

Exposing the Hidden Agenda of Darkness

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Session One

“There are two ways to be fooled; one is to believe what isn’t so, the other is to refuse to believe what is so.” Ascribed to **Soren Kierkegaard**

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve their existence. The other is to believe and feel an unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.” **C. S. Lewis, The Screwtape Letters**

“Demonism is neither funny nor phony. It is real. It is, in fact, as serious and significant a subject as can ever be considered. But, strangely, it remains one of those unmentionables. Almost like, ‘Let’s not talk about it and maybe it will go away.’ We Christians avoid it like the plague. And when we do discuss it, our comments fall somewhere between traditional superstition and downright ignorance. Even though we have ignored it, the world has explored it. By twisting the truth and pushing the hot buttons of human curiosity and gross sensuality, slick promoters have turned it into a money-making extravaganza.... a weird sideshow attraction with all the crowd-pleasing gimmicks. *And the devil could not be happier.* The last thing he wants is to have his presence and his strategy exposed.” **Chuck Swindoll, Demonism**

Do not “be outwitted (outsmarted) by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his designs (schemes, strategies)” **2 Cor. 2:11**

“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

A Biblical Worldview is Essential - a biblical worldview does not separate spiritual reality from physical reality. Our western cultural biblical worldview does. The Bible is clear that we are to learn to recognize and navigate the interaction of both simultaneously.

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

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.

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

Principles and Process, not a Scripted Event – learning to better recognize the strategies of Darkness and more effectively engage their intrusion is supposed to be part of the sanctification process - my lifelong daily walk with Jesus. It is not a one and done special event we schedule.

Basic Training, Not Special Ops – Discipleship 101 – what every believer must know and do

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

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.

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

Obstruction, Identity Theft, and Entrenchment – primary objectives of Darkness

We Must Intentionally Defy Darkness or We Will Unintentionally Comply with Darkness

What I Must Know and Do Concerning Spiritual Intrusion

Spiritual evil hopes I never recognize the vast extent of their intrusion in my life (Eph. 6:12).

Leveraging sin and selfishness, they seek to harass, oppress, and overwhelm me (1 Peter 5:6-8).

Ignorance is not bliss – it is dangerous and ultimately deadly (Eph. 2:1-4).

In order to implement their strategies (2 Cor. 2:11; Eph. 6:11),

spiritual evil must first get my eyes off Jesus (Heb.12:1-2).

So, they lie to me (John 8:44)

using confusion and doubt (Gen. 3:1),
 temptations (1 Thess. 3:5),
 accusations (Rev. 12:10b),
 and deception (2 Cor.11:14);

hoping to entrap me (1 Tim. 3:7),
 establish strongholds in my life (Eph. 4:27; 2 Cor.10:3-5),
 entrench themselves in my generations (Ex. 20:2-6),
 and take me captive to do the will and work of Satan (2 Tim. 2:26).

However, spiritual evil is already a defeated foe (Col. 2:15; 1 John 3:8; Heb. 2:14-15)!

For their plans to be clearly expose and their activity effectively engaged (2 Cor. 2:11)

I must fully embrace my true identity as a child of the King (Eph.2:6; 1 Peter 2:9-10),

and unconditionally surrender every area of my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord (James 4:7-8).

Then I am privileged to go to the Supreme Court of Heaven (Heb. 4:14-16)

and ask Most High God to judge and remove the spiritual intruders (Col. 2:13-15; 2 Peter 2:4).

Therefore, I must choose all day every day to be all in with Jesus (Eph. 4:17-32; Rom. 12:1-2).

I must determine to no longer be in bondage to sin and bullied by Darkness (Gal. 5:1)!

I must learn how to apply every resource God supplies (Eph. 6:10-18; 2 Peter 2:3-9).

I must be alert (1 Peter 5:8),
 resist (James 4:7),
 stand firm (1 Peter 5:8),
 stand against (Eph. 6:11),
 not provide opportunity (Eph. 4:27),
 destroy strongholds (2 Cor.10:3-5),
 be strong and courageous (Joshua 1:9),
 advance the Kingdom (Matt. 28:19-20),

and fearlessly exercise my full authority in Jesus concerning spiritual intrusion (Luke10:1)

I AM A CHILD OF THE KING

Because of who Jesus Christ is, and
because He is my Savior and my Lord:

I am a child of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords,
seated with Christ in the heavenly realm. I am chosen, accepted,
and included – a citizen of heaven and a member of God's household.

I am loved by God unconditionally and without reservation.

I belong to Him, having been bought by Him with the
precious blood of Jesus. I have eternal life and will be
saved from all of God's wrath to come – guaranteed!

I am a Christian. I am not just different in what I do.
My identity has changed. Who I am has changed. Everything has
become brand new.

I am a dwelling place in which God lives by His Spirit.

I have access to Him anytime, anywhere, for any reason.

I am God's creation – His workmanship. I was created by Him and
for Him, so who I am and what I do matters.

I am spiritually alive. I have been set free from the fear of death
and have been given life to live and enjoy to the full.

I am forgiven – completely, totally, and absolutely.

I have been rescued from the dominion of darkness and
brought into the Kingdom of light – the Kingdom of the Son.

I have been set free from the penalty of sin and the power of sin.

I am an enemy of Satan and at war with spiritual forces of evil, but
greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world.

