

Living Life VICTORIOUSLY

Christian Life Center Discipleship Institute | Spiritual Warfare

1 - BIBLICAL ORIGIN OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Ephesians 6:11-13 *Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.*



1. Although Satan should never be center of our belief, it is important that we understand his place in Scripture and in the unfolding of God's ultimate plan. No other individual is given such a place from the Bible's beginning to its end as the character we know as Satan, or the devil.
2. Many people refer to the devil as a "metaphorical personification of evil," or accuse those who believe in a real devil as fanatics (and there have been unscriptural beliefs and activity). The refusal to acknowledge Satan's existence, however, works to his advantage and allows him to easily deceive mankind to accomplish his plan. Because of this, Satan has been successful in deceiving and enveloping entire nations and cultures in darkness, base superstitions and practices.
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4 *The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

THE TWO MAJOR WORLD VIEWS

Aside from the Biblical and agnostic (not committed to either the existence or nonexistence of God) positions, two major world views exist about the spiritual realm.

1. The _____ world view affirms that ultimate reality is spiritual, not physical or material. Although the spiritual world view is closer to the Biblical view, it is poly-theistic (a belief in or worship of many gods), pantheistic (the belief that all forces, manifestations, and matter is god or spirit), magical, and animistic (the belief that all created things such as trees and rocks have a spirit or a soul). Every aspect of life is integrated into this spiritual view of reality. The vast majority of the world's 7.5 billion inhabitants hold to some form of a spiritualistic world views. Examples are Native American, Tibetan, and Indian people. (See graph 1 on page 2)
2. The _____ world view affirms that ultimate reality is material or physical, not spiritual. This view holds to the belief that science, not spirit, has the key to life. It assumes that all life generated spontaneously from non-life and evolved over vast spans of time into the vast variety of life forms today. This quickly develops into the idea that man is the center of the universe/reality or that this life is all there is.

THE “EXCLUDED MIDDLE”

1. Paul Gordon Hiebert (1932 – 2007) was a leading American missiological anthropologist. After a period of missionary service in India, he moved to Pasadena, CA where he taught at Fuller Theological Seminary. Hiebert was best known for his concept of the “excluded middle.” He taught that most Westerners see reality in two tiers — the invisible things of the other world, and the visible things of this world. In this way, they exclude the invisible things of this world, and in particular the unseen personal beings, such as angels and demons from everyday “reality.”
2. Unlike the spiritualistic view that includes the spirit world in every day life, naturalistic or two-tiered world view tends to separate the physical world creating a great divide between God, Spirit and the rest of “real” life.
3. America maybe home to more “Christians” per capita than most countries, there is, at the same time, an explosion of spiritual and hedonistic pursuits with many New Age beliefs mingled with Scripture.
4. Our society is being _____ as a pluralistic, atheistic or agnostic society. The Bible has little or no relevance to many people today. However, there is, at the same time, an explosion of spiritual and hedonistic pursuits with many New Age beliefs mingled with Scripture.
5. More than ever, this is a time to “close the excluded middle” and understand that God’s spiritual realm and His Kingdom on earth is not just a spiritual view but an Eternal Reality. Because of this transformation in our society, we **must** relearn the practice of Biblical spiritual warfare.

The Spiritual World View

Here there is no gap. The physical and spiritual co-exist together as an inseparable part of each other.

God, angels, supernatural beings, Allah, etc.



Witchcraft, Shamans, curses, catastrophes, life, death by supernatural beings and spirits.



Sacrifices, herbs, food, clan relationships, etc.

The Two-Tiered World View

In this view the spiritual and “real” worlds do not touch.

Science

Sight and experience, natural order, secular, business decisions, germs, etc.

Excluded Middle

Religion

God, faith, miracles, angels, church, spiritual belief based on reason, etc.

THE MENTION OF SATAN IN THE BIBLE

1. The Bible is clear about the creation of Satan, his fall, his character, work, influence and his ultimate judgement and destiny.
2. The main titles or names for the devil in the Old and New Testaments are Lucifer (the covering cherub), Satan (adversary) and the Devil (accuser, slanderer). A few examples are:
 - In Genesis 3:15, he is seen as the serpent who deceived Eve in the Garden.
 - In 1 Chronicles 21:1 we read, *Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved (enticed, provoked) David to number Israel.*
 - He appears twice in Job 1:6-12 and 2:1-7 “...when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them” and began the dramatic confrontations against Job resulting in life altering trials. (Job 42:10-17; Romans 8:28; 1 Peter 1:6-9)

- Satan is seen in Zechariah 3:1-2 when Joshua the High Priest stood before the Angel of the Lord with Satan, who was accusing, attacking and resisting him.
3. Satan or the devil is specifically mentioned 72 times in the New Testament as well as many instances of his evil deeds such as the murder of the children by Herod when Christ was a young child (Matthew 2:16-18). Other titles and names From Torrey's New Topical Textbook include...

