

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Understanding the Spirit World and Its Operations

We are involved in the cultural war of the spirit of Greece with the spirit of Zion (Christ). We must be delivered from a typical western mentality concerning the spirit world and realize that what we see and do not see all exist together and reflect the other. Hos. 4:6—‘My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.’

I. Principles from the fall

- A. Gen. 3:7-16—man began to flee from God’s presence vs. delighting in God’s presence.
- B. Gen. 3, Rom. 5:12-17, 8:2, Eph 2:1-5—sin entered the human race condemning all men to a sinful nature and to death
- C. Gen. 3:17-19—the law of sin released a curse upon the ground of the earth
- D. Rom 8:1-2, Mat. 13:38; Jn. 8:38-47; 1 Jn. 3:10; 5:18-20—the law of death (physical and spiritual) entered the earth and the human race.
- E. Jn. 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Lk. 4:5-7; Eph. 2:2—Satan became ruler of the world (kosmos)
- F. Gen. 3:15—God placed enmity between the two seeds, i.e. two races of men

II. Early development of the demonic kingdom

- A. Gen. 4:1-23—see the establishing of the demonic kingdom
The conflict between Cain and Abel was over worship between brothers. Jealousy lead to murder leading to generational sins in cities later established.
- B. 4:17—Cain built a city without the presence of God without asking God
- C. 4:20—Jabal—the agricultural realm is affected
- D. 4:21—Jubul—the music and worship realm is affected
- E. 4:22—Tubal Cain—the manufacturing realm is affected
- F. 4:23—covenant breaking results in sin begetting sin throughout the earth
- G. Gen. 6:5—The widespread wickedness caused God to destroy the earth, i.e. cleanse it with water to begin life anew.

III. The order of the kingdom of darkness revealed.

- A. Eph. 6:11-12—‘Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.’
Jesus did not annihilate the kingdom of darkness. He broke its authority over the earth and mankind. Father sat Jesus as the supreme authority over all.

B. Rulers=746 **arch** arche *ar-khay'*—beginning, origin, the first place, principality, rule, magistracy<<756= to be chief, leader, ruler

These are spirit beings that rule vast territories geographically and culturally.

1. 1Cor. 15:22-25—‘For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming, then comes the end, when He delivers up the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished (render idle, inactive, inoperative) all *rule (rulers/principalities)* and all *authority (powers)* and power (dunamis). For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.’
2. Eph. 1:20-21—‘which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all *rule (rulers/principality)* and *authority (powers)* and power (dunamis) and dominion (government/possessor—Kurios), and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come.’
3. Col. 2:15—‘When He had disarmed (wholly stripped off of oneself, spoiled) the *rulers (rulers/principalities)* and *authorities (powers)*, He made a public display (example of, pattern) of them, having triumphed over them (cry aloud causing to frighten, be alarmed) through Him.
4. Col 2:10—‘and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head (supreme, chief, prominent) over all *rule (rulers/principalities)* and *authority (powers)*’
5. Eph. 3:10-11—‘in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the *rulers (rulers/principalities)* and the *authorities (powers)* in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord...’
6. Col. 1:18—‘He is also head (Col. 2:10) of the body, the church; and He is the *beginning (arche)*, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything (preeminence, chief).’

C. Powers=1849 **exousia** exousia=the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege), the power of rule or government (the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed)

These are spirit beings that rule primarily through varying authority structures.

D. World forces of this darkness/rulers of the darkness of this world=2888

kosmokratwr kosmokrator (only place used in NT)=ruler of the arrangement, constitution of the order/government

Kosmos=the world affairs, the aggregate of things earthly including goods, riches pleasures, etc.

Krateo=to be powerful, to take hold of, to seize, not discard or let go, to hold in check, restrain

Darkness=4655 **skotov** skotos= of darkened eyesight or blindness; of ignorance respecting divine things and human duties, and the accompanying ungodliness

and immorality, together with their consequent misery in hell; persons in whom darkness becomes visible and holds sway

World=165 **aiwn** aion=period of time, age

These spirit beings rule through darkness and deception over governments and governmental structures by their influence in the land.

E. Spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places

Wickedness=4189 **ponhria** poneria=depravity, iniquity, malice, evil purpose and desires<<full of labors, annoyances, hardships; causing pains and trouble; in a physical sense: diseased or blind<<intense desire<<poor

1. Mat. 6:13—‘...deliver us from evil...’
2. Mk. 7:21-23—‘For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride *and* foolishness. All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.’
3. Rom. 1:28-29—‘And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; *they are* gossips...’
4. Acts 3:26—‘For you first, God raised up His Servant, and sent Him to bless you by turning every one *of you* from your wicked ways (iniquity).’

