

## ***Introduction***

**ALL** Christians are engaged in spiritual warfare, **whether they are aware of it or not.**

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the **spiritual** forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:12)*

Demonic forces are sent to steal from, kill and destroy you, your families, friends and church. These forces are actively engaged against humanity yet most Christians remain passive and ignorant of their presence and tactics. To be victorious they must learn to discern and cast evil spirits from situations.

According to Revelation 12:3-9, when Satan<sup>1</sup> was cast down to earth, he took one-third of the heavenly angels with him. Although the total number of these fallen evil angels is unknown we can get some idea of their numbers by using Revelation 5:11.

*And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;*

By multiplying these numbers  $10,000 \times 10,000 = 100,000,000$  times  $1,000 \times 1,000 = 1,000,000$  we arrive at a number of one hundred trillion angels. Since one-third of the angels followed Satan in rebellion against God their numbers would total thirty-three trillion or approximately 4,700 fallen evil angels for every person on our planet.

However, God's word says,

*"Would that they were **wise**, that they **understood** this, That they would **discern their future!** How could one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, unless their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had given them up? Indeed their rock is not like **our Rock**, even our **enemies** themselves judge this. (Deuteronomy 32:29-31)*

*"Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand {men} to encounter the one coming against him with twenty thousand? (Luke 14:31)*

### **By extrapolation**

- 1 believer puts to flight - 1000 (one thousand)
- 2 believers put to flight - 10,000 (ten thousand)
- 3 believers put to flight - 100,000 (hundred thousand)
- 4 believers put to flight - 1,000,000 (one million)
- 5 believers put to flight - 10,000,000 (ten million)
- 6 believers put to flight - 100,000,000 (hundred million)
- 7 believers put to flight - 1,000,000,000 (one billion)
- 8 believers put to flight - 10,000,000,000 (ten billion)
- 9 believers put to flight - 100,000,000,000 (hundred billion)

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<sup>1</sup> The Hebrew word, Satan means adversary and he is identified as a seven-headed, scarlet-colored serpent.

10 believers put to flight - 1,000,000,000,000 (one trillion)  
11 believers put to flight - 10,000,000,000,000 (ten trillion)  
12 believers put to flight - 100,000,000,000,000 (hundred trillion)

### **Conclusion**

As you can see it only takes twelve of us to overpower all the opposing forces in the world ... as we outnumber them 3 to 1.

### **- The Mission of Jesus Christ -**

Near the beginning of His ministry Jesus entered the synagogue at Nazareth and revealed the purpose for which He had come to earth by reading from Isaiah 61:1-2: *The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me 1) to bring good news<sup>2</sup> to the afflicted; He has sent me 2) to bind up the brokenhearted, 3) to proclaim liberty to captives and 4) freedom to prisoners; 5) to proclaim the favorable year of the LORD.*

Although this is a frequently read passage of scripture many Christians don't ask the following questions concerning it:

1. Who is afflicting people?
2. Who is causing people to be broken-hearted?
3. Who is holding people captive?
4. Who is taking people prisoner?

Of course the answer is obvious ... the devil is. In fact, 1 John 3:8 reveals Christ's purpose quite clearly. ***The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.*** But most Christians are not aware that Jesus also gave this responsibility to all of disciples as well. *Behold, I have **given you authority** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy**, and nothing will injure you. (Luke 10:19)*

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<sup>2</sup> The good news (gospel) is the forgiveness of sins in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

# *Christian Identity*

## **- Authority of the Believer -**

Before Christians can effectively engage in spiritual warfare they need to understand their authority. Let's begin by stating that there is a difference between two words that sometimes get confused ... authority and power. Authority is the **right** to influence or command thought, opinion or behavior. Power is the **ability** to enforce authority. For example, we know that a policeman has authority as the laws, uniform, police car, sirens, lights, and badge evidence it. He has power to enforce the authority he has been given by the gun he wears.

There are four kinds of authority:

- Earned – is based on something you have done to prove yourself worthy of authority. For example, being promoted at work to a managerial position.
- Acquired – is authority that is purchased. For example, our political system tends to work on this basis.
- Conferred – is an honorary bestowment of authority upon someone who did nothing to get it. For example, honorary degrees from colleges are sometimes bestowed upon distinguished people.
- Delegated – is authority granted to act in the name of and on the behalf of the one granting the authority. It is action by power of attorney. Power of attorney is given to speak on behalf of another and is only enforceable as long as the person is alive.

Christians derive their authority from Jesus Christ to whom **all** authority in heaven and earth has been given. (Matthew 28:18) They did not earn their authority nor did they purchase it. Their authority is both **conferred** upon them and **delegated** to them by the Lord Jesus Christ. They have been given His spiritual power of attorney, which is the ability to act on His behalf based on what He **commands** them to do.

The Apostle Paul gives Christians a view of the **extent** of their authority in his epistle to the Ephesians. He writes, *“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened,<sup>3</sup> so that you will know what is the hope of His calling,<sup>4</sup> what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.<sup>5</sup> These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, **far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”*** (Ephesians 1:18-23)

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<sup>3</sup> **That the eyes of your heart be enlightened** - means that you can see with your spiritual eyes in order to have understanding.

<sup>4</sup> The hope of His calling is that we will become like His son, Jesus. (Romans 8:29)

<sup>5</sup> God is bringing many sons to glory. (Hebrews 2:10)

Pay close attention to the last sentence in that passage of Scripture. It says that God, the Father has subjected (made to obey) everything under Christ's **feet**. In other words, He has given Christ absolute authority to rule over everything. That sentence also said that God had made Christ the head of the Church, which is His **body**. That means that the Church, those who have become part of His body, also have the authority to rule over everything as well ... even if they are the lowest part of His body ... the **feet**.

Can that really be true? Let's look at another passage of Scripture. *Then comes the end, when He (Jesus) hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put **all His enemies under His feet**. The last enemy that will be abolished is death. For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET.* <sup>6</sup> But when He says, "All things are put in subjection" it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all. (1 Corinthians 15:24-28)

The only things that Christians don't have authority over are: God, Jesus, who is head of the body and other Christians, because they are part of the body. Jesus' disciples certainly understood the issue of their authority. Listen to what they said! *And He sent messengers on ahead of Him, and they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him. But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem. When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"* But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." And they went on to another village. (Luke 9:52-56) The disciples knew **they had the authority** to call fire down from heaven to consume the Samaritans but **they submitted their wills** to the Lord by asking Him, "Do you want us to ...?"

### - Ambassadors of Jesus Christ -

The role that Christians play is that of an ambassador. *Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ* (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

An ambassador's job is to **represent** <sup>7</sup> his nation or kingdom's interests to another nation or kingdom. He has **all** the authority of the ruler of the nation or kingdom he represents. There are two branches of service that represent a nation or kingdom ... the **diplomatic** and the **military**. The highest rank in the diplomatic service is an ambassador and the highest rank in the military service is a general. The difference between these forms of representative service is that "one does the talking and the other does the fighting."

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<sup>6</sup> This quotation is from Psalm 8:4-6

<sup>7</sup> The word "represent" can also be understood as "to come in or with the name of".

Christians represent the Kingdom of God to the peoples of the earth. In other words, they come in (or with) the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. They as Christ's ambassadors have been given all authority to represent the Kingdom of God as long as they remain within the guidelines set by the Lord.

A wise ambassador discovers the scope of his job before he accepts it. He finds out what his responsibilities are, he studies his nation or kingdom's policies towards the other and obtains promises and assurances from his government. In other words, he gets trained to do the job. A wise Christian needs to do the same thing. The process he undergoes is called discipleship and is sometimes referred to as "being equipped to do the work of the ministry." Or of course if you want to be trendy, just call it "ambassador training."

