



**CUNNING**  
 Week 1: In the Beginning  
 Wednesday Night Crew  
 2024 WINTER SERIES January – March

1/3<sup>rd</sup>  
 1/10<sup>th</sup>  
 1/17<sup>th</sup>  
 1/24<sup>th</sup>  
 1/31<sup>st</sup>\*

2/7<sup>th</sup>  
 2/14<sup>th</sup>\*  
 2/21<sup>st</sup>  
 2/28<sup>th</sup>  
 3/6<sup>th</sup>\*

3/13<sup>th</sup>  
 3/20<sup>th</sup>  
 3/27<sup>th</sup>  
 (Easter is 3/31<sup>st</sup>)



## CUNNING

### The Spiritual Battle from Genesis to Revelation

*I am sending you out like sheep amongst wolves...Matthew 10:16*

#### DEFINE CUNNING:

- Having or showing skill in achieving one's ends by [deceit](#) or [evasion](#).

#### Similar:

Crafty; wily; artful; guileful; deviously; **knowing**; scheming; designing; tricky; slippery; slick; manipulative; Machiavellian; deceitful; deceptive; duplicitous; Janus-faced; shrewd; **astute**; **clever**; **canny**; **sharp**; sharp-witted; **skillful**; **ingenious**; **resourceful**; **inventive**; **imaginative**; **deft**; **adroit**; dexterous; savvy; fiendish; sneaky; fly; pawky; slim; subtle; vulpine; canny.

**Opposite:** honest; guileless; naïve

#### **ASK:** WHO is supposed to be CUNNING?

#### Week1: Understanding the WHAT of God's Creation

- STUDY NOTES: Pr. Mike and Pr. Orleen's sermon series
- Kingdom Principles – Hayford, J. W. 1995. Hayford's Bible handbook. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville
- **BOOK:** Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). [Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture](#). B&H Academic.
- Handout: Angelic Beings

#### **Genesis 1:1**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (NKJV)*

What does this all contain?

He created all of what?

There are three Spiritual Kingdoms here on earth:

1. OUR'S: Which we were given at creation (Shown by the gift of freewill)
2. THE ENEMY'S: Which God allows for a short time
3. GOD'S: In which He placed Christ as King

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**Genesis 1:1**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (NKJV)*

**GOD CREATED:**

**Act 1 HIS RULE:** [Act 1 His RULE-Realm, Reign, Regency. Act 2 Angelic Beings Act 3 His Children – Mankind]

(1) **His realm** (or scope of His rule) is transcendent [supreme, constant, supernatural] ; that is, not only does it include the entire physical universe, it exceeds it. He existed before all creation, He expands beyond it, and by virtue of having begotten it, **He encompasses all that it is.**

(2) **His reign** (or the power by which He rules) is exercised by:

a. His **will** [His character, Supernatural laws, ... , ]

b. His **word**, [Scripture]

c. His **works**. By His own will He creatively decides and designs; by His own word He speaks creation into being; and by His own works, His Spirit displays His unlimited power.

[What He HAS done and What He DOES and What He says He will Do.]

(3) **His regency** (or authority to rule) is in His preexistence and holiness. He is there *before* creation “in the beginning.” Thus, as its Creator, He deserves to be its Potentate. His benevolent intent in creating things “good” reveals His holy nature (that is, complete and perfect), and thus His moral right to be creation’s King. **All kingdom power and authority flow from Him.**

Hayford, J. W. 1995. *Hayford's Bible handbook*. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville

**Luke 19:11-27 Parable of the Ten Minas ... went away to get the authority to rule.**

**Genesis 1:1**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (NKJV)*

**GOD CREATED:**

**Act 2 GOD CREATED:** [Act 1 His RULE-Realm, Reign, Regency. Act 2 Angelic Beings Act 3 His Children – Mankind]

\***Angelic Beings** – Handout

**ANGELIC BEINGS** (a.k.a. where the Enemy actually came from).

**Isaiah 14:12-15 The Fall of Lucifer** [Between Ge. 1&2?]

<sup>12</sup> *How you are fallen from heaven,*

*O Lucifer, son of the morning!*

*How you are cut down to the ground,*

*You who weakened the nations!*

<sup>13</sup> *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;*

<sup>14</sup> *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,*

*I will be like the Most High.'*

<sup>15</sup> *Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol,*

*To the lowest depths of the Pit.*

**ENEMIES KINGDOM**

**We need to realize:**

- A. We have an enemy
- B. He hates us
- C. We are living in his world

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**A. We Have An Enemy** [he hates us . we are living in his world]

Not just the opposite balance of good in us, but a literal real entity.

**Remind you: Spiritual being having a physical experience**

- My litmus test: Child abuse (prey on our children) – EVIL is real.

**Define:** SATAN: (sah-tahn);

An opponent, or the Opponent

the hater; the accuser; adversary, enemy; one who resists, obstructs, and hinders whatever is good.

*Satan* comes from the verb which means "to be an opponent," or "to withstand."

As a noun, *satan* can describe any "opponent" (2 Sam. 19:21-22).

However, when the form *ha-satan* (the Adversary) occurs, the translation is usually "Satan,"

**not his name, but his accurate description: hateful enemy**

- Wanted to be God, was thrown down from heaven with a third of the angels. Which are now called demons, demonic spirits. Rev 12:3-4 NKJV And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, <sup>(A)</sup>a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. <sup>4</sup> <sup>(B)</sup>**His tail drew a third <sup>(C)</sup>of the stars of heaven <sup>(D)</sup>and threw them to the earth.** And the dragon stood <sup>(E)</sup>before the woman who was ready to give birth, <sup>(E)</sup>to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

**Revelation 12:7-9 Satan Thrown Out of Heaven**

<sup>7</sup> And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they <sup>(a)</sup>did not prevail, nor was a place found for <sup>(b)</sup>them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> 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. NKJV

**Hell was created for them:**

**Matthew 25:31-41** The Son of Man Will Judge the Nations

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.<sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

<sup>37</sup> "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?<sup>38</sup> When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? <sup>39</sup> Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' <sup>40</sup> And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

<sup>41</sup> "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, '**Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:** NKJV

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**Furnace of Fire:**

**Matthew 13:40-42** All that offend/practice lawlessness

<sup>40</sup> Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, <sup>42</sup> and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. **NKJV**

**Devil and his angels**

**2 Peter 2:4**

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; **NKJV**

**Jude 6**

<sup>6</sup> And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; **NKJV**

*Satan* comes from the verb which means "to be an opponent," or "to withstand."

As a noun, *satan* can describe any "opponent" (2 Sam. 19:21-22).

However, when the form *ha-satan* (the Adversary) occurs, the translation is usually "Satan,"

**not his name, but his accurate description: hateful enemy**

Since Satan is the Hater, he is all the more opposed to God, who is love.

**1 John 4:7-8**

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. **NKJV***

**1 John 3:10 & 14c**

<sup>10</sup> In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. <sup>11</sup> For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, <sup>12</sup> not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous. <sup>13</sup> Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you. <sup>14</sup> We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. **NKJV**

**Mankind did not witness Satan's beginning, but by God's design shall see his end, one of ceaseless torment and humiliation**

**Isaiah 14:16a** "Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate:"

**Ezek. 28:12c-19**

"You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz, and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper; sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings. By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching all the nations who knew you are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more."

**Revelation 20:10**

"And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever."

**Unbelief is a product of belong to the enemy**

**John 8:42-45**

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*"Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but He sent me. Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."*

**B. He Hates Us. [we have an enemy . we are living in his world]**

**John 10:10a**

*<sup>10</sup> The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. NKJV*

**1 Peter 5:8**

*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. NKJV*

Luke 22:31 "And the lord said, "Simon! Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat."

- e.g. ADAM&EVE

**Genesis 1 overview**

Gen. 1:26

"Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over...all the earth

27"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male & female he created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground. Vs. 31a And God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

**Genesis 2 details**

Gen 2:15

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it and **take care** of it.

**Work: abad (aw-bad') to work, implied to serve, enslave, bond servant, compel, husbandman, keep, labor, bring to pass, servant, service, be wrought, worshipper.**

**Take care: shamar (shaw-mar') to hedge about as with thorns, beware, be circumspect, guard, protect, attend to, take heed, mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, save, sure wait, watch.**

Vs 16"And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Created Eve, as it was not good for man to be alone

**Gen 3:1-6**

"Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"

The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden but God did say, "You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die."

Vs. 4

You will not surely die" the serpent said to the woman. (5) For God knows that when u eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Vs 6

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

ASK: Why was the enemy in the garden to begin with?

Had Adam forsaken his duties? Is Eve daft? How could she fall for such an illusion? \_\_\_\_\_?

The Enemy's methods:

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The encounter with the enemy

Step #1: Dons a disguise (angel of light) that the woman would find acceptable

Step #2: Outwits the inexperienced woman through confusion & distortion.

Did He really say? Do you think that is what He really meant? QUESTIONING God's motives.

Step #3: Satan redefines God to Eve.

He cast doubt on God's plan/order/instructions.

QUESTIONING God's character. (A process he personally knows, he is seeking to distort her image of God. "He would not want you to do without." )

Step #4: He reconstructed God's directives.

("You will not surely die! You will become....

Step #5: He elevated the role of humanity to be like God.

(Which was his sin = self aggrandizement)

("You will become LIKE HIM!")

Appeals to our flesh, our human nature

1 John 2:16 (Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, pride of life)

("For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.")

!Tried same method w/Jesus: (see Matt. 4, Mark 1, and Luke 4).

Temptation of Christ

**A. We Are Living In His World [we have an enemy . he hates us]**

- **1 John 5: 19** We know that we are of God, and <sup>(A)</sup>the whole world lies *under the sway of the wicked one.* NKJV

[John 12:31 NKJV](#)

Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

[John 17:15 NKJV](#)

I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the...

[Galatians 1:4 NKJV](#)

who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to...

- **2 Corinthians 11: 14** And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. NKJV
- **John 12:31** Now is the judgment of this world; now <sup>(A)</sup>the ruler of this world will be cast out. NKJV
- **2 Corinthians 4:4** <sup>4</sup> whose minds <sup>(A)</sup>the god of this age <sup>(B)</sup>has blinded, who do not believe, lest <sup>(C)</sup>the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, <sup>(D)</sup>who is the image of God, should shine on them. NKJV

God of this age:

[John 12:31 NKJV](#)

Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

[Ephesians 6:12 NKJV](#)

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers,...

**1 John 4:4 He that is in you is GREATER than he that is in the world**

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“2 Chronicles 16:9

“For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”

**Genesis 1:1**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (NKJV)*

**GOD CREATED:**

**Act 3 His Children – Mankind**

GOD CREATED: **Act 1** His RULE-Realm, Reign, Regency. **Act 2** Angelic Beings **Act 3** His Children – Mankind

**A. God's original intent** [b.repercussions of original sin c.Life after the flood]

**Genesis 1:26-28**

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” NKJV

2. Man's Delegated “Dominion” (**Gen. 1:26-28; 2:16-17**). In creating man, the Sovereign of the universe makes a choice to delegate to man “dominion...on the earth” (v. 28). Man's power and authority for exercising this rule originate in God's intent to make man in His own image and likeness. Man's ability to sustain his role as delegated ruler of earth will rest in his continued obedience to God's rule as King of all. His power to reign in life will extend only as far as his faithfulness to obey God's law. (See also **1 Chr. 29:10-16**.) [BEFORE JESUS D.B.R.]

Hayford, J. W. 1995. *Hayford's Bible handbook*. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville

**1 Chronicles 29:15**

For we are aliens and pilgrims before You,  
As were all our fathers;  
Our days on earth are as a shadow,  
And without hope. NKJV

**Lev. 25:23**

‘The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me.’ NKJV

**Psalms 39:12**

“Hear my prayer, O Lord,  
And give ear to my cry;  
Do not be silent at my tears;  
For I am a stranger with You,  
A sojourner, as all my fathers were. NKJV



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**Hebrews 11:13-14**

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off <sup>[a]</sup>were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. **NKJV**

**1 Peter 2:11**

Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, **NKJV**

**GOD CREATED:**

3. **Before the Fall** (Gen. 1:31). The original order of man's environment on earth must be distinguished from what it became following the impact of man's Fall, the Curse, and the eventual Deluge (**Is. 45:18; Rom. 8:20; 2 Pet. 3:4-7**). The agricultural, zoological, geological, and meteorological disharmony to which creation became subject must not be attributed to God. The perfect will of God, as founding King of creation, is *not* manifest in the presence of death, disease, discord, and disaster any more than it is manifest in human sin. Our present world does not reflect the kingdom order He originally intended for man's enjoyment on earth, nor does it reflect God's kingdom as it shall ultimately be experienced on this planet. Understanding this, we should be cautious not to attribute to "God's will" or to "acts of God" those characteristics of our world that resulted from the ruin of God's original order by reason of man's Fall. **Hayford, J. W. 1995. Hayford's Bible handbook. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville**

**Isaiah 45:18**

For thus says the Lord,  
Who created the heavens,  
Who is God,  
Who formed the earth and made it,  
Who has established it,  
Who did not create it <sup>[a]</sup>in vain,  
Who formed it to be inhabited:  
"I *am* the Lord, and *there is* no other.