IV. Territorial spirit beings in the OT.

A. The Gods of the Amorites (all the peoples of Canaan).

1. Judg. 2:13; 3:7—‘...forsook the Lord and served the Baals and the Asheroth.’
2. Origin of the Canaanites was through Ham (Gen. 10:15-19).
3. The Baals controlled the weather and fertility in agriculture, beasts and mankind leading to ritual prostitution, debauchery and cultic worship. Ashtoreth was Baal’s sexual partner. Anath or Anat was Baal’s sister and consort who was a ‘virgin.’ Here we see incest and polygamy among the gods. Ashtoreth (Inna, Istar, Diana, Osiris) was the mother goddess, in the queen of heaven tradition which was acknowledged throughout the Middle East.
4. Gen. 15:16—‘Then in the fourth generation they will return here, for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete.’ i.e. God fixes some judgment based on morality as it relates to the land and the spirit. This provided a just cause for Joshua’s aggression against the Amorites.
5. Child sacrifice was commonly practiced by the Amorites and Canaanites as it is today by the Satanists, witches and abortionists. In the OT we see it described in the terms of ‘cause to pass over to Molech,’ or ‘through the fire,’ or ‘burnt offerings’ (Jer. 32:35; 2 Kgs. 16:3; 3:27; 17:17; 21:6; 23:10;

Ez. 20:31; Judges 11:31. Ps. 106:37—‘...they even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons.’

- B. Dan. 10:1-21—Daniel’s warfare prayer experience
1. vs. 13—‘But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was withstanding me for twenty-one days; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia.’
 2. vs. 20-21—‘ Then he said, “Do you understand why I came to you? But I shall now return to fight against the prince of Persia; so I am going forth, and behold, the prince of Greece is about to come. However, I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth. Yet there is no one who stands firmly with me against these *forces* except Michael your prince.”’
- C. 2 Kgs. 17:1-41—see the increasing darkness as the Children of Israel sinned.
vs. 29-31—‘But every nation still made gods of its own and put them in the houses of the high places which the people of Samaria had made, every nation in their cities in which they lived. And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, the men of Cuth made Nergal, the men of Hamath made Ashima, and the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak; and the Sepharvites burned their children in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech the gods of Sepharvaim.’
- D. Ez. 28:11-19—see the king of Tyre (a man) addressed in vs. 2 and the spirit king of Tyre addressed in vs. 12 describing something more than a man.
- E. Is. 14:3-27—description of Lucifer
- F. 1 Cor. 10:6, 11—‘Now these things happened as examples for us, that we should not crave evil things, as they also craved...Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.’
- Hittite=terror, be shattered, dismayed, be scared
Amorite=prominence, boast, act proudly, to command
Jebusite=tread down, reject, trample down
Girgashite=dwelling on clayey soil
Canaanite=to bring low, humble, subject, be under
Perizzite=unwalled
Philistine=role in the dust as an act of morning, wallow
- G. ‘Loewen reports that in Central and South America spirits are considered to be the ‘owners’ of geographical or topographical phenomena. Nomadic Indians never travel from one territory to another without first securing the permission of the territorial spirit dominating the area they are about to enter. ‘People never own the land,’ Loewen says, ‘they only use it by the permission of its true spirit owners who, in a sense adopt them.’’ Warfare Prayer, C. Peter Wagner, p. 100.
- H. ‘Vernon Sterk, who has served with the Reformed Church of America for more than 20 years among the Tzotzil Indians in southern Mexico says that every one of the Tzotzil tribes can identify specific, tribal deities by name. They also know the names of evil spirits who are assigned to various kinds of evil

activities. They know that Yajval Balamil controls sickness, Poslom attacks people with swelling at night, and J'is'aletic are looters and rapists. Sterk says that both evil spirits and guardian spirits among the Tzotzil 'have territorial designations and assignments,' and he observes, 'All of the spirits have geographical limits for their power, even though the reach of the evil spirits seems to be more extensive than that of the guardian or ancestral spirits. When the territorial spirit is strong, newly converted Christians frequently are forced to move out. Many Tzotzil Indians will not leave their territory because they fear losing the protection of their guardian spirit who cannot leave with them.' Warfare Prayer, C. Peter Wagner, p. 100-101.