As ambassadors of Christ, much of the job description including its responsibilities and assurances can be found within the framework of the Great Commission. This is what Jesus had to say in Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-18. *"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

The **responsibilities** of an ambassador of Christ are to: Go tell people the good news that their sins are forgiven through Christ. Make ambassadors (disciples) of them by baptizing them and teaching them to do everything that Jesus commands. The **assurances** that ambassadors of Christ receive are: Those who have believed the good news and been baptized will be saved. Those who don't will be condemned. That certain attributes will accompany them: The ability to cast out demons, the ability to speak in tongues, the ability to not be harmed by snakes or any poison and the ability to have sick people healed through laying hands on them.

An ambassador is used to promote peaceful relations between his nation or kingdom and another. His job is to help reconcile the differences between them. Since he is a man of peace the only offensive weapon he carries is his **words**. Christians are a peaceful people whose job is the ministry of reconciliation. According to the Scriptures the only offensive weapons they have are, 1) *"the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God"* and (2) *with all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17-18)*

The **power** that an ambassador has to enforce his authority is **limited**, even though the nation or kingdom he represents may have unlimited power and resources to support him. The limitation is his **faith** in what his kingdom or nation will do in response to the **words** he has spoken. For example, the ambassador might say that his nation will give the other nation 3,000 tons of grain in the next year. If that is within the interest of his nation or kingdom he can expect to get the supply of grain. If the ambassador is not sure that he will get the support, he has the right to check in with his nation or kingdom's government as to whether they will support him before he delivers his words to the other nation or kingdom.

It is the same for a Christian. His authority is a declaration based on faith, **that what he says will happen**. When he is not sure, he needs to check in with the Lord. The gospel of Matthew puts it this way. *And Jesus answered and said to them, “Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain,<sup>8</sup> ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ it will happen. And all things you ask in prayer,<sup>9</sup> believing, you will receive.”* (Matthew 21:21-22) Mark’s gospel says it just a little differently. *And Jesus answered saying to them, “Have faith in God. Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.* (Mark 11:22-23)

Jesus **knew** the authority He had been given and **operated** in it all the time. When you read the following story of Jesus and a paralytic take the time to carefully reflect on it in relation to what you have been called to do as an ambassador of Christ. *And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, “Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven.”* And some of the scribes said to themselves, “This fellow blasphemes.” And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts? “Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, and walk’? “But so that you may know that the **Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins**”—then He said to the paralytic, “Get up, pick up your bed and go home.” And he got up and went home. But when the crowds saw this, they were awestruck, and glorified God, who had **given such authority to men.** (Matthew 9:2-8)

As an ambassador of Christ you have been given the **authority** to forgive sins and the **authority** to lay hands on the sick expecting them to recover. As an ambassador of Christ, which is easier for **you** to say, “Your sins are forgiven,” or “Get up, and walk”?

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<sup>8</sup> In the scriptures a mountain is used to describe a high place such as a physical mountain or symbolically of a kingdom or power. It represents an obstacle that can be overcome with effort. For example, when a person sins it allows evil spirits access to them and as a result becomes an obstacle (mountain) blocking their salvation, their walk and their spiritual growth. Christians deal with their sins by confession and repentance.

<sup>9</sup> Prayer is like checking in with God to see if you have His support.

## *Identifying Enemies*

### **- Three Enemies - The World, the Flesh and the Devil -**

The WORLD refers to philosophies, beliefs, or world systems that do not include Christ or the Bible. Worldly beliefs can be found in many commercials such as "Just Do It!" or popular songs such as, "Love the One You're With!" We are to reject worldly beliefs and renew our mind with the truth based on the Bible or Biblical principles. (Romans 12:1-2 & 2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

The FLESH refers to any "work of the flesh" or any behavior that naturally comes from our old sinful nature. *Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. (Galatians 5:19-21)* Of course these are just some examples of sinful reactions or behaviors that come from our old sinful nature. We need to claim by faith that our sinful fleshly desires were nailed to the cross of Christ two-thousand years ago and ask the Holy Spirit to fill us with the power of the Spirit so we can bear the fruit of the Spirit. This simply means we are to put a righteous or godly behavior in place of a fleshly or sinful behavior

The DEVIL refers to Satan and his "fallen angels", demons, or evil spirits. The Bible commands us to "resist the devil" and he will flee from us. We do this by putting on the full armor of God and exercising spiritual warfare.

### **- The Demonic Forces -**

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:12)*

Christians are opposed by a host of evil spirits led by Satan. They, like God's angels are formed into a well developed hierarchy intent on carrying out evil assignments and intentions against human beings. Throughout the ages men have attempted to define the type of beings within the hierarchy, their names and the roles they play. Most of this speculation began in the fourth and fifth centuries AD. However, it is not within the scope of this teaching to deal with these subjects.

From Scripture we can learn some things about these opposing forces. In the Garden of Eden we are introduced to a serpent (whisperer, enchanter) who tempts Eve to disobey God. We have come to know this serpent as a devil (accuser) which we call Satan (adversary or opponent or attacker). Originally he appeared as a red (fiery or fire breathing) seven-headed flying dragon. After deceiving Eve, God cursed the serpent and made him crawl on his belly the remainder of his days. *And the great **dragon** was thrown down, the **serpent** of old who is called the **devil** and **Satan**, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his **angels** were thrown down with him. (Revelation 12:9)* Sometimes Christians refer to Satan as "Lucifer" (bringer of light, shining one or morning star).

The next major encounter with demonic forces we become aware of in the Bible occurred when angels began to cohabit with women, The Bible states it this way: *Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."* **The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God (be nei-ha 'e lo.him - angels of God) came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty<sup>10</sup> men who were of old, men of renown. (Genesis 6:1-4)**<sup>11</sup>

The Book of Enoch<sup>12</sup> supports the Biblical account and adds some additional information to it in chapters 6-11. According to the Book of Enoch a band of 200 angels, led by Semjaza arrived during the time of Jared (3515-2553 BC). One of the angels, Azazel, "The Scapegoat", taught men to make swords, knives, shields, and breastplates. He made metals known to man and the art of working them, and bracelets, and ornaments, and the use of antimony, and the beautifying of the eyelids, and all kinds of costly stones, and color tinctures. *(From this arose great disobedience: they were led astray; they committed immorality; they became corrupt in all their ways.)* To him all sin is ascribed. Semjaza taught enchantments *(cursing and root-cutting)*. Armaros the resolving of enchantments *(curse-lifting)*. Baraqujal taught astrology *(star-signs)*. Kokabel the constellations *(star patterns)*. Ezeqeel the knowledge of the clouds *(cloud-lore)*. Araquel the signs of the earth *(land-signs)*. Shamsiel taught the signs of the sun *(sun-signs)* and Sariel the course of the moon *(moon-pathways)*.

The four archangels, Michael, Uriel, Raphael and Gabriel were commanded to bind these wicked ones for seventy generations. This is supported by Jude 6. *And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day.* According to the book of Jubilees these angels were not bound until sometime after the Great Flood in 2318 BC perhaps as late as 2000 BC.

The Nephilim<sup>13</sup> are the offspring of angels and humans. They are identified elsewhere in the Bible as Rephaim, Zumim, Emim and Horites, Anakim, Zamzummim, and Avim. Goliath was a Nephilim from the tribe of Anak or in other words one of the Anakim. The book of Enoch tells us a little bit more about Nephilim in 15:8-12. And now, the giants, who are produced from the spirits and flesh, shall be called evil spirits upon the earth, and on the earth shall be their dwelling. Evil spirits have proceeded from their bodies; because they are born from men and from the holy Watchers is their beginning and primal origin; they shall be evil spirits on earth, and evil spirits shall they be called. [As for the spirits of heaven, in heaven shall be their dwelling, but as for the spirits of the earth which were born upon the earth, on the earth shall be their dwelling.] And the spirits of the giants afflict, oppress, destroy, attack, do battle, and work destruction on the earth,

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<sup>10</sup> "The mighty ones" - HaGibborim - in the Greek Septuagint is translated "gigantes" ... from where we get the word giants but it actually comes from the root word "gigas" meaning "earth-born"

<sup>11</sup> According to Greek mythology the offspring are known as Titans.

