:2).
- He is referred to as Beelzebub (Mt 12:24-27 and Belial (2 Cor 6:15).
- He has his own kingdom (Lk 11:17-20): “the whole world is under the control of the evil one” (1 Jn 5:19).
- Satan’s powers are great, yet he is not all-powerful.
- an angel of light (2 Cor 11:14).
- Angel of the Abyss (Rev 9:11)
- Satan (Luke 10:18)

Believers Are to

Resist the Devil

- James 4:7
- I Peter 5:9

Overcome

- 1 John 2:13
- Revelation 12:10-11

Fight Against

- Ephesians 6:11-16

Watch Against

- 2 Corinthians 2:11

Jesus and Deliverance

Mark 1: 21-27; 32-34 – Jesus Teaching in Capernaum and Public Healing

And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²² And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³ And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴ “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy

One of God.”²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!”²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him.²⁷ And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.

That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons.³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door.³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

Luke 8:26-39 - Demoniac from Gerasene - legion/tombs/pigs

Mark 9:14-29 - Boy with deaf and dumb spirit.

Matthew 8:16-17 – Public Ministry

That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick.¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: “He took our illnesses and bore our diseases.”

Matthew 9:32-34 – Healing a Mute Man

As they were going away, behold, a demon-oppressed man who was mute was brought to him.³³ And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke. And the crowds marveled, saying, “Never was anything like this seen in Israel.”³⁴ But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.”

Disciples and Deliverance

Luke 9 – 12 sent out.

And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

Luke 10 – 72 sent out.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two^[a] others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.

Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.

Acts 16:16-18 – Paul in Philippi

As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling.¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.”¹⁸ And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned, and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

Acts 19 – Sons of Sceva

And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹² so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them, and the evil spirits came out of them. ¹³ Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.” ¹⁴ Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. ¹⁵ But the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?” ¹⁶ And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all^[d] of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled.

The Church and Deliverance

- Mark 16:16-18 – these signs will follow – cast out demons in my name.
- Matthew 28: 18-20 – teaching them to obey all I commanded you (cast out demons).
- John 14:12 – the works I do you will do.
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 – ministry of power not words only
- Acts 2, 4 and 5 – signs and wonders through hands of the Apostles.
- Matthew 6 – Lord’s Prayer, “deliver us from evil.

The Church is described as:

- A family
- A legislative body
- A temple
- Body of Christ
- An Army

I want to focus on the Army of God. This implies that we are in a war fighting an enemy that is against us.

Ephesians 6:10-17 is a key passage.

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **stand** against the schemes of **the devil**.

¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the **spiritual forces of evil** in the heavenly places.

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to **stand** firm.

¹⁴ **Stand** therefore, having fastened on the **belt** of truth, and having put on the **breastplate** of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as **shoes** for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the **shield** of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the **helmet** of salvation, and the **sword** of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

Insights

Battle is not against flesh and blood but spiritual, so our weapons are to be spiritual, not carnal.

God has provided us with armor for protection.

- Belt of truth – God’s truth sets us free and hold all the armor in place.
- Breastplate of righteousness – guard our heart, vital organs.
- Shoes of the gospel of peace – Romans 10:15, beautiful are the feet that bring good news.
- Shield of faith – Romans 10:17, faith comes by hearing the word of God.
- Helmet of salvation – guards our minds against doubt, accusation, temptation, etc.

God has provided us with a weapon to fight against the enemy (Word of God) Heb 4:12

Rules, Powers, Spiritual Forces of Wickedness in Heavenly Places.

- These are fallen angels.
- Not demons.
- They serve Satan in the heavenlies (2nd Heaven)
- They operate over geographical territories.
- They do not seek embodiment.
- There is clearly a hierarchy involved.
- Ephesians 2:1-4 – prince of the power of the air
- Colossians 2: 14-15 – disarmed the rulers and authorities.
- Ephesians 3:10 – Christ’s victory thru the church against rulers and authorities.
- Matthew 28:18 – all authority has been given to Jesus.
- Philippians 2:9-11 – at the name of Jesus every knee will bow.

Ephesians 1:20-23

that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Demons

- Disembodied spirit of the fallen ones of Genesis 6:1-4
- They seek embodiment to manifest their evil.
- They recognize Christ.
- They know their destiny.
- They are under Satan.
- They receive sacrifice.
- Jesus and believers have authority over them.

Satan's Kingdom is structured:

- Authorities
- Cosmic Powers of this present darkness
- Spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places.

Note: This conflict involves all Christians and is expressed in the Baptismal Covenant.

Matthew 12:22-28

Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. ²³ And all the people were amazed, and said, "Can this be the Son of David?"

²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebub, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons."

²⁵ Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, "**Every kingdom** divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand.

²⁶ **And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?** ²⁷ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore, they will be your judges.

²⁸ But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the **kingdom of God** has come upon you.

- Satan has a Kingdom. It is not divided. It stands.
- Jesus has a Kingdom too and His kingdom is superior to Satan's (He casts out demons).

The Heavens

- Genesis 1:1 God Created the heavens (plural) and the earth.
- 2 Chronicles 2:6 Dedication of the temple is the phrase the Highest Heaven.
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-4 Paul describes the "third heaven".

First heaven – the sun, moon, stars, natural universe.

Second heaven – in between earth and third heaven, the dominion of Satan's realm

Third heaven – where God dwells

Example: Daniel 10:2-3; 11-13

In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three weeks. ³ I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, for the full three weeks.

“O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you.” And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. ¹² Then he said to me, “Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³ The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia,

- Daniel Prayed – he is here on earth, 1st heaven.
- Angel Sent – The angel is dispatched to answer Daniel's prayer from the 3rd heaven.
- Angel Opposed – 2nd heaven for 21 Days.
- Michael engages the principality of Persia so angel can come through to Daniel.

2 Corinthians 10: 3-5 Weapons not carnal/or of the natural realm

For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵ We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, ⁶ being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

Scripture tells us we battle against things of the natural mind.

- Imaginations
- Reason
- Speculation
- Argument
- Knowledge
- Thought

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25 (Also see 1 Corinthians 2:14-16 and Romans 8:5-8)

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach^[b] to save those who believe.

²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

- 2 Corinthians 4:4 – prince of this world has blinded minds of the unbelievers.
- Romans 12: 1-4 – renew your minds.
- John 3:1-16 – you must be born again to see, understand and enter the Kingdom of God.