**Romans 8:20**

For <sup>[a]</sup>the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope;

[Genesis 3:17-19 NKJV](#)

Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the...

**Romans 8:18-28 Our suffering and our hope**

*<sup>18</sup> I believe that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. <sup>20</sup> Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it—but in the hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. <sup>23</sup> And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free. <sup>24</sup> We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see?<sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. <sup>27</sup> The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will. <sup>28</sup> We know that God works all*



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*things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to His purpose.*  
**CEB**

**2 Peter 3:4-7**

<sup>4</sup> and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of <sup>(A)</sup>creation." <sup>5</sup> For this they willfully forget: that <sup>(B)</sup>by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth <sup>(C)</sup>standing out of water and in the water, <sup>6</sup> <sup>(D)</sup>by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. <sup>7</sup> But <sup>(E)</sup>the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for <sup>(F)</sup>fire until the day of judgment and <sup>(G)</sup>perdition of ungodly men. **NKJV**

<sup>4</sup> and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? After all, nothing has changed—not since the beginning of creation, nor even since the ancestors died."

<sup>5</sup> But they fail to notice that, by God's word, heaven and earth were formed long ago out of water and by means of water.<sup>6</sup> And it was through these that the world of that time was flooded and destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But by the same word, heaven and earth are now held in reserve for fire, kept for the Judgment Day and destruction of ungodly people. **CEB**

## **B. Repercussions of Original Sin**

4. Impact of the Fall (Gen. 3:16-24). Through disobedience to the terms of his rule, man "falls," thus experiencing the loss of his "dominion" (vv. 22-23). Everything of his delegated realm (earth) comes under a curse as his relationship with God, the fountainhead of his power to rule, is severed (vv. 17-18). Thus man loses the "life" power essential to ruling in God's kingdom (vv. 19, 22). Beyond the tragedy of man's loss, two other facts unfold. First, through his disobedience to God and submission to the Serpent's suggestions, man's rule has been forfeited to the Serpent. Revelation 12:9 verifies that the spirit employing the snake's form was Satan himself. The domain originally delegated to man now falls to Satan, who becomes administrator of this now-cursed realm. The Serpent's "seed" and "head" indicate a continual line (seed) of evil offspring extending Satan's rule (head) (v. 15). However, a second fact offers hope. Amid the tragedy of this sequence of events, God begins to move redemptively, and a plan for recovering man's lost estate is promised (v. 15) and set in motion with the first sacrifice (v. 21). *Hayford, J. W. 1995. Hayford's Bible handbook. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville*

## **C. Life After the Flood**

5. After the Flood (Gen. 8:20-9:17). Following the Deluge, a renewed order is established. Noah's faith, which occasioned his deliverance, is now manifest in an expression of worship to God as he disembarks from the ark (8:20-22). God declares His covenant with Noah (9:8-17) after restating His purpose to make man to be fruitful and multiply, as at the beginning. However, other factors are not as at the beginning; notably the relationship of God with man, as well as of man with creation. The Flood has not reversed the loss of man's original dominion. He is still fallen, though thankfully a recipient of God's mercy. Further, the animals will fear mankind from this time on (9:2), which was not characteristic of their relationship prior to this. In the ultimate restoration of God's kingdom on earth, the original fearless order will be regained (Is. 11:6-9). Notwithstanding these deficiencies, a cleansed realm for seeking God's kingdom first is newly available to man, and again God asserts man's responsibility for administrating

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earth with an accountability to Him (9:1-7). The Flood has not neutralized the influence of the Serpent, nor has it changed mankind's capacity for rebellion against God's rule. Nevertheless, new hope dawns with promise for the eventual recovery of what was lost of his first estate.  
Hayford, J. W. 1995. *Hayford's Bible handbook*. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville

**Upcoming Concepts to Define & Make Life Application:**

**Armor of God – TO STAND**

**God's Word** – Foundation upon which we STAND tenaciously in front of our feelings or traditions or fear or ....

**Proactive Warfare**

**Process of Temptation**

**Prayer – As our weapon**

**CLOSING: We take on the form of whom we worship.**

**Matthew 28:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.** <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

**NOTES:**

**OUR KINGDOM**

**Consider The Kingdom**  
*Week :5 The Kingdom Triad: Your Kingdom*

This series we will look at:

Week #1: The Definition

Week #2: Stages of the Kingdom

Week #3: Examining The Parables

Praxis' of the Kingdom (established practices, applicable skills) via scripture

Week 4: Principles For Kingdom Living

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Three Kingdoms: The Enemies/Yours/God's  
Proactive warfare

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RECAP:

Dissecting a parable:

- Understand what a parable is and why Christ used them.  
A parable is a lesson from daily life that teaches a spiritual truth.  
Jesus often told parables to provide an understanding of life, especially life in God's kingdom.  
Thirty-five percent of all gospel teaching is written in parables = Effective teaching method.
  
- Ask: Does this truth require belief/thoughts captive only or is there an immediate action (Praxis: belief induced action) that goes with it?

Jesus used parables to teach about God's Kingdom.  
42 stories told by Christ to illustrate a truth.  
Additional 33 brief sayings and metaphors.  
Christ, himself, identified certain stories w/the Kingdom and the gospels identify these as parables.

**Principles for Kingdom Living**

Ask: Does this apply for this age or the age to come?

This age: *What does this require of me today?*

1. *Thought life only...understanding that shapes my beliefs.*
  2. *Thought life & Praxis*
- 

**The Kingdom Triad**  
Prequel Article© Pastor Orleen Haseltine, 2008

Have you ever wondered why you get an Aha! moment?  
When what you need to do, all of a sudden, is so crystal clear in your mind.  
Or you actually see a picture in your mind's eye that explains an event?  
Or you feel an overwhelming sense of comfort in the time of need?

We experience these activities because we are eternal spiritual beings having a temporary physical experience.

There are times when the spiritual sticks its head a little further out and we can actually notice its existence.  
It touches us.  
As Christians, when our spiritual selves interact with His Spirit, called the Holy Spirit, we find answers, peace, companionship.  
But there are other spiritual influences around us.  
They also seek to interact with us, affect us, scare us.

We live in a spiritual world.

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This world can be divided into three kingdoms, a triad:

1. Your kingdom, which was given at creation.
2. The Enemy's kingdom, which has boundaries and is temporal but exists on this present earth.
3. God's kingdom, which He has bequeathed to Jesus Christ.

*It is essential that we know the rules of these kingdoms so we know how to navigate within them.*

**Consider The Kingdom: *The Kingdom Triad: Your Kingdom***

So HOW do we live in this world?

Your kingdom. For you to rule, to own, to fill with whatever you chose to.

Unfortunately for us, most of the time we do not see the choices we are making.

It is as if there is a veil covering our eyes.

Tonight: List the five sources of influence that wish to reign in our kingdom

Explain the power of yield

Discuss the power of pursued principles

**KEEP HERE OR PUT SOMEWHERE ELSE?**

*Do you know Your Heavenly Father is constantly looking throughout the earth to see whose committed heart needs strengthening? 2 Chron. 16:9*

*"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him."*

INTRO: (LARGE BOX, NICELY WRAPPED. SCRIPTURE VERSE INSIDE.)

You've been given a kingdom at creation...Your Kingdom.

A gift of love that came wrapped up in a box of free will.

Genesis 2:8-9

"Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground –trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food in the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil."

15-17

"The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.'"

CHOICE

Free Will

To Chose

Who to listen to

*Because who we listen to is who we trust*

*Who we trust is who we really love*

John 14:15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command."

We are ETERNAL Spiritual Beings having this PRESENT physical experience

Given control of our own kingdom

We get to choose who we listen to...

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I. FIVE Sources of Influence

- God/Christ Colossians 1:15-20

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

- The Enemy USE? Genesis 3:1-13

(Revelation 12:7-9 “And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down, that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.”) ( Also in Isaiah 14:12-15)

- 1 John 5: 19

“We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.”

- 2 Corinthians 11: 14

“And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness.”

- John 12:31 (Jesus speaking with the Greeks)

“Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.”

- 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 of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

- Evil People Proverbs 21: 10

“The wicked man craves evil; his neighbor gets no mercy from him.”

- Life Matthew 5:45

“He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

- Own Choices Joshua 24:15

“But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

James 1:22

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

These are the influences

ASK: So HOW do they influence us???

By singing to us.

Singing to us to follow them...to give way to them

To YIELD to them

They want your Kingdom

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O'S NOTES: SUFFERING CHRIST

#2. **SILENCE in Suffering:** [When SILENCE unveils as **Suffering**] 12/11-12/17

- **Due to Life:** **Matthew 5:45b**

*He makes the sun rise on both the evil and the good and sends rain on both the righteous and the unrighteous. CEB*

- **Due to the Free Will of Others:** (Samaritan) **Luke 10:30-37**

<sup>30</sup> Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among <sup>□</sup>thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. <sup>34</sup> So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> On the next day, <sup>□</sup>when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' <sup>36</sup> So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" <sup>37</sup> And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." NKJV

- **Due to the Fallen World:** (Job) HCSB

**Job 35 CEB**

*Elihu continued:*

<sup>2</sup> Do you think it right?

You say, "I'm more just than God."

<sup>3</sup> Yet you ask, "What does it benefit you?

What have I gained by avoiding sin?"

<sup>4</sup> I'll answer you,

and your friends along with you.

<sup>5</sup> Look at the heavens and see;

scan the clouds high over you.

<sup>6</sup> If you've sinned, how have you affected God?

Your offenses have multiplied;

what have you done to him?

<sup>7</sup> If you are righteous,

what do you give to him?

Or what does he receive from your hand?

<sup>8</sup> Your evil affects others like you,

and your righteousness affects fellow human

beings.

<sup>9</sup> People cry out because of heavy oppression;

shout under the power of the mighty.

<sup>10</sup> But no one says, "Where is God my maker;

who gives songs in the night;

<sup>11</sup> who teaches us more than the beasts of the earth,

makes us wiser than the birds in the sky?"

<sup>12</sup> Then they cry out; but he doesn't answer,

because of the pride of the wicked.

<sup>13</sup> God certainly doesn't respond to a deceitful cry;

the Almighty doesn't pay attention to it.

<sup>14</sup> **Although you say that you don't see him,**

**the case is before him;**

**so wait anxiously for him.**

<sup>15</sup> Even though his anger is now held back,

a person doesn't know it's only delayed.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>16</sup> So Job mouths emptiness;

he piles up ignorant words.

**Job 36**

*Continuing, Elihu said,*

<sup>2</sup> Wait a little while so I can demonstrate for you that there is still something more to say about God.

<sup>3</sup> I will draw from my broad knowledge, attribute justice to my maker.

<sup>4</sup> My words are certainly truthful; one with total knowledge is present with you.

**Divine discipline**

<sup>5</sup> Look, God is mighty and doesn't reject anyone; he is mighty in strength and mind.

<sup>6</sup> He doesn't let the wicked live, but grants justice to the poor.

<sup>7</sup> He doesn't avert his eyes from the righteous; he seats kings on thrones forever, and they are lifted up.

<sup>8</sup> If they are tied with ropes, caught in cords of affliction,

<sup>9</sup> he informs them about their offenses and their grave sins.

<sup>10</sup> He opens their ears with discipline and commands them to turn from wrong.

<sup>11</sup> If they listen and serve, they spend their days in plenty, their years contentedly.

<sup>12</sup> But if they don't listen, they perish by the sword, breathe their last without understanding.

<sup>13</sup> Those with impious hearts become furious; they don't cry out even though he binds them.

