



Demonology

Lesson 4: Unraveling the strategies of the enemy

1. The most familiar verses on spiritual warfare.

Ephesians 6:10, 11

Definition of ABLE TO: This describes a soldier who is holding his ground AND pushing against.

It could be translated this way – “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to REPEL.”

It conveys the idea of _____

Something has crossed a line that it does not have the authority to cross. But because who are dressed in the whole armor of God, you are able to repel it or push it back.

Five words in Ephesians 6 that unravel the mystery of how the devil operates:

- Devil
- Wiles
- Strongholds
- Oppression
- Deception

If you understand these words and how they work, you will understand how the devil operates.

The devil is predictable – operating the same way every time.

2. Unraveling the Strategies of the Enemy

- Devil

Ephesians 6:11

Definition of DEVIL:

The Greek word is DIABOLOS.

BOLOS means to throw something like a ball or a rock.

It also means _____

DIA means all the way through.

When you combine these words together you find that DIABOLOS is NOT a name.

DIABOLOS is a _____

His name is Satan. DIABOLOS is how he operates.

He is DIABOLOS – one who throws insults, throws injury, and throws slander

His goal is to repeat this over and over until he penetrates the _____

Once he has penetrated the mind, the hurling of these things does not stop.

- Wiles

Definition of WILES:

The Greek word is METHODIA.

This is where we get the English word “method”.

In this case the word is singular, not plural. It is not “methods”. It is “method” – singular.

The devil does not have many tricks. He has _____ of attack.

If you follow the way the devil operates, there may be some variance, but he actually walks down the same road. It is the same method since Adam and Even in the Garden of Eden until today.

The devil understands that _____ is the control center of a person.

You might say, “No! My spirit is the control center. We are spirit, soul, and body, and I live out of my spirit.”

That is true, but we choose to walk in the spirit or in the flesh.

The mind lies between the spirit and the flesh.

The choice to walk in the spirit or the flesh is made in the mind.

You cannot eliminate the mind.

The devil understands this. If he can pave a highway into your mind, he will be free to hurl and throw thoughts at your mind. He does this over and over until the mind is penetrated.

Once he has penetrated your mind, he begins to build a . . .

- Stronghold

Definition of STRONGHOLD:

The Greek word can be translated two ways:

- _____
- _____

Paul talks about tearing down strongholds in 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5.

When a person has a stronghold, the enemy has invaded their mind.

The devil does not invade the entire mind.

There are many people who are free in nearly all areas but have a stronghold in one area.

But the devil is very territorial. Once he gets his foot in the door of one area of your mind, he will try and expand his territory.

That is why he wants to penetrate just one area. That’s all it takes. Once he has paved a road into that, he can expand into other parts of the mind.

Prison – When a person has a stronghold in their mind, they live behind invisible bars.

An example of this could be someone who can sing and has a desire to lead worship, but they sit in the crowd and never become the worship leader God wants them to be.

They have been lied to by the devil – “Your gift is worthless. Nobody wants to hear you sing.”

So, they sit, Sunday after Sunday, behind invisible bars. They aren't a prison and unable to step out into what God has for them.

Fortress / Castle – A prison is designed to keep you “in”, but a fortress or a castle is designed to keep others “out”.

An example would be the Kremlin in Moscow.

The word “kremlin” means fortress.

The walls of the Kremlin, in some places, are 30 feet thick.

What is the purpose of those walls? – To keep the wrong people on the outside.

Those on the inside are fortified. They are heavily defended. They are secure inside those walls.

In the case of a demonic stronghold in someone's life:

- That person is behind those bars, wishing he can be free, but cannot get out.
- Someone comes with help. They have logical advice. They can see the person's situation better than them.
- However, it does not matter what advice they give. It cannot seem to penetrate that individual's mind.
- In fact, you can tell them the Word of God, but the person who has the stronghold will say, “I know that is true but . . .”
- They cannot be penetrated by the truth because they have been taken by a lie.
- Oppression

Acts 10:38

Definition of OPPRESSION:

It is a compound word in the Greek:

- Down, subjection
- Power

When the two words are combined, they mean:

- A power that is subjugating

- A power that pushes or holds something down
- A power that is conquering
- Tyranny
- A tyrant who lords himself over his subjects

Once the stronghold has been built, the tyrant moves in.

Once that part of the mind is taken captive, the tyrant begins to hold down your gifts and push down your hope.

He says things like – “You will never get out of this financial crisis. Your marriage will never be restored.”

His voice is looming over you and the result is oppression.

- Deception

2 Corinthians 2:11

The word DEVICES in the Greek has to do with deception.

In the Greek it literally means your _____

This word means that Satan has someone so confused, they no longer have the ability to determine what is right and what is wrong.

Here is what happens:

- There are many voices speaking to you all of the time (God, devil, entertainment, politics, family, etc.).
- The devil understands that whoever controls the mind is going to control that person’s life.
- God knows this too! That is why He commands us to renew our minds.

Whoever we yield our mind to, will _____ us.

If we listen to the voice of the enemy that is striking and striking and striking - we will be under the influence of the enemy.

But if we listen to the Word of God, and allow it to penetrate our minds, that is what we will believe and it will become a manifestation in our lives.

Whatever voice you listen to and believe will become a manifestation in your life.

What you listen to is very important.

The devil will start a plan very early in someone's life.

- Beginning in your childhood and throughout your teenage years
- Penetrating the mind
- He speaks and brings reinforcements.

He works the same way in your marriage.

- Your spouse gets angry, and you get angry in return.
- Then you have negative "thoughts".

You must _____ what thoughts you are going to listen to.

Most people make bad decisions after their minds have been bombarded with thoughts that are not from God. They are in a state of confusion.

Ephesians 6:11 – Written with definitions

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against – PUSH BACK the wiles of the devil – THE INROADS HE IS USING TO PENETRATE YOUR MIND

2 Corinthians 10:4

You can see, from what we have just learned, that this talks about the mind.

2 Corinthians 10:5

If you have thoughts that exalt themselves against God, or do not come into submission to the word of God, you have to cast them down and do what? – Bring that thought into captivity.

Bringing a thought into captivity:

- When a Roman soldier brought someone into captivity, they put the point of their sword into the person's back.
- When the soldier walked forward, the person would move wherever the soldier wanted them to go. The tip of the sword moved that person.
- In the same way, when you have a thought that is not from God, you cannot just say, "Well, I had a bad thought."

- You must put the tip of that sword (the Word of God) to the thought and say, “I am moving you out of my life and I am not going to tolerate you any longer!”
- You can literally take the tip of that sword and push him right back across the line! You must have the Word of God and walk in your authority.

Ephesians 6:10, 11

The devil is striking and striking, but now you are equipped to push him back.

Ephesians 6:12

These are the forces that are against you.

HEAVENLY PLACES (Greek): It describes the atmosphere that we live in.

They live where we live.

Once they receive their assignments, they do the following:

- Influence public policy.
- Influence the thinking of people.

This is the reason we need to dress in the whole armor of God!