Abaddon — Revelation 9:11	Murderer — John 8:44
Accuser of our brethren — Revelation 12:10	Old serpent — Revelation 12:9; Revelation 20:2
Adversary — 1 Peter 5:8	Piercing serpent — Isaiah 27:1
Angel of the bottomless pit — Revelation 9:11	Power of darkness — Colossians 1:13
Angel of light — 2 Corinthians 11:14	Prince of this world — John 14:30
Apollyon — Revelation 9:11	Prince of the devils — Matthew 12:24
Beelzebub — Matthew 12:24	Prince of the power of the air — Ephesians 2:2
Belial — 2 Corinthians 6:15	Ruler of the darkness of this world — Ephesians 6:12
Crooked serpent — Isaiah 27:1	Satan — 1 Chronicles 21:1; Job 1:6
Dragon — Isaiah 27:1; Revelation 20:2	Serpent — Genesis 3:4 Genesis 3:16; 2 Corinthians 11:3
Enemy — Matthew 13:39	Spirit in the children of disobedience — Ephesians 2:2
Evil spirit — 1 Samuel 16:14	Tempter — Matthew 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5
Father of lies — John 8:44	The God of this world — 2 Corinthians 4:4
Great red dragon — Revelation 12:3	Unclean spirit — Matthew 12:43
Leviathan — Isaiah 27:1	Wicked one — Matthew 13:19; Matthew 13:38
Liar — John 8:44	
Lying spirit — 1 Kings 22:22	

THE _____

Satan began his rebellion against God in Heaven as Lucifer, translated as “the morning star” or “light bringer.” As a created being and Anointed Cherub, he was perfect in beauty. Because of this, Lucifer lifted himself up with pride against God.

1. In a lamentation (prophetic warning) against the King of Tyre in Ezekiel 28:11-19 we see Lucifer’s glorious position in Heaven.
 - A. *You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. You were the anointed cherub who covers;... Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;...*
2. Then in Isaiah 14:12-15 we read about Lucifer’s rebellion against the LORD Almighty in Heaven. Here he declares five “I wills” against God’s authority.

A. *How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer (Day Star) son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High."*

- 1) I will ascend into heaven — There are three heavens: the earth and its atmosphere, the cosmic, spiritual heaven (Daniel 10:12-14), and the highest Heaven where God's Throne is (2 Corinthians 12:1-4). Lucifer desired God's place and throne in Heaven.
- 2) I will exalt my throne above the stars of God — The "stars of God" refers to the angels in Heaven (Job 38:7; Jude 13; Revelation 12:3-4, 22:16). Lucifer wanted to rule over all the angelic beings.
- 3) I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north — This seems to indicate a desire to know hidden things known only to God (Isaiah 2:2; Daniel 2:35).
- 4) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds — God's Divine Glory or Presence is often described as a cloud, a divine visitation of the presence or dwelling of God on the earth (Exodus 40:34-38; 2 Chronicles 5:13-14). Lucifer wanted this glory.
- 5) I will be like the Most High — This is the pinnacle of the other four desires — to BE God. All of these desires represent independence from God and a willful, personal and selfish ambition against God's personality, glory and power.

3. Revelation gives us the account of Satan's fall from Heaven.

A. Revelation 12:7-9 *And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*

B. Revelation 12:3-4 says that his "tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth" and possibly alludes to one third of the angels who also lost their place in Heaven and then became the demonic army in the earth.

THE _____

Read Genesis 3, the account of the entrance of sin into the world and the resulting fall.

1. When Lucifer was cast out of Heaven, he brought his rebellion to the Garden of Eden and to Adam and Eve. In this way sin and destruction entered the human race.
 - Romans 5:12-21 *Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people,...*
2. Satan's sin originated within himself before he was cast to the earth. Man's sin originated from an internal response to an external tempter and temptation.
 - James 1:13-15 *...But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed...*

3. As Adam and Eve responded to Satan's deception and took from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, the glory of God left. They realized their own nakedness and sought covering from things other than God's Presence (Genesis 3:7).
 - Adam and Eve walked in the glory of God. This fellowship enhanced their physical bodies and they must have shone as "bodies of light" (biophotonic). When Moses came down the mountain his face shone like the sun because he had been with God (Exodus 34:29-35). This phenomenon would certainly have applied to Adam and Eve who lived in the Presence of God!
4. Their relationship with God _____. Instead of running to God, they hid from Him (Genesis 3:8-10).
5. This brought a curse on the woman, the man and the earth (Genesis 3:14-19) and brought death upon the entire human race. (Romans 5:12)
 - A. God has never, and never will, abandon mankind or allow Satan a victory (Genesis 3:14-15)! More on page 6-7...