<sup>12</sup> The Book of Enoch is considered as Scripture in the Epistle of Barnabas (16:4) and by many of the early Church Fathers, such as Athenagoras, Clement of Alexandria, Irenaeus and Tertullian, who wrote about 200 AD that the Book of Enoch had been rejected by the Jews because it contained prophecies pertaining to Christ. The Bible quotes the Book of Enoch in two places: 1 Peter 3:19-20 and Jude 1:14-15.

<sup>13</sup> The Hebrew word, Nephilim is the plural of the word Nephal which means, "a living abortion, to fall to the ground from heaven or to become ruin."



and cause trouble: they take no food, but nevertheless hunger and thirst, and cause offences. And these spirits shall rise up against the children of men and against the women, because they have proceeded from them.

Demons are the disembodied souls (undead spirits) of Nephilim. Two separate Hebrew words are used to refer to demons: tamunefal (a dead nephel) and nefsherra (evil animal soul). Demons control their hosts to create intense sensation, painful or pleasurable, it doesn't matter. They just want to feed on sensory stimulation ... to feel "human" again. Listen to what Jesus had to say about evil spirits. *Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came'; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. Then it goes and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. That is the way it will also be with this evil generation. (Matthew 12:43-45)*

### - Knowing Your Enemy -

Many Christians have a hard time fighting spiritual battles because they are not looking for the enemy. They don't see him because he is indwelling the spirits, hearts, minds and bodies of people. Jesus noticed that Satan was influencing the life of the Apostle Peter and said, *"Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's."* The Scriptures point out several ways that Satan appears and his purpose associated with that appearance.

- **Angel of Light** – in order to deceive believers. (To remove truth)  
*No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 11:14)*
- **Bird** – to keep the Gospel from being planted in people's hearts. (To remove salvation)  
*And as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. (Matthew 13:4 & 19)*
- **Roaring Lion** – to frighten believers. (To remove effectiveness)  
*Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. (1 Peter 5:8)*
- **Thief** – to take away things the believer possesses. (To remove joy)  
*He comes only to steal and kill and destroy. (John 10:10)*
- **Wolf** – to scatter the flock. (To remove unity)  
*He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. (John 10:12)*

God has a plan for your life. *"For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.'* (Jeremiah 29:11) But so does Satan. Let's take a look at his plan for your life.

- To dominate your **thought** life with temptations and distractions and as a result, build **strongholds** in your life.
- To tempt you to **compromise** your integrity.

- To break **relationships** through unforgiveness.
- To **discourage** you from being a spiritual encouragement in your family.
- To steal God's **blessings** from you.  
(E.g. Your testimony, health, prosperity, fear of the Lord, praises, love, vision, joy, peace, godly friends, purity, and time to name a few)
- To make **prayer** and Bible **study** dull and inconvenient.
- To make you **doubt** God and **expect** little from Him.

Believing God's word is essential in spiritual warfare. Have you noticed that secular reports in America about God, Jesus or the Bible never directly refute them ... they just cause **doubt**. For example the reports use phrases like: "that may be true", "we're not sure", "some reports say", "call into question" or "some Bible scholars believe". Remember, Eve's first temptation was to **doubt** God's word. Satan, the serpent said, *"Indeed, **has God said**, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"* When Satan found out Eve didn't know God's word exactly, he **contradicted** it. *"You surely will not die!* Then he **accused** God of withholding something good from her. *"For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

### - Satan is a Promoter -

Demonic forces are actively engaged in promoting the following:

- Lies
- Humanism (man is god)
- Atheism (there is no God)
- False religions (anything besides Christianity)
- False doctrine
- False christs
- False prophets
- False Christians
- False ministers or pastors
- Hedonism (pursuit of pleasure is the highest goal)
- Moral perversion (unnatural sex)
- Idolatry (serving, worshipping and/or praying to idols)
- Rebellion against God

### - Why Demons Are Allowed to Afflict People -

Whether it's called "demon possession" or oppression" the fact is ... demons influence some people's lives. Demons gain a **foothold** to a person's life because the individual has given them a **legal** right to be there. For example, purposefully viewing pornography gives a demon of lust the right to afflict an individual. By using their **authority** in Christ, Christians can break these legal rights.

Once granted a legal right to get into a person's life, a demon can build a **stronghold**. This is how he **stays** in the person's life. Strongholds are areas of a person's life in which Satan has made significant investments: For example, fear, anger, self-hatred, depression or rejection. The final form of demonization occurs when the demonic forces control a person's life. This is called **bondage** and is what most people think of a possession. By using the **power** of the Holy Spirit, Christians can break these strongholds. *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons (power) of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses (strongholds). (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)*

### - Legal Rights (Doorways<sup>14</sup>) Demons Use to Gain Access -

Demons attack people when they have a legal right to do so. This happens when they open a spiritual doorway. These doorways can be opened many different ways. Some of these ways are:

1. Any dealings with the occult, no matter how lightly or briefly
  - a. Practicing white or black magic (Ouija boards)
  - b. Fortune telling
  - c. Spiritism or communicating with demons
  - d. Worshipping idols
  - e. Association with demonized people. *"Do not turn to mediums or spiritists; do not seek them out to be defiled by them. I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 19:31)*
2. Any use of street drugs or repeated drunkenness
3. A passive mind such as hypnosis, yoga,<sup>15</sup> etc
4. Any sexually immoral behavior
5. Any New Age or false religious practices
6. Someone placing a curse on you
7. Sins of ancestors can be inherited
8. Oaths taken by ancestors which are binding upon descendents ... as are most occult, pagan, Mormon or Masonic oaths
9. Fears
10. Possessing a cursed object
11. Rebellion
12. Any work of the flesh such as uncontrolled anger
13. Criminal behavior
14. Abusing children

These are just samples of doorways that people open which allows demons to attack them. The sinful behavior needs to be renounced and corrected and a righteous behavior needs to be put in place of the wrong behavior.

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<sup>14</sup> See "Closing Doorways - Confession of Sin" on page 19.

<sup>15</sup> The word "yoga" is a Hindu word which means "to yoke with" and refers to yoking with one of the 220 million Hindu deities ... as people put everything out of their minds to yoke with the deity they worship. Christians are not to have a passive mind but one that is active and focused. *"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." (Ephesians 4:8)*

**- Nine Degrees of Demonization<sup>16</sup> -**

<b><u>DEGREE:</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION:</u></b>	<b><u>SOLUTION:</u></b>
Blindness	Not saved	Preach the gospel
Fiery darts	Evil thoughts	Put on the armor of God
Temptation	Enticement to sin	Resist Satan by faith
Imaginations	Self reasoning or worldly thoughts	Challenge each thought
*Foothold	Unresolved sin	Renounce, reject and repent
*Stronghold	Believing lies	Believe the truth
Vexation	Sickness caused by demons	Cleansing and healing
Torment	Crush and afflict	Bind the strongman/cast out
*Bondage	Domination by demons	Deliverance

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<sup>16</sup> Demonization occurring in the New Testament: Matthew 8:28-34, 9:32-34, 12:22-30, 15:21-28, 17:14-20  
Mark 1:21-28, 1:32-34, 5:1-13, 16:9 Luke 4:33-37, 13:10-13 Acts 16:16-18, 19:13-16 Revelation 16:13-14

# *Preparing For War*

## **- The Weapons of Our Warfare -**

Sometimes Christians have a hard time fighting spiritual battles because they are not prepared to fight. They didn't put on the full armor of God before they were attacked. There are **seven** parts to God's armor and they prove to be quite adequate in fighting against the enemy. *Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with **truth**, and having put on the breastplate of **righteousness**, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the **gospel of peace**; in addition to all, taking up the shield of **faith** with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of **salvation**, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**. With all prayer and petition **pray at all times in the Spirit**, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints. (Ephesians 6:13-18)*

Whenever Christians use spiritual gifts<sup>17</sup> they encounter spiritual warfare. The gifts are divinely given by God to **destroy** the works of the devil and free people from his dominion over them. But Satan and his demons won't go without a fight. Christians have weapons that are far superior to Satan's and in theory they should never lose any encounter with the devil. However, Satan and his demons have weapons that prove quite effective. They use accusations, lies, deception, wickedness, idolatry, destruction, sin and death to overcome their opponents.