<sup>14</sup> They die young;

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<p><i>they are among the holy ones.</i></p> <p><sup>15</sup> <i>He saves the weak in their affliction, opens their ears through oppression.</i></p> <p><sup>16</sup> <i>Surely he draws you up from the brink of trouble to a wide place without distress; your table is set with rich food.</i></p> <p><sup>17</sup> <i>You are overly concerned about the case of the wicked; justice will be upheld in it.</i></p> <p><sup>18</sup> <i>Don’t let them lure you with wealth; don’t let a huge bribe mislead you.</i></p> <p><sup>19</sup> <i>Will he arrange your rescue from distress or from all your exertions of strength?</i></p> <p><sup>20</sup> <i>Don’t wish for the night when people vanish from their place.</i></p> <p><sup>21</sup> <i>Take care; don’t turn to evil because you’ve chosen it over affliction.</i></p> <p><sup>22</sup> <i>Look, God is inaccessible due to his power; who is a teacher like him?</i></p> <p><sup>23</sup> <i>Who has repaid him for his action, and who would ever say, “You’ve done wrong”?</i></p> <p><sup>24</sup> <i>Remember to praise his work that all of us have seen.</i></p>	<p><sup>25</sup> <i>Every person has seen him; people can observe at great distance.</i></p> <p><b>God’s control of the storm</b></p> <p><sup>26</sup> <i>Look, God is exalted and unknowable; the number of his years is beyond counting.</i></p> <p><sup>27</sup> <i>He draws up drops of water that distill rain from his flood;</i></p> <p><sup>28</sup> <i>the clouds pour moisture and drip continually on humans.</i></p> <p><sup>29</sup> <i>Even if one perceives a spreading cloud and the thunder of his pavilion,<sup>[a]</sup></i></p> <p><sup>30</sup> <i>look how he spreads lightning across it and covers the seabed;</i></p> <p><sup>31</sup> <i>for by water<sup>[b]</sup> he judges peoples and gives food in abundance.</i></p> <p><sup>32</sup> <i>He conceals lightning in his palms and orders it to its target.</i></p> <p><sup>33</sup> <i>His thunder announces it; even cattle proclaim its rising</i></p>
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**Elihu – Godly speaker. Speaking on behalf of God.**  
**36:1–37:24** In the fourth and final part of his speech (36:1–37:24), Elihu speaks on God’s behalf, defending God’s disciplinary ways and extolling His greatness. After a brief introduction where he claims to be speaking on behalf of God (vv. 2–4), he discusses suffering as God’s discipline and the restoration that comes with repentance (vv. 5–15). He then applies this to Job, encouraging him to repent and not sin (vv. 16–21). Elihu then extols God’s greatness (36:22–37:13). He again addresses Job directly, encouraging him to consider God’s greatness as he makes his complaint (37:14–20). He closes with another description of God’s majestic splendor (37:21–24).<sup>1</sup>

**36:24–37:13** Elihu reminds Job to extol God’s work by praising God himself. He emphasizes God’s supremacy over humanity, and marvels at God’s greatness as seen in a storm. By proclaiming God’s greatness, Elihu hopes to show Job that he is wrong to contend with a God so much greater than humanity (33:12). Job, however, has acknowledged God’s power (26:2–14). This speech anticipates God’s speeches, where He proclaims His supremacy over all creation (38:2–40:2; 40:7–41:34).<sup>2</sup>

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Due to God’s Objectives/Directives:</b></li> </ul>   |
| <p>i.e. Consider the Man Born Blind - For <b>GOD to be GLORIFIED</b> <b>John 9:1-3(4-5)</b><br/> <i>Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”</i></p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Due to My own Sinful Choices:</b> Not only am I responsible for my own sin but I am also powerless to stop sinning.</li> </ul>   |

This TRUTH magnifies my need of a Savior.

<sup>1</sup> Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., Whitehead, M. M., Grigoni, M. R., & Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible* (Job 36:1–37:24). Lexham Press.  
<sup>2</sup> Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., Whitehead, M. M., Grigoni, M. R., & Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible* (Job 36:24–26). Lexham Press.



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**Romans 7:1-6 Freedom from the Law**

7 Brothers and sisters, I'm talking to you as people who know the Law. Don't you know that the Law has power over someone only as long as he or she lives? 2 A married woman is united with her husband under the Law while he is alive. But if her husband dies, she is released from the Law concerning her husband. 3 So then, if she lives with another man while her husband is alive, she's committing adultery. But if her husband dies, she's free from the Law, so she won't be committing adultery if she marries someone else. 4 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you also died with respect to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you could be united with someone else. You are united with the one who was raised from the dead so that we can bear fruit for God. 5 **When we were self-centered, the sinful passions aroused through the Law were at work in all the parts of our body, so that we bore fruit for death.** 6 But now we have been released from the Law. We have died with respect to the thing that controlled us, so that we can be slaves in the new life under the Spirit, not in the old life under the written Law.

**Romans 7:18-19**

I know that good doesn't live in me—that is, in my body. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. 19 I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do. CEB

- **Due to Lack of Faith: Luke 1:20 CEB**

Know this: What I have spoken will come true at the proper time. But because you didn't believe, you will remain silent, unable to speak until the day when these things happen."

[focus of an entire week]

- **Due to answering God's call**

**Jesus' Suffering in Silence: Isaiah 53 (Acts 8:31-33) HCSB**

Who has believed what we have heard?<sup>[a]</sup>  
 And who has the arm of the Lord<sup>[A]</sup> been revealed to?<sup>[B]</sup>  
 2 He grew up before Him like a young plant<sup>[C]</sup>  
 and like a root out of dry ground.  
 He didn't have an impressive form  
 or majesty that we should look at Him,  
 no appearance that we should desire Him.<sup>[D]</sup>  
 3 He was despised and rejected by men,<sup>[E]</sup>  
 a man of suffering who knew what sickness was.<sup>[F]</sup>  
 He was like someone people turned away from;<sup>[G]</sup>  
 He was despised, and we didn't value Him.  
 4 Yet He Himself bore our sicknesses,  
 and He carried our pains;<sup>[G]</sup>  
 but we in turn regarded Him stricken,  
 struck down by God,<sup>[H]</sup> and afflicted.  
 5 But He was pierced because of our transgressions,<sup>[I]</sup>  
 crushed because of our iniquities;<sup>[J]</sup>  
 punishment<sup>[K]</sup> for our peace was on Him,  
 and we are healed by His wounds.<sup>[L]</sup>  
 6 We all went astray like sheep;<sup>[M]</sup>  
 we all have turned to our own way;  
 and the Lord has punished Him  
 for<sup>[N]</sup> the iniquity<sup>[O]</sup> of us all.<sup>[O]</sup>  
 7 He was oppressed and afflicted,  
 yet He did not open His mouth.  
 Like a lamb led to the slaughter  
 and like a sheep silent before her shearers,

He did not open His mouth.<sup>[P]</sup>  
 8 He was taken away because of oppression and judgment;  
 and who considered His fate?<sup>[Q]</sup>  
 For He was cut off from the land of the living; He was struck because of my people's rebellion.  
 9 They<sup>[R]</sup> made His grave with the wicked  
 and with a rich man at His death,<sup>[S]</sup>  
 although He had done no violence  
 and had not spoken deceitfully.<sup>[R]</sup>  
 10 Yet the Lord was pleased<sup>[S]</sup> to crush Him  
 severely.<sup>[T]</sup>  
 When<sup>[U]</sup> You make Him a restitution offering,<sup>[U]</sup>  
 He will see His seed, He will prolong His days,  
 and by His hand, the Lord's pleasure will be accomplished.<sup>[V]</sup>  
 11 He will see it<sup>[U]</sup> out of His anguish,  
 and He will be satisfied with His knowledge.  
 My righteous<sup>[W]</sup> Servant<sup>[X]</sup> will justify many,<sup>[Y]</sup>  
 and He will carry their iniquities.  
 12 Therefore I will give Him<sup>[U]</sup> the many as a portion,  
 and He will receive<sup>[U]</sup> the mighty as spoil,  
 because He submitted Himself to death,<sup>[Z]</sup>  
 and was counted among the rebels;<sup>[AA]</sup>  
 yet He bore the sin of many<sup>[AB]</sup>  
 and interceded for the rebels.<sup>[AC]</sup>

Footnotes

- a. [Isaiah 53:1](#) Or believed our report
- b. [Isaiah 53:3](#) Lit And like a hiding of faces from Him
- c. [Isaiah 53:6](#) Or has placed on Him; lit with

- d. [Isaiah 53:8](#) Or and as for His generation, who considered [Him]?
- e. [Isaiah 53:9](#) DSS; MT reads He
- f. [Isaiah 53:10](#) Or Him; He made Him sick.
- g. [Isaiah 53:10](#) Or If
- h. [Isaiah 53:11](#) DSS, LXX read see light

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| i. <a href="#">Isaiah 53:12</a> Or <i>Him with</i><br>j. <a href="#">Isaiah 53:12</a> Or <i>receive with</i> |
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**Cross references**

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| A. <a href="#">53:1</a> : <a href="#">Is 30:30</a> ; <a href="#">40:10</a> ; <a href="#">48:14</a> ; <a href="#">51:9</a> ; <a href="#">52:10</a> ; <a href="#">Lk 1:51</a> ; <a href="#">Ac 13:17</a><br>B. <a href="#">53:1</a> : <a href="#">Jn 12:38</a> ; <a href="#">Rm 10:16</a><br>C. <a href="#">53:2</a> : <a href="#">Is 11:1</a><br>D. <a href="#">53:2</a> : <a href="#">Is 52:14</a><br>E. <a href="#">53:3</a> : <a href="#">Ps 22:6</a> ; <a href="#">Is 49:7</a> ; <a href="#">Lk 18:31-33</a><br>F. <a href="#">53:3</a> : <a href="#">Mk 8:31</a> ; <a href="#">Jn 1:10-11</a> ; <a href="#">Heb 4:15</a><br>G. <a href="#">53:4</a> : <a href="#">Mt 8:17</a> ; <a href="#">1Pt 2:21</a><br>H. <a href="#">53:4</a> : <a href="#">Ps 69:26</a><br>I. <a href="#">53:5</a> : <a href="#">Is 53:8</a> ; <a href="#">Rm 4:25</a> ; <a href="#">1Co 15:3</a> ; <a href="#">Heb 9:28</a><br>J. <a href="#">53:5</a> : <a href="#">Is 1:4</a><br>K. <a href="#">53:5</a> : <a href="#">Jr 2:30</a> ; <a href="#">Zph 3:2</a> ; <a href="#">Heb 5:8</a><br>L. <a href="#">53:5-6</a> : <a href="#">1Pt 2:24-25</a><br>M. <a href="#">53:6</a> : <a href="#">Mt 18:12</a><br>N. <a href="#">53:6</a> : <a href="#">Is 13:11</a><br>O. <a href="#">53:6</a> : <a href="#">2Co 5:21</a> ; <a href="#">Col 2:14</a> |
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| P. <a href="#">53:7</a> : <a href="#">Jr 11:19</a> ; <a href="#">Mt 26:63</a> ; <a href="#">27:12-14</a> ; <a href="#">Lk 23:9</a> ; <a href="#">Jn 19:9</a> ; <a href="#">Ac 8:32-33</a> ; <a href="#">1Pt 2:23</a><br>Q. <a href="#">53:9</a> : <a href="#">Mt 27:57-60</a><br>R. <a href="#">53:9</a> : <a href="#">Heb 4:15</a> ; <a href="#">1Pt 2:22</a> ; <a href="#">1Jn 3:5</a><br>S. <a href="#">53:10</a> : <a href="#">Is 44:28</a> ; <a href="#">55:11</a><br>T. <a href="#">53:10</a> : <a href="#">Dt 29:22</a> ; <a href="#">Is 17:11</a><br>U. <a href="#">53:10</a> : <a href="#">Lv 5:1-19</a><br>V. <a href="#">53:10</a> : <a href="#">Is 46:10</a><br>W. <a href="#">53:11</a> : <a href="#">1Jn 2:1</a><br>X. <a href="#">53:11</a> : <a href="#">Is 42:1</a><br>Y. <a href="#">53:11</a> : <a href="#">Ac 13:39</a> ; <a href="#">Rm 5:18-19</a><br>Z. <a href="#">53:12</a> : <a href="#">Mt 26:42</a> ; <a href="#">Jn 10:14-18</a> ; <a href="#">Php 2:6-8</a><br>AA. <a href="#">53:12</a> : <a href="#">Lk 22:37</a><br>BB. <a href="#">53:12</a> : <a href="#">Heb 9:28</a><br>CC. <a href="#">53:12</a> : <a href="#">Lk 23:34</a> ; <a href="#">Rm 8:34</a> ; <a href="#">Heb 7:25</a> |
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<b>Matthew 26:63</b> (Mk 14:61) <i>But Jesus was silent. The high priest said, "By the living God, I demand that you tell us whether you are the Christ, God's Son." CEB</i>
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**II. Power of Yield**

- Yield = Give right-of-way.

ASK: Who holds this? (You do, given at creation.)

- To God

Ephesians 4:22-24

"You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

Hebrews 11:25 (Moses)

"He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasure of sin for a short time."

Yield statement:

I will not obsess about my old life: feeling lesser than or in old desires to engage in things that hurt Christ.

