

Bible Study 12.9.13

Topic: Exposing Satan's Kingdom Part 1

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We understand that everything God creates, Satan tries to duplicate. Satan is not original.

However, as Satan attempts to duplicate, he is trying to duplicate an evil and twisted version of what God created.

So, as we are now in due season and a time when God is saying that we must gather in the spirit. The harvest is here, and we must gather, gather, gather!

We must realize that there are demonic forces trying to prevent us from walking through the doors. Demons have placed walls or barriers in front of many doors that have been opened to us.

This is why God has been stressing the need to increase prayer and the study of His Word. We hear the term breakthrough and it is often only thought of as a form of deliverance or a spiritual victory.

In part it is, but the barriers that Satan and his demons have setup in front of many of our open doors, we must literally breakthrough those walls and tear them down through prayer, study of God's Word and worshipping God. So, we must literally breakthrough some things in the spirit.

When this is done, we will see the open door. We will see the opportunities. This is why Satan tries to cloud what we see. This is why he wants us to focus on the physical.

Satan knows that if you get revelation of what is already done in the spirit, you will gain greater strength to keep fighting in the spirit!

Keep in mind that God told us that we will never have a greater level of responsibility than what is being released in this season because it is at such a high velocity.

There is so much personal responsibility that has been given to us in the spirit as soldiers in God's army.

It's not about you, it's about what God has assigned for you to do! **The level of your attack is an indicator of the level of your assignment!**

God is not babying you on this level because you can't be a warrior for God and still be eating baby food!

He is teaching us how to war on a different level. He is opening our eyes to more of what goes on in the spirit realm. The great revival coming is a spiritual awakening.

You cannot effectively fight a spiritual war if you don't understand how things operate in the spirit realm, both good and evil!

Although humans are outnumbered by demons on earth somewhere in the range of one thousand or more demons per every human being, there are far more for us than that are against us. Legions of demons will never outnumber God's angels.

We have spent much time discussing everything in our favor including angels, spiritual gifts, spiritual senses, prayer, God's Word, praise and worship, etc.

We must understand who we're fighting against. Every athlete, whether an individual sport or team sport prepares to face their opponent. They study their opponent's strengths and weaknesses. They have a game plan or strategy to defeat their opponent.

As children of God, we must have a strategy when engaging in spiritual warfare. Satan and his demons have strategy for us. They have taken enough from us, and now it's time for us to take it back!

They study us all the time. Lower ranking demons study us so they can report to higher ranking demons on how to attack us.

There are only 2 sides: God's side or Satan's side. Satan and his demons entire mission is to steal, kill and destroy. They hate us, and they attempted to take all of us out from the time we came out of the womb.

Some of you can go back to your childhood and see some of the things you had to overcome then because Satan and his demons felt they had rights to you through your family bloodline.

However, we know that we are already victorious. We just need to know the battle plan.

If you are to be married, Satan doesn't want you married. If you're married, he doesn't want you happily married. He wants to keep you broke, depressed, sad, and to steal any and every blessing sent by God from you.

What God has for you is for you, but you have to learn to protect your blessing too!

There are some blessings that Satan and his demons don't want you to have so badly until you have to fight to get it and fight to keep it!

This is why understanding your power and authority is vital. The journey is not for the faint of heart. There is nothing to fear because fear is never from God. God expects us to be bold through Him!

We need to have the knowledge and understanding of how to walk in the things of God. As a glory carrier, God has given you responsibility. Your role in God's Kingdom is very important.

Satan and his demons demonic tactics must be exposed so that we can get what is rightfully ours!
It's not play time, but it's war time! You will reap a great harvest in this season, but you must know how to protect your harvest!

Every champion in any sport must protect their turf. They must defend their championship from someone who is trying to push them aside and be on top.

You are a champion for God's Kingdom and no demon in hell should be able to take from you what you fought so hard to get!

Matthew 13:24-25 ²⁴ Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.

- Here, we find Jesus telling a story about someone who sowed good seeds, but the enemy came and sowed weeds to grow when the crops began to grow.
- This example shows us one tactic of the enemy. For starters, Satan and his demons want to catch us sleeping. In other words, they want to sow bad seeds when we aren't looking.
- Occult practices like witchcraft, sorcery, warlocks, etc. and other evil spirits attempt to cast spells, curses and plant negative seeds during this time while most sleep. This is why the enemy tries to attack us in our sleep and try to enter through our dreams through the demon known as Mare. We hear the term nightmare, but there are demonic forces who can cause them. This is why it is important to pray before you go to sleep.
- Many of you feel like you have done well by others and try to live a peaceful life, but it seems like trouble always seems to find you. It's not so much about what you've done, but what has been done while you were sowing good seeds.
- Don't be discouraged because we see here that Jesus let us know that the enemy will attempt to sow bad seeds. When we recognize it in our lives, we now know how to attack it in prayer.
- **Prayer is necessary, but your prayer is also strategic! God is a God of order and prayer should always have a target!**