When a Christian engages in spiritual warfare he should remember that Jesus Christ is his source of power. The **power** resides in four things:

- His **Word** - *So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11)*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. (John 1:1-2)*

*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (John 15:7)*

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<sup>17</sup> These spiritual gifts are listed in 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 and consist of the following:

- Revelation gifts:
  1. Word of knowledge
  2. Word of wisdom
  3. Discerning of spirits
- Utterance gifts:
  1. Prophecy
  2. Various kinds of tongues
  3. Interpretation of tongues
- Power gifts:
  1. Gifts of healing
  2. Working of miracles
  3. Faith

- **His Cross** - *When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him. (Colossians 2:15)*

*Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. (Hebrews 2:14-15)*

- **His Blood** - *The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite you. (Exodus 12:13 and 12:23)*

*Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. (Acts 20:28)*

*And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death. (Revelation 12:11)*

- **His Name** - *The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it and is safe. (Proverbs 18:10)*

*John said to Him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we tried to prevent him because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not hinder him, for there is no one who will perform a miracle in My name, and be able soon afterward to speak evil of Me. "For he who is not against us is for us." (Mark 9:38-40)*

### - The Name of Jesus -

Christians are to use the name of the Lord Jesus Christ<sup>18</sup> in **spiritual** warfare.

The seventy disciples Jesus sent out as His ambassadors experienced spiritual warfare first-hand. *They returned with joy, saying, "Lord, **even the demons are subject to us in Your name.**" And He said to them, "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. Behold, I have given you **authority** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven." (Luke 10:17-20)*

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<sup>18</sup> CAUTION: When dealing with demons use the name "Lord Jesus", "Lord Jesus Christ" or "Jesus Christ." The reason for this is that Jesus is the name of the most common religious spirit in the kingdom of darkness. Many faith healers in Mexico that are witches also use the name "Jesus" in their healing ceremonies.

One of the extraordinary things we notice in this passage of Scripture is that the demons are subject to the disciples in **Jesus' name**. When the disciples were carrying out the commission that Jesus had given them they had the right to use His name. In other words, they were going to people in (with) the name of Jesus.

The Hebrews named their children for some specific characteristic that was present within the baby at its birth. In Jesus' case you will remember that God named Him, not His parents. When He was born God said to call Him, Jesus ... the modern English pronunciation of His name. However in Hebrew, His name is Joshua or more specifically, Yahushua. The meaning of His name is "I AM SALVATION". (Yah-"I AM"<sup>19</sup> and shua- "SALVATION or DELIVERANCE").

Since Christians are to go to people in or with the name of Jesus, which means, "I AM SALVATION", they need to ask themselves a serious question ... "salvation or deliverance from what?"

Let's look at two more passages of Scripture. *For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him **the name which is above every name**, so that at the name of Jesus **EVERY KNEE WILL BOW**, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11) He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and **every name that is named**, not only in this age but also in the one to come. (Ephesians 1:20-21)* From these passages we learn that Jesus is above every name that is named ... not only in this age but also the one to come.

Every known thing has been named. For example: people, plants, animals, geographical features, scientific stuff, actions and processes. Or how about names like worry, sickness, unemployment, doubt, fear, poverty, despair, disappointment, health, faith, hope, love, goodness and blessing. There are names of the things we cannot see ... heaven, hell, angels and demons. And then there is the power of the enemy: accusations, lies, deception, wickedness, idolatry, destruction, sin and death. According to Scripture, Jesus' name is above them all and subject to Him.

So when Jesus' ambassadors go "in or with His name" to others they carry great authority and power. Not only can Jesus save people from their sins or an eternal destiny in hell but from any name that is named. And how are people delivered from these names? Scripture says, "**AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD (JESUS, JOSHUA OR YAHUSHUA) WILL BE SAVED (DELIVERED).**" (Acts 2:21)

### **- David and Goliath - A Spiritual Battle -**

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<sup>19</sup> "I AM" is God's memorial name. It was declared to Moses in Exodus 3:13-16. *Then Moses said to God, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM (YAHUWAH); and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM (YAH) has sent me to you.' " God, furthermore, said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' **This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations.***

The battle between David and Goliath, a **Nephilim**, is a well-known Bible story. But many people fail to see the spiritual implications behind the physical battle and how it applies to a Christian's life.

The story begins about one year before the actual battle took place. Samuel, the prophet was told by God to go and anoint David as king over Israel even though Saul was serving as king at the time. *Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. (1 Samuel 16:13)*

This would be the defining moment in David's life. By **faith**, he believed God's words spoken through Samuel ... that he had been appointed King of Israel. Yet it would be five years before he would actual ascend to the throne. This is similar to a Christian's initial response to the word of God. He believes the good news of Christ's atoning death and enters into a covenant with God through baptism, thereby receiving the Holy Spirit. At that point it remains to be seen what the outcome of his faith will produce. He just has to keep believing that God has called him to be a disciple.

Shortly after Samuel anointed David as king he was appointed as a harpist in King Saul's court. This was God's divine plan. He placed David in a position from which he could learn **how** to be a king. God does this with Christians as well ... by placing them in positions from which they can learn the job to which He has called them.

On the day of the battle, David went to deliver cheese to the army of Israel where they had been encamped against the Philistines. He discovered that Goliath had been taunting the army for forty days ... challenging them to a "one on one" "winner take all" duel with him. David accepted the challenge of Goliath. He tried on Saul's armor but it was too big and clumsy for him to wear so he opted for no armor and a weapon he was familiar with ... the slingshot.

Would you have been frightened of Goliath, the giant Nephilim? David wasn't! And the reason he had no fear was that ... God promised he would be king of Israel and he wasn't the king yet, so he knew he could not be killed. This test was just a stepping-stone for him to get that office. It's the same for Christians. They are told to "*consider it all joy when they encounter various trials*"<sup>20</sup> because they are merely stepping-stones to where God wants them to be.

As David approached the giant he stooped and picked up five stones from the streambed and put them in his pouch. *Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. "This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the LORD does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the LORD'S and He will give you into our hands."* (1 Samuel 17:45-47)

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<sup>20</sup> James 1:2



Observe the passage of Scripture carefully. What was David's **primary** weapon? Most would say the slingshot, others the stones. But the fact is that David came in "the **name** of the Lord."

David used other spiritual weapons that day as well. Discerning of spirits was the first weapon he used. David sensed the battle was a spiritual contest not merely a physically one when Goliath mocked God. He knew that God's people were at risk. Then a word of knowledge came to him when he declined to use Saul's armor and fight with what he was familiar with. David was given a word of wisdom to pick up five stones before engaging in the battle. Five is the number of mercy. It was David declaring, "God be merciful to me." Yet it only took one stone to kill Goliath. One is the number of God, because there is only one God. It was God's way of answering David's plea for mercy. See David, I have given you mercy.