I will do things that Christ did.

I will repent when I have sinned.

I will invest in my relationship w/Christ so I can fall more in love.

I will make the choice on how to act by the illuminating light of scripture. (removing emotions from decision making.)

- To the Enemy

2 Corinthians 11:14

"And no wonder, for Satan himself **masquerades** as an angel of light."

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Yield statement:

This is not wrong.

It's really not that bad.

No one will know.

I'm only going to try it.

Why R U getting your undies in a wad, it's not that big of a deal.

- To Evil People

1. Ones you know

Galatians 5:19-21

“The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits or rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

Yield statement:

Two reactions:

They affect you w/o your choice. (e.g. drunk driver)

Or you lie to yourself:

They are not THAT bad.

2. Ones you are tricked by

2 Corinthians 11:13, 15”

“For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ... Vs 15

It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.”

- a.) Oprah

- b.) The School Administration from Jessica's story in YBR

Yield statement:

- a.) Don't be so judgmental. They would not state it on TV or put it in print if it was not real!  
(Frame Semantics) LOOK UP ARTICLE ON WORLD

- b.) Nothing. You were exploited. Abused. (FEAR)

- To Life

“Matthew 5:45b

“He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and send rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

(Life happens)

Yield statement:

“Why me, Lord? I'm a Christian.”

We are not exempt from life because we love Christ.

You do not get a special 'go directly to heavenly life' pass when you fall in love with Him.

One that we can wave above others heads.

We LIVE in the enemies territory. Don't act like you don't. (It's embarrassing...can you deal

w/sovereignty?

Which means: Do You TRUST HIM?

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- To Own Choices

Carnal man

Galatians 5: 13

“You my brothers were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love.”

Yield statement:

“Just this once.”

“It is no big deal.”

We hold the power of Yield so what are we suppose to do with it?

### III. The Power of Pursued Principles

You take on the form of whom you worship. (SCRIPTURE)

(TRAINING, SELF DISCIPLINE)

- GOD

1 Timothy 4:7-8

“Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives tales, rather train yourselves to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.”

- THE ENEMY

James 4:7

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

“Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough? Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch w/o yeast, as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread w/o yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth.”

REMINDER: 1 John 4:4 He that is in you is GREATER than he that is in the world

- EVIL PEOPLE

Oprah-type:

John 7:24

“Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.”

1 Corinthians 15:33

“Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.”

Abusive –type:

Ruins good character

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- LIFE

He holds us in the palm of his hand, REALLY?

I have questions:

Child 5 yrs of drug addiction

Lyme's

Some abuse issues towards my husband, my children

Isaiah 41:13

"For I am the LORD your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, 'Do not fear; I will help you.' "

**This is where you will answer: "Do I believe God is sovereign?"**

Do I trust Him? Or do I seek explanations of why this is happening? Do I look for whose fault it is? Do you not think someone who loves you so intimately will let you know, in that intimacy, if you have offended Him (sin)? Benefit of daily conversations w/Him.

(Haughty prov. 21:4 "Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, are sin!")

- OWN CHOICES (SELF)

Repentance

John 9:31

"We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will."

Galatians 5:16

"So I say live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature."

Hebrews 5:14

"For solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil."

Solid food eaten develops Fruit of the Spirit. (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, & self control... grows as we yield into Him.)

Solid Food = Scripture

Eaten = learn it, believe it, understand it, believe it, DO it

PRODUCES FRUIT = (LIST)

Constant use:

- 1.) Do something you do not want to do & do it regularly: Devotions, Exercise
- 2.) Deprive yourself of something pleasant: Ice Cream, Shopping
- 3.) Demand definite quotas/performance of yourself: What end result am I looking for? Goal Setting
- 4.) Do something difficult: Take a class, Teach, Make new friends, Tithe
- 5.) Do not put things off: START

Galatians 6:15 "neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation/changed life."

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**KEY to Yield: Have TRAINED themselves to distinguish good from evil.**

Tie in Session III: External Praxis (application of skill) can we expect to do here on earth?  
**We hold the power of yield in one hand, the power of pursued principles in the other:  
what are we going to do with them???**

ALTAR:

1. Repentance for purposefully yielding

Never knowing Him  
Knowing Him, and choosing to yield back on the YBR anyway

2. Do I believe God is sovereign in the face of:

W.O.KNOWLEDGE  
(abuse, addiction....

3. Have I lived the life of believing I can force God to do my bidding by “believing enough”, “saying the right words”, “reading enough scripture”, “BEING good enough!”

There will be an altar response to Session II calling for repentance for yielding our kingdom to influences that are not of God. First time conversions as well.

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Luke 6:27-31

“But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes our cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you and if anyone takes what belongs to you do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

What is the power: vs. 35b

“Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High.”

Philippians 4:8-9

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me, put it into practice.

What is the power:

And the God of peace will be with you.”

2 Peter 1:3-11

“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

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For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins. Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

2 Timothy 3:1-5  
Having a form of godliness...

Colossians 3:1-14

### III. Training

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the game goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly. I do not fight like a man beating the air. No I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”

Use: follow me as I follow Christ 1 Cor 11:1

### AUTHORITY

*Over came him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony Rev. 12:11*

*He called His twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. Matt 10:1*

*Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted and they came to him. He appointed twelve, designating them apostles, that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach...Mark 3:13-15*

*When Jesus had called the twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. Luke 9:1-2*

*The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10:17-20*



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Why did they need this authority?

Luke 10:1 The Lord appointed the 72 and sent them to every place He was about to go...

Do more than these in my name:

John 14: 8-12

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us."

<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? <sup>1</sup>He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that <sup>m</sup>I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you <sup>n</sup>I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. <sup>11</sup> Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, <sup>o</sup>or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup> <sup>p</sup>"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Little Faith Matthew 17:14-21 (not being able to use the authority because of little faith)

So how does faith grow? Romans 10:17

*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Furthermore, creatures cannot be created in God's image and likeness and, at the same time, be preprogrammed only to do God's will. Paul Schilling in his excellent book, *God and Human Anguish*, says if this had occurred

even though all participants might think they were free, *they would not actually be free*, and though superficially happy, they would be unable to make their own decisions or to grow in genuinely responsive relations to other persons. . . . They would *lack all intrinsic value*, since all would be *robots* unconsciously living out their predetermined destiny in one vast and tightly organized system. . . . This arrangement would conceive *God as the Great Hypnotist*, whose subjects would unknowingly and irresistibly carry out the commands given them during hypnosis . . . *the notion of human beings [and angels] created so that they would always choose the good is self contradictory*. If they were *really free*, there could be *no guarantee* that they would always choose rightly, while if they were so constituted as to exclude choices, they would not be free. (italics mine)<sup>4</sup>

Furthermore, freedom of choice *untested* is only theory, not reality. Therefore, both angels and mankind had to face the choice between obedience to God and disobedience.

<sup>1</sup>Murphy, E. F. 1997, c1996. *Handbook for spiritual warfare* (Pages 24-30). Thomas Nelson: Nashville

SPIRITUAL WARFARE: *THE ARMOR OF GOD*

When a woman becomes a child of God, she not only inherits God's blessings but God's enemies as well. The Lord's foremost enemy is Satan, whose purpose is to destroy His work (*John 8:44* <sup>44</sup>*You are of your father the devil, and the* <sup>8</sup>*desires of your father you want to* <sup>h</sup>*do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and* <sup>i</sup>*does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.*)

but Jesus came in order to "destroy the works of the devil" (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 the works of the devil.*"

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Satan is a fallen angel (Is. 14:12–15)

*“How<sup>l</sup> you are fallen from heaven, O<sup>4</sup> Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! <sup>13</sup> For you have said in your heart: <sup>m</sup>“I will ascend into heaven, <sup>n</sup>“I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the <sup>o</sup>mount of the congregation <sup>p</sup>On the farthest sides of the north; <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, <sup>q</sup>“I will be like the Most High.” <sup>15</sup> Yet you <sup>r</sup>shall be brought down to Sheol, To the <sup>5</sup>lowest depths of the Pit.)*

and as such is only a created being. He is in no way equal to God, the Creator. While Satan is superior in intellect and strength to mankind, he is inferior to God in every way. Believers have the power of the indwelling resurrected Christ over them and protecting them (1 John 4:4). <sup>4</sup>“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than <sup>d</sup>he who is in the world”

In addition, believers have been given the whole armor of God “to stand against the wiles of the devil” (Eph. 6:11). Each piece of the armor is to be “**put on**” to help believers overcome the temptations and attacks of the Evil One.

<sup>10</sup> Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. <sup>11</sup> <sup>1</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the <sup>2</sup>wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against <sup>m</sup>principalities, against powers, against <sup>n</sup>the rulers of <sup>3</sup>the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> <sup>o</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand <sup>p</sup>in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, <sup>q</sup>having girded your waist with truth, <sup>r</sup>having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> <sup>s</sup>and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> above all, taking <sup>t</sup>the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. <sup>17</sup> And <sup>u</sup>take the helmet of salvation, and <sup>v</sup>the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; <sup>18</sup> <sup>w</sup>praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, <sup>x</sup>being watchful to this end with all perseverance and <sup>y</sup>supplication for all the saints— <sup>19</sup> and for me, that utterance may be given to me, <sup>z</sup>that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which <sup>a</sup>I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

1) **Having Girded Your Waist With Truth** (Eph. 6:14): The waist or abdomen area was generally thought to be the seat of emotions. To gird this area with truth is to commit your emotions to believe the truth. Often a person knowingly allows herself to believe a lie because of fear or self-pity. Believers must hold a commitment to truth regardless of the repercussions (John 8:32, 36).

2) **Having Put On the Breastplate of Righteousness** (Eph. 6:14): The breast is generally thought of as the place of the soul. The heart must be kept pure and righteous because sin gives a foothold to the enemy. Confession and forgiveness on the basis of the blood of Christ cleanse the heart (1 John 1:9).

3) **Having Shod Your Feet With the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace** (Eph. 6:15): Proper shoes enable the feet to go from place to place. The believer is to be about her Father's business, which is to **spread the gospel of peace and reconciliation**. An undaunted sense of this mission keeps the believer headed in the right direction (Matt. 28:19, 20).

4) **Taking the Shield of Faith** (Eph. 6:16): The Wicked One is “the accuser of our brethren” (Rev. 12:10) and will send his fiery darts to instill doubt, fear, and guilt. Faith acts as an invisible shield that deflects such false accusations (Heb. 11:6).

5) **Take the Helmet of Salvation** (Eph. 6:17): A helmet protects the head, that is, the brain and thoughts. Assurance of salvation is a mighty defense against doubt and insecurity and the kinds of works bred by them (1 John 5:11–13).

6) **Take the Sword of the Spirit** (Eph. 6:17): The **Word of God**, the only offensive weapon in this armor, was used by the Lord Jesus against Satan (Luke 4:1–13). The living Word is powerful, effective, and instructive (Heb. 4:12; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

7) **Praying Always** (Eph. 6:18): Prayer opens the channels between us and God. In the midst of battle, we as believers must keep in constant communication with our Leader for directions and encouragement. Our prayers for one another are important and effectual (James 5:16).

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Ps 91:11-12

- 11 For he orders his angels  
to protect you wherever you go.  
12 They will hold you with their hands  
to keep you from striking your foot on a stone.

<sup>3</sup>

1 cor 15:33-34

“do not be misled: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’ Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning ; for there are some who are ignorant of God – I say this to your shame.”

Hebrews 10:26-30

Dreadful thing to fall into the hand of the living God.

Proverbs 13:20

“He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.”

2 Timothy 2:20-26

“In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord our of a pure heart. Don't; have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their sense and escape from the trap of the devil who has taken them captive to do his will.”

1 peter 3:

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<sup>3</sup>*Holy Bible : New Living Translation.* 1997 (Ps 91:10-12). Tyndale House: Wheaton, Ill.

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<sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered<sup>d</sup> for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you<sup>e</sup> to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit,

Prov 11:16a  
"A kindhearted woman gains respect..."

FRUIT:

- a.) Love (agape) : **1 COR. 13** It grows thru feeding it patience, kindness, seeks truth, protects, trusts, hopes, preservers...sans the envy, boasting, rudeness, self-centeredness, quick temper, record-of-wrong keeping. 1 Cor. 13:4-7
- b.) Joy (chara.khar-ah'): **JESUS BAROMETER** These grow thru spending time in Christ's presence. Joy is our barometer, the measure of time spent with Christ.
- c.) Peace (i.ray.nay) **SET AS ONE AGAIN** is the application of joy to our lives circumstances. Philippians 4:4-7 "Rejoice...And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your heart and your minds in Christ Jesus."