- Satan and his demons have attempted to sow seeds in your life. It can go way back to your ancestors. It could be in relationships, friendships, job, finances, health, etc.
- Once you recognize something that you know is not from God or of God in your life, you must pray for revelation to locate the seed in the spirit!
- **Whenever there are reoccurring problems or attacks in specific areas of your life, it can be traced back to a seed planted by Satan!**
- As spiritual agents of Christ, it's our duty to find out. We find out by seeking God because demonic agents of Satan's goals are to stop you from seeing what it is. Satan and his demons hate to be exposed because they are automatically weakened.
- **Satan is frightened by revelation you receive from the Holy Spirit because he knows it gives you more ammunition to use!**
- **For every attack from Satan and his demons, you are equipped with a far more powerful counter attack! You just have to tap into your power!**

Ephesians 6:11-13 ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.** 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.

- We see from this passage that Satan/the Devil has tricks and tactics, and we need the whole armor of God to be able to stand against it. When we don't have the armor, it will be more difficult to stand against the tricks and tactics of the enemy.
- The bottom line is that we are not in a fleshly war. It is a spiritual battle. **God uses people carry out His good will. However, Satan can uses people to carry out his evil will.** We also see from this passage that there are all types of demons, not just one type. Just like there are many types and ranks of angels, there are many types and ranks of demons. Principalities, powers, rulers mentioned in v. 12 are all ranks and types.
- To be able to withstand the types of demons that want to attack our life, we must have the whole armor. The attacks will come, so we need the full armor.

Armor of God

- 5 are defensive weapons and 1 is offensive.

- 1.) **Belt of Truth-** The belt or girdle kept every part of the armor in place. Just like the girdle kept everything in place, standing on the truth of God's word keeps us in place. It keeps us balanced. We cannot be swayed by false doctrine and when the enemy tries to twist truth when we are braced up in truth.

- 2.) **Breastplate of Righteousness-** The breastplate covered the body from the neck down to the thighs. It had 2 parts. It covered the front and the back and protected the vital organs. We must keep the faith and operate in love. Evil done to us should not make us give evil back. Evil can never overpower love. The enemy will try to pierce our heart and cause us to act out of flesh, but the breastplate of righteousness helps protect us not only from the enemy, but from ourselves at times.

- 3.) **Feet Shod with the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace-** Soldiers wore what was known as "greaves" or bronze boots to protect the feet from rocks and other things that could cut the feet. Our feet must be shod in the sense that we are prepared to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. **Our feet must be ready for whatever marching orders we receive and to move swiftly as needed. We must be prepared at all times because there is no time to prepare when the attack comes.** Even if we walk on shaky ground, our feet is firmly planted in God's Word.

- 4.) **Shield of Faith-** The shield was carried by the soldier to protect against arrows and swords. The shield also protected other parts of the armor. A soldier could lift the shield to cover their entire body. Our faith serves as a shield. When our faith is firmly planted in God, nothing will be able to move us. **Our faith will be able to defend against everything the enemy tries to throw at us. No matter what the enemy tries, we are grounded in our faith that God will protect and deliver.**

- 5.) **Helmet of Salvation-** The helmet defended against blows from the enemy to the head. When we put on the helmet of salvation, our soul is protected. We are putting on Christ and believe that when the battles are done here, we will have eternal life through Christ Jesus. No matter what blows the enemy makes on us, we will remain firm in our salvation, knowing that we also have a reward in heaven.

6.) **Sword of the Spirit**-This is our offensive weapon. It is the Word of God. When the enemy attacks, we can counterattack with the Word. Sometimes, we are to go right at the enemy and attack. This is why it is so important to continue to be a student of God's Word and understand your position in battle.

1 Peter 5:8-9 ⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; **because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.** ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

- We know that Satan and his demons go about the earth looking whom they may devour. Demons are looking for any opening possible through sin and disobedience. They will jump on the wave of negative words spoken to you. This is why you must rebuke the seed of negative words spoken to you so it does not take root because words attach to something. We are told to resist the devil and to be strong in our faith. Attacks may come, but we have already overcome. We see from v.9 that **we all will experience tough times from attacks, but we must keep the faith b/c our faith in God will give us strength to fight through and breakthrough.**
- Satan and his demons are looking for territory to take. They are looking for families and households to take. This is another reason why God told us to rule on earth. **You are a king/queen, and God expects you to rule in your territory. Don't allow a demon to sit in your seat of authority!**

Mark 5:1-10 Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. ² And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, ³ who had *his* dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, ⁴ because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. ⁵ **And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.** ⁶ When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. ⁷ And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."⁸ For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!"⁹ Then He asked him, "**What is your name?**"**And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many."** ¹⁰ Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country.

- Here we find a man who had an unclean spirit. It had tormented him for some time. It was so bad until he had to be bound, but the demonic spirit in him was so strong, he was able to break the chains. He would cry at night and attempt to cut himself. The demonic spirit was trying to kill him. However, Jesus showed up.