The last spiritual weapon that David used was prophecy. He told Goliath the future and it came to pass exactly as David said. In fact, David even used Goliath's own sword to cut off his head since he hadn't take a sword with him into the battle. *"No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their vindication is from Me," declares the LORD. (Isaiah 54:17)*

***Engaging the Enemy***  
**(ALL PRAYER SHOULD BE SPOKEN OUT LOUD)**

## - Put On<sup>21</sup> the Armor of God -

After arising each day put on the armor of God by faith. This can be done as simply as praying: Father, would you please put Your complete armor on me now, I ask and thank You for it in the name of my Lord Jesus Christ.

However I usually do this by going through the motions of actually putting on armor while praying out loud the importance of each piece and what I will do with God's armor that day. You might pray this way:

Heavenly Father, I thank you for the gift of Your armor and by faith I cloth myself, my wife and all my descendents both physical and spiritual with it.

I put on the belt of truth ... for Father, You are truth and not a man that You should lie. And I speak truth in love to all men.

I put on the breastplate of righteousness ... Your righteousness because I have none of my own. And it will protect my life and all my inward parts.

I put on the shoes of the gospel of peace ... remembering how You reconciled me to Yourself. And now I have been given the ministry of reconciliation and willing declare the good news of the Lord Jesus Christ to all men. And I walk in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

I put on the helmet of salvation ... remembering the atoning work of my Lord Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. And I thank You for my salvation and for giving me the mind of Christ. I recognize that the helmet will protect my mind, will and emotions. Let my eyes behold Your glory and let my ears be attentive to every word You speak to me.

I take up the shield of faith ... for You surround me with Your faithfulness. And with it I extinguish all the fiery darts of the enemy. In fact, every weapon formed against me will be turned against the enemy for this is my heritage.

I take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God<sup>22</sup> and with it I sever all evil ties and destroy the works of the devil.

I take the spear, which is praying in the Spirit,<sup>23</sup> and I thank you that I am able to pray your perfect will and by it our enemies are scattered.

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<sup>21</sup> The Greek tense of the verb "put on" means to "continually keep putting on."

<sup>22</sup> The term "word of God" used in Ephesians 17 is the Greek word "rhema" which refers to the individually spoken word of God by revelation from God to our spirit. It specifically reveals what we are to renounce and reject, what ungodly ties we are to sever, or what other specific thing we need to pray in order to have victory over the attacks of Satan. This same word is also used in Matthew 4:4 when Jesus was tempted by the devil. *But Jesus answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word (rhema) that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'"*

<sup>23</sup> Praying in the Spirit means to pray in harmony with the will of the Holy Spirit or pray under the control and guidance of the Spirit. For those who are able ... praying in tongues accomplishes this. However, it also means to pray in

## - Warfare Tips -

1. You cannot be on both sides of a battle. *For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, {being} a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. (James 1:7-8)*
2. *I ask that when I am present I need not be bold with the confidence with which I propose to be courageous against some, who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh. For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations (vain imaginations) and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)*
3. You cannot stop "a" thought from Satan being presented to you, but you can control what you do with the thought. Do we cast it out? Or do we let it lead us to the next step which is imagination followed by sin. **Evil thoughts not given to imagination, word or deed are unborn sin.**
4. Jesus eliminated what He didn't want before He built what He did want. Luke 13:11-13 illustrates this point. *And there was a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit; and she was bent double, and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, He called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your sickness." And He laid His hands on her; and immediately she was made erect again and began glorifying God.* Jesus first dealt with the spirit of infirmity before He laid hands on her for healing. You should eliminate the root of the problem before you minister the cure or the regeneration.
5. Stay single-minded - stay focused.
6. There exists an erroneous teaching in the world today. And that is the idea that when a spirit leaves a person or is cast out, there has to be some type of manifestation such as vomiting, etc. These people base this theory on the account in Mark 9:17-22. If you notice in the Scripture this phenomena occurs only once, and then the boy didn't vomit **after or during the casting out process.**

## - Discerning of Spirits -

There is a spiritual gift of discerning of spirits and it is very useful when dealing in spiritual warfare. When the gift is in operation you can see, hear, feel, taste and smell the spirit world much like you would in the natural world. However, it is not necessary to have this gift in order to conduct spiritual warfare. Discerning evil spirits in people can be done by listening to what they say. Do their words honor and glorify God? Think ... "LIFE".

## - Closing Doorways - Confession of Sin -

Christians open doorways because they sin. *If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive*

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accordance with the Word of God ... so those who do not pray in tongues can use the Bible as their guideline on how to pray the will of God.

*us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us. (1 John 1:8-10) All doorways must be closed.*

If you have participated in opening any doorway for a demon you can simply close the door by a prayer such as the following:

"Father I confess my involvement in \_\_\_\_\_. I recognize that such a thing(s) is an abomination to you and detestable in your sight. I humbly ask your forgiveness for my sin in this area(s). I ask you to lift out any demonic entrance as a result of my actions and to cleanse me from my sins and close the doorway(s) forever with the precious blood of Jesus. I ask for this and thank you for it, in the name of Jesus Christ my Lord.

Then address Satan and his demons out loud in a manner similar to the following:

"Satan and you demons, I have asked my heavenly Father for forgiveness for participating in \_\_\_\_\_ and have received it. I now by faith close the doorway of that area of my life to you forever through the blood of Jesus Christ shed on the cross for me. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I command you to present yourselves to Him for judgment.

### **- Dealing with Spiritual Blindness in Preaching the Gospel -**

Spiritual blindness is any condition in which Satan blinds the minds of the lost from seeing the **need** to be saved or from recognizing spiritual truths. (2 Corinthians 4:4) You can pray this way.

#### **Prayer For The Unsaved**

Heavenly Father, by the blood of Jesus Christ, I bind every evil spirit that is blinding the mind of this person and I command them to flee and go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them. I pray that Your Holy Spirit would convict them of sin, of righteousness, of judgment and show them that they need Jesus as their personal savior, in Jesus name, Amen!

### **- Dealing with Footholds -**

A foothold is a **refusal** to deal with sin or unresolved sin that allows demons to control a person. There are three steps in removing a foothold.

1. Recognize and admit that you sinned against God without any rationalizations or excuses.  
*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)*
2. Renounce and reject the sin that you committed.  
*He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, But he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion. (Proverbs 28:13)*
3. Repent of your sin. Repentance is a change of attitude and a change of direction. Decide what specific goal you want to accomplish about overcoming your sin, develop a strategy that will work in stopping the sinful behavior, and then "Just do it!"

### **- Dealing with Strongholds -**

A stronghold is a well-fortified place. In spiritual terms, it is a place in one's life that is the center of a specific major area of false belief that is contrary to the mind of Christ or to godly thinking. It

is not based on biblical principles but on a foundation of a series of lies from the devil. Any specific area of your life that you have yielded or surrendered to Satan by believing a **series of lies** that result in sinful behavior ... is a stronghold. These are a few examples of strongholds that affect people today: fear of rejection, fear of failure, drug addiction, sex addiction, paranoia, pornography, defensiveness, procrastination, etc.

There are three steps in tearing down a stronghold:

1. Recognize what your stronghold is specifically.
2. Decide what the truth is about your stronghold.
3. Memorize Scripture verses that relate to your stronghold. Basically you are replacing the lies which you believed with the truth.

### **- Dealing with Vexes/Hexes -**

Vexation is an **affliction** of the spirit, soul or body by demons. There are six steps in removing a hex.

1. Go to your pastor or church leader.
2. Confess any sins to them that opened the doorway for these demons to hex you.
3. Have your church leader anoint you with oil in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Have all those present agree with you according to promise: that you will be healed and the demons will leave and take their vexation with them.
5. Have one or more of the church leaders present pray for your healing and that the demons hexing you leave and go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them.
6. Praise the Lord and thank Him for your healing.