The above three SHOW UP in our spiritual relationship (w/Christ)

- d.) Patience (makrothumia) **ENDURANCE** (patience + endurance = perserverance)  
Babystepping, keep facing the direction of Jesus Christ. Active waiting. Philippians 3:12-14
- e.) Kindness (chrestotes.khary-stot'-ace) **KINDNESS DOES** usefulness, moral excellence in character and demeanor  
Kindness is shown and developed as we spend time w/others. Kindness is in the dna of forgiveness.  
le. David and Mephiboseth 2 Samuel 9:1-13
- f.) Goodness (agathosune.ag-ath-o-soo'-nay) To **GENEROUSLY BENEFIT OTHERS**: Physically, Emotionally, Spiritually w/o thinking of what it will cost you in \$, reputation, or time.  
Virtuous, Generous, Beneficial  
What do we do for Goodness to grow? Focus on His goodness to us and pass it on. Psalm 103.
- g.) Faithfulness [emunah /em-oo-naw/] **STABLE**, Stick-to-it-ness  
What do we do for Faithfulness to grow? Just Keep Doing It...
- h.) Gentleness (prautes) **FAIR MERCY HUMANE (Humanitarian acts)**

1932 ἐπιεικεία [epieikeia /ep-ee-i-ki-ah/] translates as "clemency" once, and "gentleness" once. 1 mildness, gentleness, fairness.

The Art Of Ego Displacement...(Process, can look like weakness to the world)

- i.) Self-control (egkrateia.eng-krat'-i-ah) temperance, from: strong in a thing, masterful  
**SELF MASTERY: What you grant access to**

**restraint**: the ability to control your own behavior, especially in terms of reactions and impulses

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Pro Active Warfare

Controls the whole fruit tree.

Book end w/Love which is the motivator of the Fruit (stimulates)

Self control directs that stimulation, motivation it gives it boundaries

An amazing set up

## ENEMIES KINGDOM

### Consider The Kingdom

*Week 6: The Kingdom Triad...The Enemy's Kingdom*

Prayer Emphasis: Praying Scripture

This series we will look at:

Week #1: The Definition

Week #2: Stages of the Kingdom

Week #3: Examining The Parables

Praxis' of the Kingdom (established practices, applicable skills) via scripture

Week 4: Principles For Kingdom Living

Week 5: The Kingdom Triad...Your Kingdom

Three Kingdoms: The Enemies/Yours/God's

Proactive warfare

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RECAP:

There are three Spiritual Kingdoms here on earth:

4. OUR'S: Which we were given at creation (Shown by the gift of freewill)
5. THE ENEMY'S: Which God allows for a short time
6. GOD'S: In which He placed Christ as King

---

?Show the Yellow Brick Road portion?

Follow the yellow brick road      Dorothy states quietly

Follow the yellow brick road      Dorothy asks quietly

(Sing: Munchkin Song              6X, 3 second pause between each)

Follow the yellow brick road      (up inflection, male)

Follow the yellow brick road      (frog voice, male)

Follow the yellow brick road      (high squeaky, female)

Follow the yellow brick road      (quicker, male)

Follow the yellow brick road      (all, in time w/music)

Follow the yellow brick road      (all, in time w/music)

Follow the, follow the, follow the, follow the, follow the yellow brick road

(Music: dunt, da-dunt, da-dunt,, da-dunt, da-dunt, da, da, da, da, da, dunt...)

Follow the yellow brick, follow the yellow brick, follow the yellow brick road

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(fiddle, bum, bum, bum, bum, bum.bum.bum.....)

You're off to see the wizard  
The wonderful Wizard of Oz  
Who kindly is  
The wizard of wiz  
If ever the wiz there was

If ever there ever a wiz there was  
The Wizard of Oz is one because  
Because, because, because, because, because,  
Because of the wonderful things he does  
You're off to see the wizard, the wonderful Wizard of Oz

What would we, as good Tians, be doing on that road? hanging out there?

Simple:

We are like the Scarecrow:	Searching for a brain...searching for what makes us smart (intelligence)
We are like the Tin Man:	Searching for a heart...searching for real love
We are like the Lion:	Searching for courage...searching for what makes us brave.
We are like Dorothy:	Tired of this journey and searching for Family & home.

We keep hearing the munchkins all around us chanting:  
Follow the Yellow Brick Road  
Follow the Yellow Brick Road

This will bring you wisdom  
This will bring you love  
This will make you brave  
This is the way to go home

But...And it is a big but

We end up finding disillusionment  
We end up finding a fake  
We end up finding a little man: Pulling levers & Flashing Lights

No wisdom  
No love  
No courage  
No home

How, as Christians led by the HS, did we end up on this road?  
Did we miss the warning signs?  
Did we not see the stop signs?  
Did we backslide?

**We need to realize:**

- We have an enemy
- He hates us
- We are living in his world

**CTK: *The Kingdom Triad...The Enemy's Kingdom***

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Mention the Kingdom Chart

**I. We Have An Enemy**

You mean he's real?

Not just the opposite balance of good in us, but a literal real entity?

Remind you: Spiritual being having a physical experience

My litmus test: Child abuse (prey on our children)

Having a hard time believing this, hang with me

SATAN: (*sah-tahn*);

- An opponent, or the Opponent  
the hater; the accuser; adversary, enemy; one who resists, obstructs, and hinders whatever is good.

- Wanted to be God, was thrown down from heaven with a third of the angels. Which are now called demons, demonic spirits.

(Revelation 12:7-9 “And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angles fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down, that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angles with him.”) ( Also in Isaiah 14:12-15)

- Hell was created for them.

(Matthew 25:41...Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”)

- *Satan* comes from the verb which means “to be an opponent,” or “to withstand.”  
As a noun, *satan* can describe any “opponent” (2 Sam. 19:21-22).  
However, when the form *ha-satan* (the Adversary) occurs, the translation is usually “Satan,”  
**not his name, but his accurate description: hateful enemy**

- Since Satan is the Hater, he is all the more opposed to God, who is love.

(1 John 4:7-8

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

1 John 3:10 & 14c

“This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of god; nor is anyone who does not love his brother. 14c “Anyone who does not love remains in death.”)

- Mankind did not witness Satan's beginning, but by God's design shall see his end, one of ceaseless torment and humiliation

(Isaiah. 14:16a “Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate:”

Ezek. 28:12c-19



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“You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz, and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper; sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings. By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching all the nations who knew you are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more.”

Rev. 20:10

“And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”).

- Unbelief is a product of belong to the enemy

*John 8:42-45*

*“Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but He sent me. Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’ desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don’t you believe me? He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.”*

## **II. He Hates Us**

John 10:10a

“The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy...”

1 Peter 5:8

“Be self controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”

Luke 22:31

“And the lord said, “Simon! Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.”

- e.g. ADAM&EVE

Genesis 1 overview

Gen. 1:26

“Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over...all the earth

27

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male & female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground. Vs. 31a And God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”

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Genesis 2 details

Gen 2:15

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it and **take care** of it.

- ❖ Work: abad (aw-bad') to work, implied to serve, enslave, bond servant, compel, husbandman, keep, labor, bring to pass, servant, service, be wrought, worshipper.
- ❖ Take care: shamar (shaw-mar') to hedge about as with thorns, beware, be circumspect, **guard**, **protect**, attend to, take heed, mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, save, sure wait, watch.

Vs 16

“And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”

Created Eve, as it was not good for man to be alone

Gen 3:1-6

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden but God did say, “You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.”

Vs. 4

You will not surely die” the serpent said to the woman. (5) For God knows that when u eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Vs 6

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

ASK: Why was the enemy in the garden to begin with?

Had Adam forsaken his duties?

Is Eve daft?

How could she fall for such an illusion? \_\_\_\_\_?

The Enemy's methods:

- The encounter with the enemy

Step #1: Dons a disguise (angel of light) that the woman would find acceptable

Step #2: Outwits the inexperienced woman through confusion & distortion.

Did He really say?

Do you think that is what He really meant?

QUESTIONING God's motives.

Step #3: Satan redefines God to Eve.

He cast doubt on God's plan/order/instructions.

QUESTIONING God's character.

(A process he personally knows, he is seeking to distort her image of God.

“He would not want you to do without.” )

Step #4: He reconstructed God's directives.

(“You will not surely die! You will become....

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Step #5: He elevated the role of humanity to be like God.  
(Which was his sin = self aggrandizement)  
("You will become LIKE HIM!")

Appeals to our flesh, our human nature

1 John 2:16 (Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, pride of life)

("For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.")

!Tried same method w/Jesus: (see Matt. 4, Mark 1, and Luke 4).  
Temptation of Christ

### III. We Are Living In His World

- 1 John 5: 19

"We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one."

- 2 Corinthians 11: 14

"And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness."

- John 12:31 (Jesus speaking with the Greeks)

"Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out."

- 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 of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

### Where are you today with this information?

INVITATION:

- Wondering if this is true: Spiritual being having a physical experience

*Salvation area of altar*

- Maybe you are like Jessica. Ended up walking this yellow brick road because you were exploited.

It was imposed upon you.

Today is the end of your wondering.

Today is the end of your erroneous acceptance that it is your fault. Today is the end of that guilt & shame.

Today is the end of the protective wall built up because you felt so shafted....

Today is the day to JUMP off this road

### 1 John 4:4 He that is in you is GREATER than he that is in the world

Use in closing

Ephesians 2:1-5

"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgression—it is by grace you have been saved."

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Hebrews 4:15

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was w/o sin. So let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

**“2 Chronicles 16:9**

**“For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”**

2 Timothy 2:24-26

“Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their sense and escape from the trap of the devil who has taken them captive to do his will.”

(Job 1:7 enemy tells God he has come from 'roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it.')

Vs 11: But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has and he will curse you and die

Appeal to the flesh—“the tree was good for food”—

Appeal to the eyes -- “It was pleasant to the eyes”— psychological part of man, to his mind.

Appeal to pride -- “And a tree to be desired to make one wise”—this is an appeal to the religious side of man.

Difference is what they produce because you take on the form of whom you worship.

## HIS KINGDOM

Feeling Good

Whew

Danger of Real Christian GF...you do crazy things

Never look at red shoes the same again

Or me

Click those red heels together

There is no place like home...there is..

*Details birthed in MNBS*

## There Is No Place Like Home Understanding His Kingdom

Living in the Kingdom of God while we are here on earth is not a promised land like Oz. It is real. What eternal praxis can we expect before we live in eternity?

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If you are not going to walk down the yellow brick road, where are you going to walk? We can now strut with a new attitude in these ruby red slippers we are wearing. But what does it look like to live with this new attitude in Christ's authority? What, really, do we actually do? Through the blood and resurrection of Christ we can live here on earth applying heavenly principles. Kingdom principles. These principles are listed throughout the New Testament. Some are for today, some are for the future. In Session III, we will learn how to chart these Kingdom Principles to learn which ones are for present day application and which ones are for the future.

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### **SESSION III**

## **There Is No Place Like Home: Understanding His Kingdom**

#### OPENING:

Title misleading: very hard to understand  
Clarifying the best we can

- Things like:

Persistent prayer is valued by God.

Joy grows in the presence of JC.

Forgiveness brings freedom. (Jas 2:12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,)

You are given talents and expected to use them.

How you treat His children is how you treat Him.

Humility is highly valued.

We respond to His kingdom as individuals and held accountable as individuals.

His kingdom demands we value it the most, we must abandoned all other values in the face of this.

*Hence, the New Attitude*

- Praxis

Teach most of you a new word

How many looked it up before you got here?

## praxis

**prax·is** [práksiss]

*n (formal)*

**1. performance or application of skill:** the practical side and application of something, as opposed to its theory (such as a professional skill)

ETERNAL APPLICATION OF SKILLS

ETERNAL HABITS

**2. established practice:** an established custom or habitual practice

[Late 16th century. Via medieval Latin from Greek , where it was formed from *prattein* "to do."]

E.G.:

Not just saying: I believe in JC

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But...I believe in JC (theory), therefore, I am working/living my eternal/spiritual praxis...my eternal habits.  
(I will work on forgiving as it is a praxis I derive from my Christ relationship.)

Habit that has eternal measures.

- It is a measurable entity, thing, action as apposed to it's theory. (e.g. Prayer)
- If we do not take the kingdom principles and put them into action we are living in conjecture.

1. **guesswork:** the formation of judgments or opinions on the basis of incomplete or inconclusive information

2. **something based on guesswork:** a conclusion, judgment, or statement based on incomplete or inconclusive information

- We really do not know Christ if we do not trust what He says enough to practice it. To make it a praxis.

John 14:15

“If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

Established this weekend:

- Eternity is a given: spiritual beings having a physical experience
- We live in the enemy's territory
- Where we live it is our choice (freewill)

One more:

- Due to the resurrection, we can experience eternal praxis, eternal established practices here on earth.

