

A Biblical Worldview of Spiritual Intrusion

Dr. Ed Laymance

“And that about wraps it up. God is strong, and he wants you strong. So, take everything the Master has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no afternoon athletic contest that we’ll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels.

Be prepared. You’re up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it’s all over but the shouting you’ll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You’ll need them throughout your life. God’s Word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other’s spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.” **Eph. 6:10-18, The Message**

Perspective

Focus on Jesus, Deal with the Enemy – the key, foundational principle concerning intrusion

Stay in the Middle of the Room – our point of view concerning spiritual evil tends to be one of two extremes. Either we are consumed with the thought of spiritual intrusion and ascribe all problems and difficulties to the enemy; or, we disregard spiritual evil as a legitimate influence and focus only on human responsibility. We must maintain a balanced, Biblical approach.

Pay Attention to Body, Soul, and Spirit – physical, mental, emotional, spiritual (4 tires)

Believe the Biblical Facts, Not Freaky Fiction – Hollywood mostly gets it wrong!

Basic Training, Not Special Ops – Discipleship 101 – life long process, not an event

It Takes a Village – created beings – they are not omnipresent, omniscient, or omnipotent

A Spiritual Terrorist Network – the cell assigned to you and your family intentionally plans what they do. They leverage sin, exploit opportunities, and orchestrate situations when possible.

Think Romans 7 + Ephesians 6 – every day we are dealing with both/and, not either/or

All Our Thoughts Are Not Our Thoughts – spiritual evil typically speaks to us first person

Influence and Control Not Demon Possessed – spiritual evil intrudes in the lives of everyone every day. Intrusion is not about ownership. As Christians, we are eternal property of God, bought with the precious blood of Jesus. So, for Believers, intrusion is a turf war – who will we listen to, Jesus or them? Darkness cannot make us do anything. They need our cooperation. We must understand that choosing to sin means we are actually partnering with the plans and purposes of spiritual evil. And when we refuse to confess, repent, and forgive sin, Darkness not only gains more and more influence with us over time, but a right to harass us and our family.
We Must Intentionally Defy Darkness or We Will Unintentionally Comply with Darkness

Points of Access

Front Door Sin - "... sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you..." (Gen. 4:7)

Side Door Sin (A Wrong Response to Hurts) – "In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold." (Eph. 4:26-27)

Back Door Sin (Family Systems) – "Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped ... as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:14-15)

Open Windows of People, Places, and Things – spiritual evil will leverage people you have relationships with, listen to and spend time with that God has not signed off on; places you go; stuff you have and things you use like music, movies, games, books, memorabilia

Retaliation/Sent – "... a slave girl who had a spirit ... followed Paul and the rest of us... She kept this up for many days ... Paul (said) ... 'come out of her'... When the owners of the slave girl realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas ... the crowd joined in the attack ... flogged, thrown in prison... About midnight..." (Acts 16:16-40)

Standing Against Spiritual Evil

Take Spiritual Evil Seriously and Fearlessly – stay balanced - do not overestimate nor underestimate spiritual evil, and **do not fear them**. They are spiritual bullies. Stand up to them, stand against them, and advance the Kingdom in the authority and power of Jesus!

Shut the Doors, Close the Windows, Remove the Clutter, Go To Court – confess sin and repent; choose to forgive and process your pain; get rid of generational junk; remove spiritually unhealthy relationships, places, and things from your life, and ask God to break your ties to them; ask God to remove the oppressing spirits; free, cleanse, restore you and your generations, and fill you with Himself. The following resources can help with that **ongoing process**

Online Resources – Go to ImpactCounseling.com. Under Client Resources you will find Dr Ed Talks and Free Downloads. Listening to [Winning The War Within](#), and [What You Don't Know Can and Will Hurt You](#), Parts 1, 2, 3. Then use [Eating the Elephant One Bite At A Time](#) and related worksheets under free downloads to doing the work you need to do! Also available for purchase is my workbook- [Not Against Flesh and Blood](#)

Walk With Jesus, Don't Work For Him – hear, read, study, memorize, think about, and apply God's Word; prayer is an ongoing dialogue not an occasional monologue - talk with God all the time about everything; worship, connect with, and do life with other likeminded believes

Challenge Your Thinking Out Loud – it may not be your idea Peter (Matt 16: 23)

The Armor Of God – more than a metaphor - learn how to apply the armor every day, throughout the day – (Belt) believe the truth, this holds everything together – the truth sets you free; (Breastplate) accept who you are in Christ, this protects your heart; (Helmet) choose to transform your thinking and have the mind of Christ; (Shoes) prepare, abide, stay ready, and move only when and as God directs; (Shield) trust God with everything, regardless of the present look of things - be strong and courageous, do not be afraid; (Sword) engage Darkness and advance the Kingdom of God with the Word of God and the words of God as He directs; (Prayer) persist - don't give up, give in, or quit

How Strongholds Work

Strongholds

Fortress, a place where something or someone is kept, a playground
(Ex: Pride, Anger, Fear, Resentment, Hurts, Unforgiveness, etc.)

Points of Access

Front Door, Side Door, Back Door Sin;
Open Windows of People, Places, and Things; Retaliation/Sent

Two Basic Reasons for Lack of Success

You have a flawed strategy (Appropriate Strategy - 2 Cor. 10:3-5)

You are not just dealing with you (Rom. 7 + Eph. 6)

A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