### **- Dealing with Torment -**

People are tormented by demons when they consistently suffer **regular** and **sustained** attacks causing the pain, great bodily distress or mental suffering. In this case the strongman needs to be bound and cast out first then the other tormenting demons will follow him. A strongman is the head demon over a large group of demons whose major purpose is tormenting people. You might pray something like this:

#### **Prayer Against Torment**

"Heavenly Father, I humble myself under your authority and I claim my position in the heavenly places above all demonic forces. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I bind the strongman in chains of faith forged by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that is causing me to be tormented, along with all the demons underneath him, and I command them to leave right now and go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them and not return. By the blood of the Lamb, I command them to take any sickness, infirmity, disease, negative thoughts or anything else they tormented me with and I command them to leave right now. I ask that the Great Physician would bring healing in spirit, soul, and body and cleanse me from any evil and fill every empty place with the fruit of the Spirit. Thank you for the victory I have in Jesus' name, Amen!"

### **- Dealing with Curses -**

People's words have power. The Bible declares that *death and life are in the power of the tongue (Proverbs 18:21)* And James, the brother of the Lord Jesus writes, "*no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison. With it we **bless** our Lord and Father, and with it we **curse** men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both **blessing** and **cursing**. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.*" (James 3:8-10)

A curse is a **malevolent** action against another through **spoken** words. It has the power to destroy a person's life. Many people today are living under curses, but most are unaware that they are. Curses can be self inflicted or pronounced by others. Groups who purposely use curses include Satanists, pagans and witches.

The Scriptures declare the Christians are not to use curses. The Bible says, "*Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.*" (Romans 12:14) And it even goes so far as to say, "*Bless those who curse you.*" (Luke 6:28)

Christians have the power to break curses in their own lives and deliver those whom they have authority over. For example, a husband can break a curse on his wife, for the man is the head of the wife and parents can break a curse on their children's lives.

The Biblical principle used for breaking curses is the same one that a person uses for his salvation ... faith and confession. *That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (delivered); for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation (deliverance).* (Romans 10:9-10)

#### **There are ten steps in breaking curses:**

1. Confess Jesus Christ as Lord and savior.
2. Renounce<sup>24</sup> the devil (Satan).
3. Renounce vows – which are promises to act.
4. Renounce oaths – which are the confirmations of consequences for failure to act on a vow.
5. Renounce rituals – which are specific things done in a ceremony.
6. Renounce ceremonies – which are an actual observance to memorialize a belief.
7. Renounce blood covenants – which are spiritual contracts ratified by the shedding of human or animal blood.
8. Renounce witchcraft and sorcery – by breaking allegiances with powers called upon for divination purposes.
9. Renounce false gods – by denouncing any obligation to demons or to false worship. Also denounce specific gods if known.
10. Renounce false religions.

#### **Prayer of Renunciation**

"In the name of Jesus Christ and through His shed blood, I bind all evil spirits, astral projected spirits, or hybrid spirits that are trying to hurt or influence me. As one that has accepted Jesus

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<sup>24</sup> Renounce - To say in a formal or definite way that you refuse to follow, obey, or support (someone or something) any longer.

Christ as personal Savior and Lord, I renounce all the sins of my ancestors back to ten generations and all forms of witchcraft that I have participated in or practiced in any way.

Since I have been co-crucified with Christ, I cancel all demonic workings against me and nail to the cross all curses, evil prayers, hexes, spells, plots, or evil schemes that have been placed against me and claim by faith they are null and void and covered under the blood of Christ.

I now take back all ground I have given over to Satan by my sins and the sins of my ancestors and claim by faith that they are all forgiven and cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ. I claim that ground back by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ and dedicate it to the Lord. I yield by faith every area of my life over to the Lordship of Christ and full control of the Holy Spirit. I dedicate my spirit, soul, and body to Jesus Christ and claim by faith that I am filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Since I have been crucified and raised with Christ, I claim by faith that through the Lord Jesus Christ that I can do all things. From this moment on, I break all holds that Satan has had on me and renounce them by the blood of Jesus Christ. I claim by faith I have on the whole armor of God, the shield of faith to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one, the sword of the Spirit to defeat all my enemies, and am covered under the blood of Christ. All this I claim in the name and authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. AMEN!"

### **- Dealing with Bondage -**

Bondage is any area in your life in which you are hindered from obeying the will of God because **domination** or complete deception by Satan. A person in bondage lacks wisdom, knowledge, understanding and faith.

#### **The Process of Deliverance**

1. Demons recognize authority. Therefore, obtain permission, either verbally or written that the individual voluntarily submits to your authority during the deliverance session. The permission can come from either the individual themselves or someone who may have authority over them, such as a parent.
2. Make sure everyone in the session is cleansed from any evil, filled with the Spirit and has put on the armor of God. In other words they have prayed specific prayers to accomplish these three things.
3. Designate one person to do the talking directly to the person to be delivered. Do not relinquish this position to someone else unless the original person is tired and exhausted.
4. Have another person recording notes: 1) the names of demons, 2) their responsibilities or assignments (in other words ... what they do) and 3) the legal ground (doorway) that allowed them to enter the person.
5. Start the session with prayer and use scripture verses that claim victory over the devil.
6. Avoid touching the person if at all possible. Demons have a legal right to transfer from one person to another when they are touched. If the person must be restrained, pray that God will intervene between you and them and that nothing evil will be allowed to transfer to you.

7. You do not need to yell at demons because they are not deaf. Calmly claim your authority in Christ who is seated in heavenly places above all demonic authorities. Always act like a Christian that is lead by the Holy Spirit and bears the fruit of the Spirit.
8. Command that the host demon would manifest and tell you his name. Find out the name of every demon, their responsibility or assignment (in other words ... what they do) and the legal ground (doorway) that allowed them to enter the person.
9. Have the demonized individual 1) renounce the legal grounds (doorways) that allowed the demons to enter them and 2) claim they were nailed to the cross, and 3) command them to leave and 4) go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them. Do this for every demon until they are all gone. Also take the Sword of the Spirit and sever all ungodly ties between the person and other people, places and objects.
10. If the person allows the demons to re-enter themselves, stop the session and show the person scripture verses to increase their faith. Only after the person's faith has been increased should the session continue.
11. When all the demons are gone, pray for the person to 1) be cleansed of anything that is evil, 2) filled with the Holy Spirit and have the whole armor of God in place.
12. Review things that the person needs to maintain victory over the forces of evil.

### **Obtaining a Demon's Name**

By the blood of Jesus Christ I bind any evil spirits in the spirit, soul or body of \_\_\_\_\_. I command them to manifest and speak. By the blood of Jesus Christ what is your name?

### **Command for Demons to Manifest**

"Heavenly Father, I humble myself under your authority. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and through His shed blood, I bind every evil spirit in the spirit, soul, and body of \_\_\_\_\_ and command all evil spirits who do not have a specific assignment against \_\_\_\_\_ to leave right now and go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them. I claim full authority over all the demons that have assignments against \_\_\_\_\_ as a Christian who sits in heavenly places far above all principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, and spiritual wickedness in the heavenlies. By the authority of the Word of God, I command all the evil spirits inside the spirit, soul, or body of \_\_\_\_\_ to obey me. You have no choice. You have to obey me because "greater is He that is in me- Jesus Christ, than he that is in the world- Satan.

I do not allow any interference or intrusion from any evil spirit that seeks to hinder the deliverance of \_\_\_\_\_. By the blood of Jesus Christ I bind every evil spirit from hurting \_\_\_\_\_ in any way or anyone in this room. I claim by faith that huge righteous angels are holding \_\_\_\_\_ in the chair so he/she cannot move or get out of the chair. By faith, I claim that huge thick chains of faith covered under the blood of Jesus Christ are holding \_\_\_\_\_ in the chair. I pray that God would send angels to strengthen us and prohibit any demons from hurting or hindering us in any way. I thank you Lord that the Holy Spirit is here to guide us through this and illuminate our minds to the truths we need in order to obtain full victory. I claim by faith that I have on the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the shoes of peace, the shield of faith to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one,



and the sword of the Spirit. I claim by faith that I am surrounded by a hedge of protection, a wall of fire, and a wall of faith all covered under the blood of Jesus Christ so no evil spirit can enter this room. By faith I claim that there are guardian angels all around this room turning around alternately with flaming double-edged swords covered under the blood of Jesus Christ. I bind all evil spirits together as a single group so they cannot divide themselves.