POWER POINT: Ask for diagram:

Walk through the diagram  
(take the s off Revelation)

From the creation of time to the end of time, God exist  
The time continuum does not stop, pause, or hiccup.  
Time is and was and will be = eternity

but our access to it changes

OT – knew God from duty, from a distance

NT –Touch Christ, for a while

RESSURECTION – everything changed

For the first time, perfection lived here on earth (100% God, 100% Man. Proved we can do it, with His help) Saying 'I will submit to death' so He could override it's power.

Christ's spirit went into to Hades to preach the good news to OT people

Third day he came back up, grabbed His body, and hung out for 40 days or so w/believers

Ascended into heaven

First time ever, a human being died (physical reality) but His Spirit was 100% pure and active and was not bound by sin, having to stay in Hades and wait for help

First time ever, the Spirit had the power to override a physical & eternal reality.

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Changed the course of history.

**The realities of the KoG have been ushered here, into the present age!**

**I. WHAT is the Kingdom of God?**

Use: Colossians 1:13

“For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

**THE DEFINITION**

ASK: What is the KoG?

His church  
His people

ASK: When will it come?

ASK: How will it come?

- Theories:

Subjective: (Adolf von Harnack)

KoG = Inward power which enters a human soul and takes hold of it.

Apocalyptic: (Albert Schweitzer, African Missionary)

KoG = Will be inaugurated by a supernatural force when history will cease and heaven will begin.

The Church:

As the church grows, the kingdom grows and is extended into the world.

Essential to offer personal salvations.

Societal Pattern:

An ideal pattern, if followed, society will be well.

Not concerned with individual salvations or with the future, but present.

- Scriptures:

O.T.:

Isaiah 2:4

“He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.”

Isaiah 11:6-11

“The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the



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peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious. In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people.....”

N.T.:

After the imprisonment of John the Baptist, Jesus moved to Galilee (Capernum).

Matthew 4:17

“From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

5:20

“For I tell you unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

7:21

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.”

13:11

“He replied, ‘The knowledge of the secret of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.’ (This is why he speaks in parables.)

6:10

“Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Luke 22:24-30

“A dispute rose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, ‘The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

Matthew 25:31,34

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separate the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then, the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and came to visit me.”

Present:

Romans 14:17

“For the kingdom of god is not a matter of eating or drinking but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,”

Future:

Matthew 25:34

“Then, the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.”

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Realm:

Present: (Which we are now in, as Christians)

Colossians 1:13

“delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.”

Luke 17:20,21

“The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, ‘Lo, here it is!’ or ‘There’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

Future:

2 Peter 1:11

“will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Matthew 8:11

“Many will come from the east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 12:41,43

“will gather out of his kingdom all cases of sin and all evil doers...then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.”

SO...What is the KoG?

Western ideology = A realm over which a king exercises his authority.

“A state or monarchy the head which is a king; dominion; realm”

OR

The people belonging to that realm.

Webster:

**king-dom** [kɪŋdəm]

*n*

1. **monarch's territory:** a state or people ruled over by a king or queen
2. **sphere of activity:** a realm or area of activity in which a particular thing is thought to dominate
  - *the kingdom of professional tennis*
3. SCIENCE **highest classification for natural things:** any of the three groups, animal, vegetable, and mineral, into which natural organisms and objects are traditionally, as opposed to scientifically, divided

Kingdom may be:

A realm over which a sovereign exercises his authority

A people who belong to that realm

This subject can become so confusing because we do not embrace the complete definition:

The rank, quality, state, or attributes of a king; royal authority, dominion; monarchy; kingship.

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Hebrew: Malkuth  
Greek: Basileia

Both = the rank, authority, and sovereignty exercised by a king.

Secondary meanings

Primary = the authority to rule, the sovereignty of the king

Reign

Psalm 103:19

The Lord establishes his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all."

Psalm 145:11

"They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might."

Psalm 145:13

"Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endure through all generations."

Daniel 2:37

"You, oh king, are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory;"

\*Luke 19:11-27 (Parable of the ten minas (reap what you did not sow, ten minas)

"While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. He said: 'A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.' But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.' He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money in order to find out what they had gained with it. 'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.' The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.' His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.' Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow. His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in and reaping what I did not sow? Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?' Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas. 'Sir', they said, 'he already has ten!' He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away. But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them – bring them here and kill them in front of me.'"

Believe, seek, act prepares the groundwork for growth of more belief which leads to more seeking which leads to more action.

(right before the triumphal entry)

What was the noble man seeking?

A realm?

Servants? People to rule?

Authority.

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Mark 10:15

“I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

What are we receiving?

Matthew 6:33

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be to you as well.”

(what shall we eat, drink, wear)

What are we seeking?

The kingdom of God is not just heaven, a place.

Or the church, his people.

They are meaningless w/o AUTHORITY

Which has been handed down to us via JC

(find scriptures where)

?matt. 10:5-8

Matt. 28:18

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” JC

Some passages refer to the KoG as a realm, place

Some as a present reality

Some as a future reality

And it is all three

**II.** What are we to do with it?

(second h.o.)

Spend your life time learning, living, exercising in it.

LIVE scripture

Wrap up three sessions:

Closing prayer:

John 17:15-

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.

They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth, your word is truth.

As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.”

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Some promises are require future praxis.  
Some promises are immediate, present praxis.

**Live** scripture

When it tells us to forgive, we struggle and forgive

Tithe

Pray

Pray for healing & then trust

Wait on God

Sometime it takes the supernatural to do this

John 14:23

“If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”

Vs 25

“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”

Remind you of the book ends:

Love....Self Control.

Greater things than these John 14:12

1 Jn 5:12 “He who has the son has life, who has not the son has not life.”

So let's ACT like it!

Ephesians 3:10-11

His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. therefore go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matt 18:18

Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, loose...

John 20:21

Again Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you’

Luke 9:1-6 & 10:1-20

Commissioning of the 12 & 70

Luke 22:24-30

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“A dispute rose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, ‘The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.’”

Heirs Ephesians 2:19-22

“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. and in him you, too, are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.”

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While Jesus began teaching His disciples about the authority He was giving them, the victory was not fully realized until the Cross. Look up these verses on our authority in Christ: Luke 10:19; 1 Corinthians 15:24; Ephesians 1:20–22; 2:6. Where are we seated? Colossians 2:10, 13–15

### KINGDOM EXTRA

Colossians 2:13–15 tells us that Jesus Christ’s triumph over sin and evil powers was accomplished in “it”—that is, in *the Cross*. This text, joined to and studied beside others (Eph. 2:13–16; Gal. 3:13, 14; 2 Cor. 5:14–17; Rom. 5:6–15; and Rev. 12:10, 11), firmly establishes Jesus’ suffering, shed blood, sacrificial death, and resurrection triumph as the only adequate and available ground for ransom from sin, reconciliation to God, redemption from slavery, and restoration. The Cross is the sole hope and means for full reinstatement to relationship with God and rulership under Him—to “reign in life” (Rom. 5:17). To avoid presumption or imbalance regarding the message and ministry of the present power of the kingdom of God, we must focus on and regularly review two points; the source and the grounds for the delegation of such authority and power. 1) God’s sovereign authority and almighty power is the source from which mankind derives any ability to share in the exercise of God’s kingdom power. 2) But even more important, seeing sinful, fallen man had lost all claim to his early privilege of rulership under God, let us remember the *grounds* upon which all kingdom privilege or power may be restored and by which such spiritual ministry with authority may be exercised.<sup>8</sup>

4

Week 4: Principles for Kingdom Living (Kingdom Values, The Kingdom of Me)

Matthew 18:1-9	Humility
Matthew 18: 21-35	Unforgiving Servant (Forgiveness)
Matthew 20:1-16	Generous Landowner (Reward is up to God. Whether you’ve known Him 15 yrs or 1.)
Matthew 21:33-46	Possessing God’s stuff w/o treating it as His. Self centered belief.
Matthew 22: 1-14	Marriage Feast (No favorites. Invitation to Heaven given to all.)
Matthew 25: 1-13	Ten Virgins (Anticipate, Prepare, Watch)
Matthew 25:14-30	The Talents
Matthew 25: 31-46	How you treat His children is How you treat Him.
Luke 19:11-27	You are held accountable to invest, use, care for the talents He gives you/sends you

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<sup>4</sup>Hayford, J. W. 1997, c1996. *Praying in the Spirit : Heavenly resources for praise and intercession*. C1996 by Jack W. Hayford. Spirit-Filled Life Kingdom Dynamics Study Guides. Thomas Nelson: Nashville

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Extra:

Kingdom Sayings

Matthew 11:11; Luke 7:28

Matthew 11:12, Luke 16:16

Matthew 12:28; Luke 11:20

Matthew 16:19

Matthew 18: 1-4; Mark 9:36,37; 10:15; Luke 9:47,48; 18:17

Mark 1:15; Matthew 4:17

Mark 9:1; Matthew 16:28; Luke 9:27

(Matthew 13:10-17)

Insight(Matthew 13:11)

Prepare us for truth of the Kingdom (Matthew 13:12-13)

Bless those who heard them (Matt 13:16)

Parables

**I. Understand what a parable is and why Christ used them.**

What:

Parable: Story or Illustration told to make a specific point.

fable, story, moral tale, tale, folk tale, legend, allegory

(Gk. *parabole*, lit. “a placing beside”)

A parable is a lesson from daily life that teaches a spiritual truth. Jesus often told parables to provide an understanding of life, especially life in God's kingdom. Thirty-five percent of all gospel teaching is written in parables. Effective teaching method.

Jesus used parables to teach about God's Kingdom.

42 stories told by Christ to illustrate a truth.

Additional 33 brief sayings and metaphors.

Christ, himself, identified certain stories w/the Kingdom and the gospels identify these as parables.

7 of these are in Matthew 13 (Mark and Luke)

KINGDOM PARABLES

9 PRINCIPLES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING (only in Matthew)

Kingdom Values next week

So Why:

Mark 4: 10-12

<sup>10</sup> Later, when Jesus was alone with the twelve disciples and with the others who were gathered around, they asked him, “What do your stories mean?”

<sup>11</sup> He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secret about the Kingdom of God. But I am using these stories to conceal everything about it from outsiders, <sup>12</sup> so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled:

‘They see what I do,

but they don't perceive its meaning.

They hear my words,

but they don't understand.

So they will not turn from their sins

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and be forgiven.\* (Isaiah 6:9-10)

NKJ

<sup>10</sup> cBut when He was alone, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parable. <sup>11</sup> And He said to them, “To you it has been given to <sup>d</sup>know the <sup>4</sup>mystery of the kingdom of God; but to <sup>e</sup>those who are outside, all things come in parables, <sup>12</sup> so that  
<sup>f</sup>“Seeing they may see and not perceive,  
*And hearing they may hear and not understand;*  
 Lest they should turn,  
 And their *sins be forgiven them.*”

**Matthew 13:34**

<sup>34</sup> Jesus always used stories and illustrations like these when speaking to the crowds. In fact, he never spoke to them without using such parables. <sup>35</sup> This fulfilled the prophecy that said,  
 “I will speak to you in parables.  
 I will explain mysteries hidden since the creation of the world.” Psalm 78:2

Two thoughts on this:

1. Gracious = That Christ would speak in ways so those who did not want to know Him would be confused and would not be judged for failure to respond to what He taught.
2. Judicial = Their refusal to acknowledge Christ as the messiah. He preached the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-7:29) outlining the choice they needed to make.\*

**\*5:1–7:29 The Sermon on the Mount** is the first in a series of five discourses about the Christian life, both present and future. Its basic premise is that the Christian life has no neutral zones free from God. The Lord is sovereign, all-powerful, and omnipresent. Believers do not *make* Him the Sovereign or Lord of their lives; He already *is*. Whether or not they are living as His subjects does not affect His sovereignty; their obedience or lack of it simply determines what kind of kingdom subjects they are.

He did miracles.  
 John the Baptist announced Christ was the messiah.  
 Christ stated He was the messiah and, still, they doubted.  
 This is when Christ began to speak in parables. When they refused to acknowledge Him and by their choice, they went their own way.

Jesus’ parables were a teaching method designed to reveal spiritual truths in such a way that those who wanted to respond would understand and receive more (vv. 9, 12, 43). Those who chose not to respond would not completely understand, and what little understanding they did have would disappear.

**II. Dissect parables to find information about the Kingdom of God.**

(Matthew 13 – Kingdom of Heaven as the Jewish readers avoided using God’s name.)