If God is for me, it doesn't matter who or what stands against me,
because nothing and no one can separate me from the love of Christ –
not hurt, pain, loss, problem, or brokenness;
not persecution, trouble, difficulty, or danger;
not abandonment, abuse, addictions, or appetites;
not desires, food, sexuality, or relationships;
not life or death, angels or demons;
not my past, the present, or the future;
no power, no person, no place, not anything in all creation;
not even Satan himself shall prevail.

I am in the hands of Jesus, in the hands of God, and nothing and
no one can snatch me out of God's hands.

I will fear no evil because God is with me, and

He has promised to never leave me nor forsake me.

God's presence is with me everywhere I go –
to the heights of heaven,
through the valley of the shadow,
to the ends of the earth – forever and always.

(Rev. 1:8, John 1:12)
(Eph. 2:6, I Pet. 2:9)
(John 14:1-6, Eph. 2:19)
(Rom. 5:6-8, I John 4:10)
(I Peter 2:9, I Cor. 6:19)
(I John 5:11-13, John 3:16)
(Rom. 5:9, Eph. 1:13-14)
(I Peter 4:16)

(II Cor. 5:17, Gal. 2:20)
(Eph. 2:22, I Cor. 6:19)
(Eph. 2:18, Phil. 4:6-7)
(Ps. 139, Eph. 2:10)
(Col. 1:16, Gal. 6:7-9)
(Rom. 6:8-11, Heb. 2:14-15)
(John 10:10)
(I John 1:9, Ps. 103:8-13)

(Col. 1:13)
(Rom. 6:16-23, Gal. 5:1)
(I Peter 5:8, Eph. 6:12)
(I John 4:4)
(Rom. 8:31, Eph. 1:18-23)

(Rom. 8:35-39)
(Col. 2:15)

(John 10:27-28)
(Ps. 23:4, II Tim. 1:7)
(Heb. 13:5)
(Ps. 139:7)

(Matt. 28:19-20)

I am a child of the King and choose this day to live as one.

I AM A CHILD OF THE KING for Kids

Jesus Christ is God's Son who died on the cross for my sin and rose from the dead, beating death! When I asked Him to forgive my sin and be the Boss of my life, He said yes! Now He is MY Savior and Lord!

BECAUSE OF THAT:

I am a child of the One True King. This makes me a prince/princess in God's Kingdom! I am part of God's family and have a forever home in heaven - a seat right beside Jesus. God picked me!!! He has chosen me, wants me, and cares about me. (Rev. 1:9; John 1:12; Eph. 2:6; Eph. 2:19; 1 Peter 2:9; John 14:1-6)

I am loved by God no matter what – and that can never, ever change!
(Rom. 5:6-8; 1 John 4:10)

I belong. I am God's kid! He likes me, even when I make wrong choices. He always wants the best for me. Always. (1Peter 2:9; 1 Cor. 6:19; 1 John 5:11-13; John 3:16; Rom. 5:9; Eph. 1:13-14)

I am a Christian. I have the same body but who I am on the inside has changed. I have a brand new identity – I am a child of the King!
(1 Peter 4:16; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20)

I am a house where God lives! That makes me very special. He goes with me everywhere I go, helping me make the right choices and showing me how to live. (Eph. 2:22; 1 Cor. 6:19)

I can talk with God anytime, anywhere, for any reason. I can tell Him everything and can ask Him anything. He always listens to me!
(Eph. 2:18; Phil. 4:6-7)

I am God's awesome creation! He hand-made me and has amazing plans for me, so every choice I make matters. (Ps.139; Eph. 2:10; Col. 1:16; Gal. 6:7-9)

I am not afraid of death because I know that when that day comes, I will get to live in heaven with God forever! (Rom. 6:8-11; Heb. 2:14-15; John 14:1-6)

I am forgiven for every sin I have ever done and ever will do – totally, 100%, all the way, no take backs, no matter what!!! (1 John 1:9; Ps. 103:8-13)

I get to enjoy being with God, in His light, everyday, now and forever. Wow!
(Rom 3:23, 6:16-23; John 3:16; 1Peter 1:3; Eph. 2:4-5; Col 1:13; Gal 5:1)

I will not let Satan bully me! Satan is God's enemy and that makes Satan my enemy. God is greater, stronger, smarter, more powerful, and just WAY BIGGER than Satan! God is on MY side.

(Ezek. 28:12-19; Is. 40:28-31; 1 Peter 5:8; Eph. 6:10-18; James 4:7; 1 John 4:4)

God loves me and is for me, so no matter what happens, nothing can keep me away from God and His love for me. Nothing -

not sickness, pain, loss, problems, or sadness;
not bullies, trouble, anger, things that are hard or scary;
not when I feel unwanted, left out, or forgotten;
not when I feel hurt, am being hurt, or want to hurt;
not my friends, my family, or anyone against me;
not the things I do wrong, or the things others do;
not life or death, angels or demons;
not my past, my present, my future choices or my circumstances;
no power, no person, no place, not anything in all creation;
not even Satan himself can keep me from God and His love for me!

(Rom. 8:31-39; Eph. 1:18-23; Col. 2:15)

I am in the hands of Jesus, in the hands of God, and no one can grab me out of God's hands. (John 10:27-28)

I will not be afraid of Satan and his evil because God is always with me, and He has promised to never leave me or forget me. God is with me everywhere I go and He is watching over me – forever and always.

(Ps. 23:4; 2 Tim. 1:7; Heb. 13:5; Ps. 139:7; Matthew 28:19-20)

I am a child of the King – The One True God – and today,
I choose to live that way!