By the blood of Jesus Christ I prohibit every evil and hybrid spirit in this room from communicating in any way to any other force of darkness or any astral-projected spirits outside of this room. I command by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ that whenever I cast any demons out of \_\_\_\_\_ that they have to leave this room immediately and cannot return and that you must go to the place that the Lord Jesus Christ sends them. By the blood of Jesus Christ you cannot speak unless you are spoken to and there can only be one-way traffic out of \_\_\_\_\_ life. I command all evil spirits to come to attention and obey me. By the blood of Jesus Christ I command you to answer all my questions and tell me the truth. I command you to speak loudly and clearly and not hinder the spiritual, psychological, emotional, volitional, or physical life of \_\_\_\_\_ at any time. Now, by the blood of Jesus Christ I bind all of these evil spirits together and command the chief or host demon to manifest and speak. By the blood of Jesus Christ, what is your name? (If the person responds in an unusual manner, keep repeating this last sentence.)

### **- Other Spiritual Warfare Prayers -**

#### **Prayer for Protection**

Oh heavenly and holy Father (Matthew 6:9), we look to you as the Almighty one (Genesis 17:1). We boldly come before the throne of grace (Hebrews 4:16) claiming our position in heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 1:20-21). By faith I pull down every stronghold (2 Corinthians 10:4) I have yielded unto Satan and claim by faith it is null and void and covered under the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 12:11). Thank you for forgiving me of my sins (Matthew 6:14) when Christ died on the cross and I thank you that you have cleansed me of all my sins (1 John 1:9).

I claim by faith that all that I am outside of Christ was nailed to the cross (Galatians 2:20). I reckon self, sin, Satan, the law, and the world to be nailed to the cross (Luke 9:23; Galatians 5:24). By faith, I claim the resurrected and ascended life of Christ living in me and through me (2 Corinthians 4:11).

By faith, I put on the helmet of salvation (Ephesians 6:17), the breastplate of righteousness (Ephesians 6:14), my loins gird about with truth, my feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace (Ephesians 6:15), the shield of faith to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one, and the sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:16).

I submit myself under the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ (James 4:6-7; 1 Peter 5:6-9) and I bind all demonic forces by the blood of Jesus Christ that are trying to hinder me (Matthew 16:19) from obeying the will of God today in the north, south, east, and west (Revelation 7:1). I claim by faith that I am surrounded by a hedge of protection (Hosea

2:6), a wall of fire (Zechariah 2:5), and a huge wall of faith all covered under the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I bind all demonic forces by the blood of the Lamb and pray that Christ would send holy angels to stop any evil assignment against me (Hebrews 1:14). By faith I release the working of the power of the resurrected Lord (Romans 6:4) and the energizing power of the Holy Spirit in my life (Ephesians 5:18). By faith I claim that this has already been bound in heaven (Matthew 18:18) and thank You that You will guide me into the center of Your will (John 16:13) and show me the works You have planned for me today.

I pray that You will cause confusion in the camp of all mine enemies (Psalm 35:4, 26) so that I may have victory over them. Thank You in advance for victory over every trial this day (1 Corinthians 15:57). Send the messengers that I need to accomplish Your will this day (Luke 6:38). Give me the knowledge and wisdom to know and do Your will (Ephesians 1:17-19). Fill me with the power of the Holy Spirit and give me the fruit of the Spirit that I need today to accomplish Your will (Galatians 5:22-23). Surround me with Your holy angels to strengthen me and protect me from any evil force that may come against me (Psalm 34:7). Thank You for Your presence and power that will empower and guide me this day (Hebrews 13:5). In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN

### **Prayer of Cleansing for the Home**

“By the blood of Jesus Christ, I bind every evil spirit that is in this room and command them to flee right now and go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them. I renounce and reject any inch of this house and property that has been yielded or surrendered unto Satan and by faith I take it back and surrender it to the Lord Jesus Christ. By faith, I claim that this room is covered under the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and no evil spirit can enter it.” (Pray this over every room in the house).

(After going through every room in the house pray:) “I dedicate and consecrate this home to the Lord Jesus Christ and Satan has no hold on it at all. I surrender everything in this house to the Lord Jesus Christ and claim it is under His divine protection including all electrical wiring and plumbing. I bind every evil spirit that is in this house by the precious blood of the Lamb and command them to flee and go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them. I claim by faith that everything in this house is covered under the blood of Jesus Christ from the top of the roof to the bottom of the footing and everything in between and especially anything that conducts electricity.

I claim by faith that this house is surrounded by a hedge of protection, a wall of fire, a wall of faith, and covered under the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ on all sides, above, and below. I pray that powerful warring angels would come to protect the Four Corners of this house and property and everyone inside. Thank you for the complete victory we already have in Jesus Christ. I ask that this home be consecrated with Your divine presence so that everyone who enters it will be blessed with spiritual blessings from heavenly places, Amen!”

### **Prayer of Victory**

“Oh Heavenly Father, I submit myself under Your authority and claim all Your power and grace. I claim by faith the promise of Isaiah 54:17 that no weapon forged against me will prevail. I pray that you would strengthen me because my heart is fully committed to You (2 Chronicles 16:9). I pray and make intercession and thanksgiving for everyone-- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness (1 Tim 2:1-2). I thank You that You are my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust (Ps 91:2). I thank You that You will be my shield and rampart (Ps 91:5). I thank You that I do not have to fear the terror of night. I thank You that you will command your angels to guard me in all Your ways (Psalm 91:11).

I love You Lord and I thank You that You will rescue and protect me (Ps 91:14) and will be with me in trouble. I claim by faith that Christ in me is greater than the one who is in the world (1 John 4:4). I thank You that You will rescue me from the present evil age (Galatians 1:4). I thank You that You have rescued me from the dominion of darkness and brought me into the kingdom of the Son (Colossians 1:13). I thank You that I will overcome the world through my faith (1 John 5:4) and because I believe that Jesus is the Son of God (1 John 5:5). I thank You that the Spirit of the LORD will rest on me-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD-- (Is 11:2). I pray that You would anoint me to preach good news to the poor, send me to bind up the brokenhearted; to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness the prisoners (Is 61:1). I thank You that I am a priest and minister of the LORD (Is 61:6). I claim a double portion of my inheritance and everlasting joy (Is 61:7). I claim by faith that You will ransom me unharmed from the battle waged against me (Ps 55:18). I cast all my cares on You and You will sustain me (Ps 55:22).

I build up the wall and stand in the gap on behalf of the people (Ezekiel 22:30). I loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke to set the oppressed free and break every yoke (Isaiah 58:6). I bind all the powers of darkness that come against me and I loose the powers of the kingdom of God in my life (Matthew 18:18). I claim by faith that the angel of the LORD encamps around me and he will deliver me (Psalm 34:7). I thank You that I will lack nothing (Psalm 34:9) and lack no good thing (Psalm 34:10).