<b>The Parable</b>	<b>Expected Form</b>	<b>Unexpected Form</b>
The Sower 13:3–9, 18–23	Messiah turns Israel and all nations to Himself.	Individuals respond differently to the Word’s invitation.
Wheat/Tares vv. 24–30, 37–43	The kingdom’s righteous citizens rule over the world with the King.	The kingdom’s citizens are among the men of the world, growing together until God’s harvest time.



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Mustard Seed vv. 31–32	Kingdom begins in majestic glory.	Kingdom begins in insignificance; its greatness comes as a surprise.
Leaven v. 33	Only righteousness enters the kingdom; other “raw material” is excluded.	The kingdom is implanted in a different “raw material” and grows to fill the whole personality with righteousness.
Hidden Treasure v. 44	Kingdom is public and for all.	Kingdom is hidden for individual “purchase.”
Priceless Pearl vv. 45, 46	Kingdom brings all valued things to men.	Kingdom demands abandonment of all values.
The Dragnet vv. 47–50	Kingdom begins with initial separation of righteous and unrighteous.	Kingdom ends with final separation of the unrighteous from righteous.

<b>WOMEN AND THE PARABLES OF JESUS</b>		
<b>Parable</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Application</b>
The lamp under a basket (Matt. 5:14–16; Mark 4:21, 22; Luke 8:16, 17).	To the disciples.	Life and words should give personal testimony to God’s redemptive and transforming grace.
The marriage (Matt. 9:15; Mark 2:19, 20; Luke 5:34, 35).	To the Pharisees and the disciples of John.	Joy will be found in Christ’s companionship.
The patched garment (Matt. 9:16; Mark 2:21; Luke 5:36).	To the Pharisees and the disciples of John.	Jesus did not come to adapt to the old order of legalism but to make all things new.
The children in the marketplace (Matt. 11:16, 17; Luke 7:31, 32).	To the multitudes concerning John the Baptist.	Those who rejected Jesus and John could not be pleased. Beware of focusing on personal whims.
The leaven (Matt. 13:33; Luke 13:20, 21).	To the multitude on the seashore.	Beware of sin that makes its way into life to corrupt and draw away from the good and true.
The pearl of great price (Matt. 13:45, 46).	To the disciples.	The relative value of the gospel exceeded all else.
The wedding garment (Matt. 22:10–14).	To the chief priests and the Pharisees.	Keep your life pure and holy.
The wise and foolish virgins (Matt. 25:1–13).	To the disciples on the Mount of Olives.	Always be prepared and watchful.

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The wedding feast (Matt. 22:2–9; Luke 14:16–23).	To the chief priests and the Pharisees.	Do not reject God’s invitation to salvation.
The lost coin** (Luke 15:8–10).	To the Pharisees and scribes.	Remember Christ’s love for sinners and His determination to draw them to Himself.
The persistent widow (Luke 18:1–8).	To the disciples.	Persevere in prayer.
**Biblical women often wore a <i>frontlet</i> (Heb. <i>semedi</i> ) on their foreheads. this adornment was made of coins (perhaps part of the woman’s dowry) and signified betrothal or marriage. The monetary value of the coins was not as important as the sentimental value and symbolism of commitment.		

Jesus gave us dominion over the demonic realm

To those who feel that we should not use the personal pronoun “I” but instead ask the Lord to silence evil spirits, my answer is simple and biblical: Nowhere in Scripture is that procedure taught nor practiced. It sounds very pious but it is erroneous.

Jesus gives us authority over the demonic realm. We do not need to ask for what is already given. That such authority is given to all God’s servants is clear in that it was not only given to the twelve apostles (Luke 9:4) but also to the seventy other disciples (Luke 10:1f). Since they were disciples of Jesus but not part of the apostolic band, they can be seen as representatives of Christians in general.<sup>10</sup>

When the seventy returned from their witnessing ministry, they were not bashful in referring to *their* authority over demons as it was evidenced in their ministry. They exclaimed, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name” (Luke 10:17).

Jesus, far from rebuking them for “arrogance,” affirmed their words. After declaring the fall of Satan that He beheld in the spirit realm, which was evidently directly connected to their ministry (v. 18), He joyfully declared, “Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents [interesting in light of Genesis 3!] and scorpions [Rev. 9:1–11], and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you” (v. 19). Their authority, *exousia*, delegated to them by Jesus Himself, was greater than the power, *dunamis*, of the enemy. They had nothing to fear (v. 19).

The only caution Jesus laid upon them was to maintain balance in their life, ministry, and priorities. While it was a cause of rejoicing to know that the enemy was subject to them (vv. 17–18), it was more important to rejoice in their relationship to God and His kingdom (v. 20).

In the only case outside of the Gospels where the Scriptures describe a one-on-one deliverance “session” from demonization (Acts 16), the apostle Paul followed the exact pattern of deliverance ministry practiced by the seventy. To the demons afflicting the slave girl of Philippi he declared, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” Luke writes, “And he came out that very hour.”

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5

The Spiritual battle from Genesis to Revelation OR  
Warfare in the Spirit from Genesis to Revelation OR???

**"I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore, be as cunning as serpents and yet as innocent as doves.**

[NCV](#)

**"I'm sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as cunning as snakes but as innocent as doves.**

[GNT](#)

**"Pay attention, now! I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as cunning as serpents and as innocent as doves.**

[PHILLIPS](#)

**"I'm sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as cunning as snakes but as innocent as doves.**

[NABRE](#)

## MATTHEW 10:16 Persecutions Predicted

"Look, I'm sending you out like sheep among **wolves**. Therefore be as shrewd as serpents and as harmless as doves. HCSB

"Look, I'm sending you as sheep among **wolves**. Therefore, be wise as snakes and innocent as doves. CEB

### **MATTHEW 10: 16**

[KJ21](#)

"Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. Be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

[ASV](#)

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<sup>5</sup>Murphy, E. F. 1997, c1996. *Handbook for spiritual warfare* (Page 36). Thomas Nelson: Nashville

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Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

[AMP](#)

“Listen carefully: I am sending you out like sheep among wolves; so be wise as serpents, and innocent as doves [have no self-serving agenda].

[AMPC](#)

Behold, I am sending you out like sheep in the midst of wolves; be wary *and* wise as serpents, and be innocent (harmless, guileless, and without falsity) as doves.

[BRG](#)

Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

[CSB](#)

“Look, I’m sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as serpents and as innocent as doves.

[CEB](#)

“Look, I’m sending you as sheep among wolves. Therefore, be wise as snakes and innocent as doves.

[CJB](#)

“Pay attention! I am sending you out like sheep among wolves, so be as prudent as snakes and as harmless as doves.

[CEV](#)

I am sending you like lambs into a pack of wolves. So be as wise as snakes and as innocent as doves.

[DARBY](#)

Behold, \*I\* send you as sheep in the midst of wolves; be therefore prudent as the serpents, and guileless as the doves.

[DLNT](#)

“Behold— I am sending you out as sheep in *the* midst *of* wolves. Therefore be shrewd as the snakes, and innocent as the doves.

[DRA](#)

Behold I send you as sheep in the midst of wolves. Be ye therefore wise as serpents and simple as doves.

[ERV](#)

“Listen! I am sending you, and you will be like sheep among wolves. So be smart like snakes. But also be like doves and don’t hurt anyone.

[EHV](#)

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

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[ESVUK](#)

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[EXB](#)

“Listen [⌊Look; ⌊Behold], I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as ·clever [wise; shrewd; cunning] as ·snakes [serpents] and as ·innocent [harmless] as doves.

[GNV](#)

⌊ Behold, I send you as sheep in the midst of the wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and innocent as doves.

[GW](#)

“Listen! I am sending you out just like sheep to a pack of wolves. You must be as cautious as snakes and as gentle as doves.

[HCSB](#)

“Look, I’m sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as serpents and as harmless as doves.

[ICB](#)

“Listen! I am sending you out, and you will be like sheep among wolves. So be as smart as snakes. But also be like doves and do nothing wrong.

[ISV](#)

“Here I am sending you out like sheep with wolves all round you; so be as wise as serpents and yet as harmless as doves. But be on your guard against men. For they will take you to the court and flog you in their synagogues. You will be brought into the presence of governors and kings **because of me**—to give your witness to them and to the heathen.

[JUB](#)

⌊ Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves; be ye therefore prudent as serpents and innocent as doves.

[KJV](#)

Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

[AKJV](#)

Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.

[LSB](#)

“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves.

[LEB](#)

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"Behold, I am sending you out like sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[TLB](#)

"I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. Be as wary as serpents and harmless as doves.

[MSG](#)

"Stay alert. This is hazardous work I'm assigning you. You're going to be like sheep running through a wolf pack, so don't call attention to yourselves. Be as shrewd as a snake, inoffensive as a dove.

[MEV](#)

"Look, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

[MOUNCE](#)

"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as · serpents and innocent as · doves.

[NOG](#)

"Behold, I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves.

[NASB](#)

"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be as wary as serpents, and as innocent as doves.

[NASB1995](#)

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves.

[NCB](#)

"Listen, I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as clever as snakes and as innocent as doves.

[NET](#)

"I am sending you out like sheep surrounded by wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[NIRV](#)

"I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as wise as snakes and as harmless as doves.

[NIV](#)

"I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

[NIVUK](#)

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'I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

[NKJV](#)

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

[NLV](#)

"I am sending you out like sheep with wolves all around you. Be wise like snakes and gentle like doves.

[NLT](#)

"Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves.

[NMB](#)

Behold, I send you forth as sheep among wolves. Be therefore wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[NRSVA](#)

'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[NRSVACE](#)

'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[NRSVCE](#)

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[NRSVUE](#)

"I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[NTFE](#)

"See here," Jesus continued, "I'm sending you out like sheep surrounded by wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes, and as innocent as doves.

[OJB](#)

Hinei! I send you as kevesim (sheep) in the midst of ze'evim; therefore, have the seichel (intelligence) of nachashim (serpents) and be tamim (faultless) as yonim (doves).

[RGT](#)

"Behold, I send you as sheep in the midst of the wolves. Therefore, be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[RSV](#)

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

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[RSVCE](#)

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[TLV](#)

"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.

[VOICE](#)

Listen: I am sending you out to be sheep among wolves. You must be as shrewd as serpents and as innocent as doves.

[WEB](#)

"Behold, I send you out as sheep among wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

[WE](#)

`I am sending you out amongst people. You will be like sheep amongst bad animals like wolves. So be wise like snakes, and harmless like doves.

[WYC](#)

Lo! I send you as sheep in the middle of wolves; therefore be ye sly as serpents, and simple as doves.

[YLT](#)

`Lo, I do send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves, be ye therefore wise as the serpents, and simple as the doves.

LUKE 10:3 Now go; I'm sending you out like lambs among **wolves**.HCSB

Go! Be warned, though, that I'm sending you out as lambs among **wolves**.CEB

ACTS 20:29 I know that after my departure savage **wolves** will come in among you, not sparing the flock.HCSB

I know that, after my departure, savage **wolves** will come in among you and won't spare the flock.CEB

MATTHEW 7:15 "Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravaging **wolves**.HCSB

"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you dressed like sheep, but inside they are vicious **wolves**.CEB



## Luke 19:11-27

### Common English Bible

#### Faithful service

<sup>11</sup> As they listened to this, Jesus told them another parable because he was near Jerusalem and they thought God's kingdom would appear right away. <sup>12</sup> He said, "A certain man who was born into royalty went to a distant land to receive his kingdom and then return. <sup>13</sup> He called together ten servants and gave each of them money worth four months' wages. <sup>14</sup> He said, 'Do business with this until I return.' <sup>14</sup> His citizens hated him, so they sent a representative after him who said, 'We don't want this man to be our king.' <sup>15</sup> After receiving his kingdom, he returned and called the servants to whom he had given the money to find out how much they had earned. <sup>16</sup> The first servant came forward and said, 'Your money has earned a return of one thousand percent.' <sup>17</sup> The king replied, 'Excellent! You are a good servant. Because you have been faithful in a small matter, you will have authority over ten cities.'

<sup>18</sup> "The second servant came and said, 'Master, your money has made a return of five hundred percent.' <sup>19</sup> To this one, the king said, 'You will have authority over five cities.'

<sup>20</sup> "Another servant came and said, 'Master, here is your money. I wrapped it up in a scarf for safekeeping. <sup>21</sup> I was afraid of you because you are a stern man. You withdraw what you haven't deposited and you harvest what you haven't planted.' <sup>22</sup> The king replied, 'I will judge you by the words of your own mouth, you worthless servant! You knew, did you, that I'm a stern man, withdrawing what I didn't deposit, and harvesting

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what I didn't plant? <sup>23</sup> Why then didn't you put my money in the bank? Then when I arrived, at least I could have gotten it back with interest.'