AN OVERVIEW OF SATAN'S CHARACTER

Many times when Satan is referenced in the notes, it is referring to the entire evil kingdom: Satan, his demon lords and all the evil spirits interfering in human life. (Ephesians 6:11-13)

1. Our enemy, the devil, still uses the same approach today as he did in the Garden in Genesis 3:4.
 - A. He challenges the _____ of God's Word.
 - B. Satan perverts (calls into question) the character of God and His motives.
 - C. He minimizes God's standards.
 - D. He tempts us with human _____, "you will be like God..."
2. He is _____, crafty, calculating and scheming.
 - A. 2 Corinthians 2:11 *...in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.*
3. He is a spirit being but with _____.
 - A. Job 1:12; Job 2:6 *The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."*
4. He is fully committed to evil and destruction. Not only is he a thief and a murderer, he is a liar and the father of all lies.
 - A. John 10:10 *The thief comes only to steal and kill (slaughter, sacrifice, slay) and destroy (ruin, death and destruction); ...*
 - B. John 8:44 *...When he lies, he speaks his native language, because he is a liar and the father of lies.*
5. He is able to _____ and seduce us.
 - A. 1 Chronicles 21:1 *Satan rose up against Israel and incited (seduce and stimulate) David to take a census of Israel.*

6. The hook is baited and _____ areas are attacked. He appeals to our sensual desires and cloaks (hides) the consequences.
- A. James 1:13-15 *When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. (2 Samuel 11:2-3)*

SATAN'S KINGDOM IS HIGHLY ORGANIZED

1. Satan operates a highly _____ kingdom according to Matthew 12:26-27, *If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand?*
2. Paul mentions three heavens in 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. They are the earth and its atmosphere, the cosmic, spiritual heaven (Daniel 10:12-14), and the highest Heaven where God's Throne is (2 Corinthians 12:1-4). This seems to be implied in Ephesians 6:12 *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*
 - A. **Rulers:** "Arche" — Implying that which is first, at the beginning, possibly the prince of this world.
 - John 12:31 *Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince (Archon) of this world will be driven out.*
 - John 14:30 *I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler (Archon) of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.*
 - B. **Authorities:** "Exousia" — The power which receives authority from delegation (Matthew 8:5-9). This seems to be a "second" layer of rulership over nations.
 - Daniel 10:12-14 *...But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.*
 - Note: the two Greek words for "power" are Exousia, authority as in Luke 10:19 and power Dunamis, dynamic power as in Acts 1:8.
 - C. **Powers:** "Kosmokrator" — A world ruler of darkness. This layer implies the delegation dealing with issues of philosophies darkening the minds of people.
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4 *The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*
 - D. **Spiritual forces of evil:** "Poneria" — Carnal, ruled by uncleanness, malicious, moral evil, expressing evil to others, depraved spiritual excess. spiritual forces of evil that induce sinfulness and lawlessness in individuals, unclean spirits, infirmities, death, etc. While high ranking demons may operate in the second heaven, other demons infiltrate our environments at our home, work place, recreation and even the church.
 - Matthew 4:24 *News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them.*

THE FIRST MENTION OF A SAVIOR IN GENESIS

1. In the midst of the fall of man and spiritual chaos, God brings HOPE and declares the coming of a Savior who will defeat the very power of Satan and hell!
 - A. Genesis 3:15 *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.*
 - B. Referencing Genesis 3:15, Romans 16:20 states that *the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.*



THE BATTLE HAS ALREADY BEEN WON!

Colossians 2:13-15 *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.*

1. If Christ disarmed (stripped) the devil, he has no _____! How then does the enemy fight against us? These and other topics will be discussed later.
2. Effective ministry today demands that we recover the knowledge and experience of the “spirit world” that the early church possessed. God wants us to learn spiritual warfare.
 - A. Judges 3:1-3 *These are the nations the LORD left to test all those Israelites who had not experienced any of the wars in Canaan (he did this only to teach warfare to the descendants of the Israelites who had not had previous battle experience)...*
3. Being involved in a supernatural war with powerful enemies, understanding that we are fighting a war against a defeated foe makes all the difference as to how we see and engage our enemy.
 - A. 1 John 3:8 *He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy (to loosen, break up, dissolve, melt) the works of the devil.*
4. Our responsibility, therefore, is to be His ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:18-20) and light in this world (Matthew 5:14-16).
 - A. How does Exodus 19:3-6 and 1 Peter 2:9 define our function/calling while we are on earth?

ASSIGNMENT

1. Pick an accountability partner for the class.
2. Read the lesson and listen to Derek Prince, “Spiritual Warfare in the Heavenly, Part 1” on our website DiscipleshipDevelopment.org/old-time-preaching.
3. Memorize Romans 8:1-2.
4. Use the Weekly Time Sheet and journal the lesson or the video on the back.

ANSWERS - LESSON 1

spiritual
natural

redefined

REBELLION IN HEAVEN

RESULT ON EARTH

changed
authority
autonomy
deceptive
limitations
influence

vulnerable
organized

no weapons