I thank You that You will be my confidence and will keep my foot from being snared (Proverbs 3:26). I will not fear bad news because my heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD (Psalm 112:7). I thank You that the wicked people against me will be vexed, will gnash their teeth and waste away; and that the longings of the wicked will come to nothing (Psalm 112:10). I pray that You would give me the ability to produce wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18). Please bless me and bring me wealth (Pr 10:22). This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against my enemies that they would be cursed (Deuteronomy 30:19). I claim that one man will chase a thousand and two will put ten thousand to flight (Deuteronomy 32:30) because the LORD will fight for me just as he promised (Joshua 23:10). I claim by faith that Michael, one of the chief princes, will come to help me (Daniel 10:13). I claim victory over every attack of Satan because I am blameless and upright, I fear God and shun evil (Job 1:8) When Satan accuses me then I thank You that (Zechariah 3:1) the LORD will rebuke Satan (Zechariah 3:2). I rebuke Satan and command him to "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" (Matthew 16:23). I pray that Satan would oppose himself and be divided (Mark 3:26) I thank You Lord that Satan is already a defeated foe because Luke 10:18 says, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Lord, I pray that You would use all Your heavenly resources to protect me from evil because Satan has asked to sift me as wheat (Luke 22:31).

I pray for those who are lost \_\_\_\_\_ that you would open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Christ (Acts 26:18). I pray that the God of peace will soon crush Satan under my feet (Romans 16:20). Fill me with spiritual knowledge in order that Satan might not outwit me. Give me the necessary understanding so I will be aware of his schemes. (2 Corinthians 2:11). I pray that the Spirit of Truth would expose Satan and his servants because Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 11:14). I ask all of these things in the glorious and excellent name of the King of kings and Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, Amen!"

### **Prayer for Walking a Neighborhood**

Heavenly Father, I humble myself under Your authority and I pray for the men, women and children in every one of these homes. By the blood of Jesus Christ, I bind every evil spirit that is blinding their minds to the truth that they need Jesus Christ as their personal savior and I command them to leave right now and go where the Lord Jesus Christ sends them. I pray that the Holy Spirit will convict them of sin, righteousness and judgment and will show them they need to be saved. I thank You by faith that it is your perfect will that none perish without Christ so I thank You that you surround each one of these people with Christians that will encourage them to accept Christ as savior and that You will create circumstances that will become conducive to them being saved. I surrender them to You and thank You that You will guide them to salvation by Your divine providence, in Jesus' name, Amen!

## **- The Message of Salvation -**

Step 1- Believe that God exists.

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. (Hebrews 11:6)*

Step 2 - Admit you are a sinner and need to be saved.

*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)*

Step 3 - Believe that the Jesus Christ died on a cross to forgive you of all your sins.

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)*

Step 4 - Believe in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

*That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (Romans 10:9-10)*

Step 5 - You should by faith (through prayer or talking with God) receive Jesus Christ as your personal savior.

*But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name. (John 1:12)*

### **- Reminders -**

Sin is getting a legitimate need met in an illegitimate manner.

Sin will take you farther than you want to go. It will keep you longer than you want to stay. And sin will cost you more than you want to pay.

A saved person does not need deliverance from the **power** of sin. A saved person needs to **see** they are delivered. And upon seeing they are delivered from the power of sin, a saved person needs, through **continual** faith and obedience, to stop sinning.

## **Appendix 1 Dealing with Demonic Possession**

When a person is deeply possessed, the demons must be cleaned out from the inside out. Listed below are the doorways in the order in which they must be closed. It is easier to do deliverance by specific areas rather than dealing with individual demons. This is done by casting out the leader or head demon over each area along with his subordinates at the same time.

1. In most persons involved deeply in the occult there is a doorway for Satan himself. This innermost doorway is held open by a very high demon who refers to himself as a "son of

Satan." This doorway permits Satan himself to enter a person and speak and act through their body at will.

2. The next area is the **human spirit**. There is one high demon over the entire spirit. This demon is frequently called a "guiding spirit." Then there are three areas within the spirit itself, each area has a head demon with many lesser demons under his command. The three areas are:
  - a. **conscience** - the ability to discern right and wrong
  - b. **intuition** - the ability to discern the Lord and His presence
  - c. **worship** - the area through which we worship the Lord "in spirit" as in John 4:23
3. The **soul** has several areas. The demon over the entire area of the soul usually refers to himself as a "power" demon. There are six areas within the soul. The first three have to do with controlling the spirit:
  - a. **conscious**
  - b. **sub-conscious**
  - c. **unconscious**
  - d. **will**
  - e. **mind**
  - f. **emotions**

Again, each has a head demon with underlings.

4. Last is the **physical body**. The head demon over the body is usually a "death demon." They are powerful and quite capable of bringing about the physical death of the person they inhibit through illness within a very short time if not restrained by the Lord. The areas within the body are:
  - a. The **brain** - the physical organ itself
  - b. The **rest** - of the physical body
  - c. **Sexual** - the head demon in that area hold open the door which gives Satan and other demons the legal right to have sexual relations with that person

## **Appendix 2**

### **How Satanists Attempt to Destroy Churches**

That Satanists are actively involved in churches goes without saying. In fact we are told in the scriptures that this would happen.

*"I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them." (Acts 20:29-30)*

*For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds. (2 Corinthians 11:13-15)*

*For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. (Jude 1:4)*

Here are the eight basic points of attack taught by Satan to his servants to be used in the destruction of Christian churches as excerpted from the book, “**He Came to Set the Captives Free**” by **Rebecca Brown, MD.**

1. **Profession of Faith** - Satanists must pretend to be saved in order to gain credibility with church people. In churches with altar calls, the person will go forward, usually with tears, and pretend to get saved. If the particular church is a charismatic one which places great emphasis on the gift of speaking in tongues, the Satanist will speak in tongues.

Satanists can preach and teach about Jesus and even pray in His name but there is one test they cannot pass. They cannot look you directly in the eye and say, "Jesus Christ who is God, who came in the flesh, died on the cross and three days later arose from the grave and now sits at the right hand of the Father, this Jesus is my Lord, Savior and Master."

2. **Build Credibility** - Satanists build credibility within churches many ways. They are regular attendees. They can be counted upon to always be ready and willing to help on projects. They get to know the church and its members. And many will use money as a tool. Rarely will you find poor people on a church's board of directors.
3. **Destroy the Prayer Base** - This is the single most important goal of Satanists. They usually try to get people involved in smaller activities where prayer is not a focus.
4. **Rumors** - Gossip is Satan's prime tool. Every church leader should be careful to not go alone to the home of a member of the church of the opposite sex to help or counsel them.
5. **Teach and Change Doctrines** - Satanists like teaching positions within the church. A number of pastors of large and wealthy churches in the United States are Satanists. Their influence is far reaching and they get away with doing what they do because Christians everywhere are too lazy to study their own Bibles to check out what they are saying. There are three basic areas Satanists teach about most:
  - a. **Prayer** - They make prayer a very complicated matter.
  - b. **Health and Wealth Message** - One of the best ways to keep people from being willing to suffer anything to help out a brother and to discourage a true Christian from undergoing persecution is teaching that **every** Christian should be healthy all the time , and wealthy.

- c. **The Love Doctrine** - "We can't judge anybody." Satanists protect themselves by this doctrine, and passive Christians don't want to step on anyone's toes.
6. **Break Up Family Units** - Satan knows that if he can successfully break up the family unit, he will break up the unity of the church. Satanists work hard to separate families. They start all sorts of programs for teenagers, school age and preschool children. They develop separate programs for women and men, so as to keep the parents separated as much as possible. Retreats are used as wedges between husbands and wives.
7. **Stop All Accurate Teaching About Satan** - Satanists are always commanded to prevent any teaching about Satan within the churches they attend. The excuses are many. They say that any teaching about Satan gives glory to him, takes people's minds off the Lord, tempts people to turn to Satan, etc. Beware, the very church members who complain the loudest about teaching about Satan and his tactics, will probably turn out to be Satanists.
8. **Direct Attacks By Witchcraft Against Key Members of the Church** - Any pastors, church leaders or members who are really taking a stand for the Lord against Satan will come under tremendous attack by witchcraft. They will be afflicted with all sorts of physical illness, difficulties in concentrating, confusion, fatigue, difficulties in praying, etc.