<sup>24</sup> "He said to his attendants, 'Take his money and give it to the one who has ten times as much.' <sup>25</sup> 'But Master,' they said, 'he already has ten times as much!' <sup>26</sup> He replied, 'I say to you that everyone who has will be given more, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>27</sup> As for my enemies who don't want me as their king, bring them here and slaughter them before me.'"

## **Luke 19:11-27**

### **New King James Version**

#### **The Parable of the Minas<sup>(A)</sup>**

<sup>11</sup> Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because <sup>Ⓜ</sup>they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately. <sup>12</sup> <sup>Ⓜ</sup>Therefore He said: "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. <sup>13</sup> So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten <sup>Ⓜ</sup>minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.' <sup>14</sup> <sup>Ⓜ</sup>But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this *man* to reign over us.'

<sup>15</sup> "And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. <sup>16</sup> Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.' <sup>17</sup> And he said to him, <sup>Ⓜ</sup>'Well *done*, good servant; because you were <sup>Ⓜ</sup>faithful in a very little, have authority

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over ten cities.' <sup>18</sup> And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.'<sup>19</sup> Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'

<sup>20</sup> "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief. <sup>21</sup> ☞For I feared you, because you are ☞an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.' <sup>22</sup> And he said to him, ☞'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, *you* wicked servant. ☞You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. <sup>23</sup> Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?'

<sup>24</sup> "And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give *it* to him who has ten minas.' <sup>25</sup> (But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.')

<sup>26</sup> 'For I say to you, ☞that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>27</sup> But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay *them* before me.' "

[Read full chapter](#)

*Footnotes*

- a. [Luke 19:13](#) Gr. *mna*, same as Heb. *minah*, each worth about three months' salary
- b. [Luke 19:21](#) *a severe*

*Cross references*

- A. [Luke 19:11](#) : [Matt. 25:14–30](#)
- B. [Luke 19:11](#) : [Acts 1:6](#)
- C. [Luke 19:12](#) : [Matt. 25:14–30](#); [Mark 13:34](#)
- D. [Luke 19:14](#) : [[John 1:11](#)]
- E. [Luke 19:17](#) : [Matt. 25:21, 23](#)
- F. [Luke 19:17](#) : [Luke 16:10](#)

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- G. [Luke 19:21](#) : [Matt. 25:24](#)
- H. [Luke 19:22](#) : [2 Sam. 1:16](#); [Job 15:6](#); [[Matt. 12:37](#)]
- I. [Luke 19:22](#) : [Matt. 25:26](#)
- J. [Luke 19:26](#) : [Matt. 13:12](#); [25:29](#); [Mark 4:25](#); [Luke 8:18](#)

## THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF DEMONS

It's clear from our brief survey of demons in the Old Testament, the Ancient Near East, and the West, that belief in evil supernatural beings was nearly universal in biblical times. In the East and the West, demons were regarded as hostile to human beings and as the cause of pain and suffering. Much of the religious energy of the people was spent in an attempt either to avoid these evil supernatural beings, or to manipulate or hold them off by magic.

The Old Testament, however, shows a marked *unconcern* with demons, except when they are associated with pagan deities and worship. As long as Israel was faithful to the Lord, God's people had nothing to fear from evil spirits.

While nearly every culture in the ancient world shared the belief that demons existed and were to be feared, there was little agreement about who or what demons were.

## SPECULATION ABOUT THE ORIGIN OF EVIL SPIRITS IN THE EAST AND THE WEST

The previous discussion of demons and evil spirits included reference to theories about the origin of demons held by the pagan peoples whom the demons plagued. The Sumerians assumed that some evil spirits were disembodied humans, others were half-human and half-divine; they also believed that another class of demons—fiends and devils—were pure supernatural beings like the gods.

In the Greek world, many people assumed that demons were the spirits of the malevolent dead, particularly the disinherited or those who met with a violent death. Those spirits, however, had clearly taken on an aspect of the divine, and there was no clear differentiation between the nature of the gods and that of the demons.

## PSEUDO-BIBLICAL THEORIES ABOUT THE ORIGIN OF DEMONS

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Jews and Christian believers have also struggled with questions about the identity of demons. Two theories have been advanced and both can be called “pseudo-biblical theories” because the Scriptural support for both theories is extremely weak.

***Demons as spirits of a pre-Adamic race.*** According to this theory, demons are the spirits of a race of mortals created by God before the creation of Adam and Eve. This theory is built on the notion that there is a gap between Genesis 1:1 (“God created the heavens and the earth”) and 1:2 (“the earth was without form, and void”).

The argument runs that God would not create a formless universe, so what verse 2 describes is the reshaping of a ruined universe rather than part of the original creation. Why would a universe fall into ruin? The cause must be sin. It follows that there must have been beings in the original creation who sinned and caused its ruin.

Thus, this theory holds that demons might be the spirits of sinners who died when the first creation was judged and ruined. Adherents of this theory point to demon possession as evidence. If demon-spirits are so eager to possess bodies, then, those spirits must have previously existed in bodies. This theory has no real biblical support, and few today would argue in its favor.

***Demons are the offspring of fallen angels and human beings (Genesis 6:1–4).*** This theory was advanced by many early church fathers and is maintained by many today. Genesis reports that after the Fall, when humanity began to multiply, “the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose” (6:2). The text then states that:

There were giants [*nephilim*] on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

Genesis 6:4

Proponents of this theory point out that “sons of God” is a phrase used at times in the Old Testament to identify angels. The “sons of God” in this text, then, are fallen angels, and those angels impregnated human women. The *nephilim*, translated “giants” here, were neither human nor spirit beings, but halfings who were destroyed in the Flood. The undying spirits of these halfings are the demons who continue to plague humanity. Proponents of this theory cite as corroborating evidence the many stories in mythology of pagan gods in human form who impregnated humans and thereby produced offspring who became the supernaturally powerful heroes of legend.

Others strongly disagree with that scenario, arguing that “sons of God” refers to believers in the line of Seth, Adam’s son (Gen. 5:3), while “sons of men” refers to the line of Cain (Gen. 4), a line which abandoned the Lord early. Thus, what the passage describes is the gradual deterioration of the race as evil influences overcame good. There is no evidence that when dark angels take on human form they are able to impregnate human women.

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Even if the phrase “sons of God” is used here with reference to fallen angels, there is no indication anywhere in the Bible that their offspring became the demons who plagued the ancient world and who are active in our world today.

## A SUBSTANTIAL SCRIPTURAL THEORY ON THE ORIGIN OF DEMONS: THEY ARE FALLEN ANGELS

**Direct evidence from Scripture.** The phrase “substantial Scriptural theory” was coined by Fred Dickason in his book, *Angels, Elect and Fallen*. The belief that the demons of Scripture and of pagan experience are fallen angels is a substantial theory because it is strongly supported by the Scriptures. Dickason’s points can be summarized briefly:

- Parallel expressions seem to identify fallen angels with demons: for example, “the devil and his angels” (Matt. 25:41); “the dragon and his angels” (Rev. 12:7); “by Beelzebub [a name of Satan], the ruler [literally, “first”] of the demons (Matt. 12:24).
- There is a similar essence of being. Angels are designated as “spirits” (Ps. 104:4; Heb. 1:14), as are demons (Matt. 8:16; Luke 10:17, 20).
- There is a similarity in activities. Demons seek to enter and control individuals (Matt. 17:14–18; Luke 11:14, 15); the angel Satan does also (Luke 22:3; John 13:2). Evil angels join Satan in warring against God and man (Rev. 9:13–15; 12:7–17), and so do demons (Mark 9:17–26; Rev. 9:1–11).

**Additional evidence from Scripture.** The Bible makes it clear that Satan is followed by a host of angels who give allegiance to him rather than to the Lord. The obscure reference to Satan in Revelation 12:3, 4—where he is pictured as a “great, fiery red dragon” drawing to earth “a third of the stars of heaven”—is taken by many to indicate that about a third of the angels God created followed Satan in his rebellion. Those angels share Satan’s attitude toward human beings and fight Satan’s battles against the Lord. The following verses indicate the relationship between Satan and the fallen angels, and thus support the belief that the fallen angels are demons.

Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, “This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler [literally, “first”] of the demons.” But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out?”

Matthew 12:24–27a

Then He will also say to those on the left hand, “Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”

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Matthew 25:41

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.

Revelation 12:7–9

**Indirect evidence from Scripture: demon nature.** Additional evidence supporting the belief that demons are fallen angels comes from New Testament passages which make it obvious that demons exhibit qualities also attributed to angels. This can be demonstrated in a single passage, which we will explore in detail in chapter 13.

- Demons, like angels, are referred to with personal pronouns. Luke 8:28 reads, “When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, ‘What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me!’ ”
- Demons, like angels, have personal names. Luke 8:30 reads, “Jesus asked him, saying, ‘What is your name?’ And he said, ‘Legion.’ ”
- Demons, like angels, can speak and can communicate with us. Luke 8:31 says, “So they [the demons] begged Him [Jesus] that He would not command them to go out into the abyss.”
- Demons, like angels, have intelligence. Luke 8:28 (quoted above) shows that demons recognized Jesus and understood the implications of confronting Him.
- Demons, like angels, have emotions. Again, Luke 8:28 depicts the demons’ fear, anxiety, and torment as a result of Christ’s presence.

Given all of the above, it seems clear that the Scriptures identify demons with the fallen angels who followed Satan and who remain committed to Satan’s agenda of resistance to the rule of God.

**An apparent contradiction.** One objection to the identification of demons as fallen angels deserves attention. Revelation 12:7–9 describes war in heaven and says that Satan and “his angels” were cast out of heaven “to the earth.” This is also expressed in Isaiah 14:12, which says of Satan, “How you are fallen from heaven.” But 2 Peter 2:4 says, “God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness to be reserved for judgment.” Jude, in support of Peter, seems to make the same point in verse 6: “And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day.”

If we take 2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6 as the definitive verses, it would seem that fallen angels are already imprisoned. Thus, fallen angels could not possibly be the demons of pagan cultures and of the Old and New Testaments.

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When attempting to resolve any supposed contradiction in Scripture, it’s important to take a rigorous approach. First, we identify the contradiction. In this case, the supposed contradiction is “the Bible equates demons with fallen angels” versus “the Bible indicates fallen angels are currently held in chains.”

Second, we establish which position is *most likely* to be correct, based on a preponderance of biblical evidence. In this case, the preponderance of evidence indicates that demons are to be identified as Satan’s fallen angels.

Third, we examine the contradiction to see how it can be resolved while *maintaining the integrity of Scripture*. It is never acceptable to those with a high view of Scripture’s inspiration and reliability to dismiss contradictory evidence as “a mistake” or “an error in the Bible.” In this case, there is a relatively simple way to resolve the supposed contradiction. Note that neither Peter nor Jude require us to believe that *all* fallen angels are currently chained; on the other hand, both Peter and Jude clearly require us to believe that at least some fallen angels are currently imprisoned. At this point, we ask if there is any independent evidence for the idea that some, but not all, fallen angels or demons are “in chains of darkness.”

When we research this issue, we discover that the theory that demons are fallen angels is actually *strengthened* by the passages in Peter and Jude! Revelation 9:1–11 describes a release of locust-like demons from a “bottomless pit” to torment human beings. The passage concludes: “And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon” (Rev. 9:11). Apparently, some demons and angels alike are *temporarily chained*, or rather “reserved in everlasting chains” (Jude 6). This fits with the passage in Luke we looked at above, for the legion of demons possessing the man Jesus was about to heal begged Him not to “command them to go out into the abyss” (Luke 8:31). We can compare this with Revelation 20:1–3, where we read of an angel who throws Satan into “the bottomless pit” and binds him “for a thousand years.” Later the same chapter in Revelation describes Satan’s release after the thousand years are past.

Clearly, Scripture does describe at least one place of temporary imprisonment from which the demons of Revelation 9 and Satan, a fallen angel, are released. So a place of temporary imprisonment where active demons and fallen angels are both confined is mentioned in Scripture.

There is much we don’t know about this issue. We are not told when fallen angels were or will be chained until judgment day. The time frame simply is not mentioned in the relevant passages. We’re not told when the temporarily imprisoned angel and demons were or will be released. Also, references relating these events to each other are often lacking. Yet, the fact that both fallen angels and demons are mentioned in the context of confinement *supports* the identification of demons with fallen angels; and the fact that some demons begged Jesus not to confine them supports the conviction that not *all* fallen angels or demons are confined today. Given these facts, we can confidently say that 2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6 *do not* teach that *all* fallen angels are currently in chains. Since all fallen angels are not in chains, no contradiction exists between these passages and the belief that demons are fallen angels.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Richards, L. (1997). [\*Every angel in the Bible\*](#) (pp. 99–103). T. Nelson.



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