- When Jesus showed up, the demons immediately knew who He was and understood power and authority. The demons immediately asked Jesus not to torment them. Now these demons were tormenting the man, but now they were asking Jesus not to torment them. **Demons recognize your power and authority, but they only acknowledge it when you acknowledge that you have it!**
- **Demons are afraid when you show up, but if they realize you aren't walking in your power and authority today, they'll carry on business as usual! You must make them uncomfortable through your obedience to God's will.**
- We see it in this verse. They knew who Jesus was and they were afraid, but they only left when Jesus commanded them to. You must open up your mouth and command every demon and every seed any demon planted to leave your life in the name of Jesus! This is also why it's important to speak God's Word and put angels God assigned to you to work.
- Jesus asked the demons what their name was and they said Legion b/c they were many. Some legions could consist of 6,000 demons. Remember in Genesis, God told us to fruitful and multiply. Demons also try to do that as well. For tougher assignments, some demons come together to strengthen themselves in an attempt to completely take a person out. They understand the power of numbers and the power of unity.

Deuteronomy 18:9-14 ⁹“When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. ¹⁰**There shall not be found among you *anyone* who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or *one* who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, ¹¹ or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.** ¹²For all who do these things *are* an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you. ¹³You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. ¹⁴For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you.

- We see here some occult practices such as: witchcraft, soothsayer, sorcerer, medium, etc. This passage lets us know that all that operate in these are an abomination (disgrace) to the Lord. There were warnings throughout scripture about it. There were some during that time who allowed their children to pass through fire as an act of worship to a false god.

- **Sorcerer-** Consulting evil spirits to gain hidden knowledge

Witchcraft- The practices by witches and wizards in which they use black magic, which is the evoking of evil spirits for an evil purpose or to gain some hidden knowledge.

Soothsayer (Divination)- A fortune teller who claimed they could tell the future, reveal secrets or interpret dreams through magic or reading signs. This is not of God. This is different from prophets who God reveals secrets and future events, etc.

Medium- Communicates between the spirit world and humans. They would often communicate with the dead, which is a demonic spirit posing as the actual deceased person. They would communicate with the dead, which was really demons so they could obtain information.

Spiritist (Wizard)- A male witch who uses black magic

- We must pray for discernment because there are individuals who practice these today. Some are open about it, but the discernment is needed for those who try to hide behind the name of God to carry out these demonic functions.
- This is why we must also know the power of unity in the body of Christ. **There is power in numbers, but every number does not have power! A few can be a lot or a lot can be a few! Activate your power!**
- So, this man was possessed. Some families have had legions tormenting them for generations. You can put a stop to it and be that interruption in your bloodline through prayer and study of God's word and obedience to God. Jesus commanded the unclean spirit that had all these demons attached to it to come out. The possessed man was now delivered.

- Notice that the demons made a request to Jesus. They asked if they could stay in the country and enter into the swine. Keep in mind that in order for a demon to have access on earth, it needs a body. Every spirit on earth needs a body. Which is why when it comes to humans demons, depend on continual sin to have legal access to humans.
- Satan hates family because he cannot have family. He has workers but not true family. Family was created before the church.
- There are some demons specifically assigned to families and bloodlines. They are Generational demons. **Some generational demons try to have spiritual marriages with other generational demons to keep your bloodline in bondage to whatever it was holding over you.** This is why covenant is important. Who you hang with is important. Who you listen to is important. You have the power to break these curses and to cause these demons to leave your life.

Matthew 23:15, 27-28 ¹⁵“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, **you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.**

²⁷“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead *men's* bones and all uncleanness.
²⁸Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

- This entire chapter, Jesus completely rebukes and exposes the scribes and Pharisees who were hypocrites. They were the teachers of the law and had the greatest knowledge of it, but many did not fully apply it to their lives. A proselyte was a foreigner from another nation, religion or religious group. Essentially, they were converts just as non believers of Christ can convert to Christianity.
- Some Pharisees and scribes would win souls not unto God, but to become a part of their following to have more control over the people. They would also make it seem like they worked so hard to win souls, but really just wanted to add on to their numbers to boast or brag about. They would also win souls to extort people out of their money and keep them under their manipulative control.
- To make matter worse, these converts would become groupies or worshippers of the leader. So, the converts could become just as bad as the corrupted leader if they don't come to the light. They would become *sons or daughters of hell* just like the hypocritical Pharisees and Scribes, and in some cases more deceitful than their leader was. That phrase simply means to be deserving of hell or awfully wicked.

- Even though some of the Pharisees and Scribes appeared to be righteous on the outside through their words and work, they were really full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. They taught the law, but did not really practice it. They taught love, but did not truly show it. They did just enough to make someone think they are holy. Truly, they were double minded.
- We see these same patterns today, and must be prayerful that we are not deceived as some of the converts during this time were. You must study for yourself and also know how to pray for yourself.
- **Satan is not trying to get out the church, but he's trying to get in the church to plant his seeds.** Demons will try to attach to someone through any opportunity they find and then try to use it to destroy the person and others around them.
- **You have been anointed and appointed to restore order in the territory God has assigned to you!**