V. The kingdom of darkness in the NT.

- A. In the New Testament there are 120 references to Satan and 208 references to evil spirits.
- B. Lk. 10:17-19—Jesus sees Satan falling from his heavenly place of rule and authority. He directly connects the fall of Satan and the deliverance ministry.
- C. Heb. 2:14-15—'Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.'
'render powerless' (GR)= to render idle, inactivate, inoperative, to deprive of force, influence, power (same as in 1 Cor. 15:24 'shall have put down')
- D. Lk. 11:14-26—'And He was casting out a demon, and it was dumb; and it came about that when the demon had gone out, the dumb man spoke; and the multitudes marveled. But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons." And others, to test *Him*, were demanding of Him a sign from heaven. But He knew their thoughts, and said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and a house *divided* against itself falls. And if Satan also is divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. And if I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? Consequently they shall be your judges. But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. *When a strong one, fully armed, guards his own homestead, his possessions are undisturbed; but when someone stronger than he attacks him and overpowers (conquer, prevail against) him, he takes away from him all his armor on which he had relied, and distributes his plunder.* He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters. When the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and not finding any, it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when it comes, it finds it swept and put in order. Then it goes and takes *along* seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first.'

- E. Jn. 10:10—‘The thief comes only to steal, and kill, and destroy; I came that they might have life, and might have *it* abundantly.’
1. ‘steal’ (GR)=to take away by stealth
 2. ‘kill’(GR)=slay, sacrifice
 3. ‘destroy’(GR)= to put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to, ruin, render useless
- F. 2 Cor. 10:3-6—‘For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. *We are* destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and *we are* taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.’
1. ‘strongholds’(GR)=fortify to hold in safety, fortress
 2. ‘imagination’(GR)=logismos=a reckoning: computation, a reasoning: such as is hostile to the Christian faith, a judgment, decision: such as conscience passes
 3. ‘high thing’(GR)=exaltation, barrier—take note of the reference to the ‘high places’ of worship in the OT. Used in NT writings as cosmic powers and astrological ideas seeking to intervene between God and man.
 4. 88% of all internal dialogue is negative.
- G. Mat. 16:18-19—‘And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.’ Ps. 24
1. Gates are the spiritual entryways into the spirit world.
 2. Seven doorways of a city: all interact with money, people, and land
 - a. Church—denominational structures, church congregations, ministries
 - b. Legal—judicial system, prison system, law enforcement, lawyers
 - c. Political—local/state/national governments, hierarchies in culture
 - d. Education—schools, educational forums, libraries, school boards
 - e. Financial Institutions—banks, businesses, financial markets
 - f. Communication Media—news media, TV, internet, books
 - g. Health—hospitals, CDC, WHO, pharmaceuticals, mortuaries
 3. Gates—few leaders and influencers=mind-molders—cultural thought and mindsets
Ruled by principalities and powers to affect the population.
 4. Gates—some are seats of powers of darkness—channelers, Satanists, Shamans, Masons at 33rd degree, false apostles, false prophets, leaders of false religions
 5. Gates—defiled places=especially of worship (temples of false gods), Masonic lodge, pornography shops, places of illegal activity (drugs,

prostitution, etc.), battlegrounds, crime areas, dedication sites, certain buildings, high places, festivals, statues, etc.

VI. The order of the kingdom of darkness

- A. Generational sins and curses—Ex. 20:5-6; Dt. 5:9-10; 18:9-14; Neh. 1:4-9; Jer. 14:20; Dan. 9:1-19
- B. Curses—Dt. 28-30; Num. 22:24; 24:9; Lk. 6:28; Rom. 12:14; Js. 3:9-10
- C. Land—defiled, occupied by, claimed by (marked, i.e. even as seen in nature).
- D. People—masses with demons
- E. People—governed and manipulated by strongholds of the mind
- F. Ley lines—power points and power centers—sister cities, spiritual connections
- G. Power of words—demonic/fleshly vs. godly
 - 1. The spirit world is ruled by the authority of words.
 - a. Heb. 1:3—‘...upholds all things by the word of His power...’
 - b. Heb. 3:1—‘...consider Jesus the Apostle and High Priest of our confession’
 - c. Pr. 18:21—‘Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat of its fruit.’
 - d. Js. 3:1-12—‘...If anyone does not stumble in what he says (lit. word), he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well...’
 - e. Mat. 15:18—‘The things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart and those defile the man.’
 - f. Lk. 7:7-8—‘...but say the word and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority...’
 - 2. Word will not fall to the ground—1 Sam. 3:19
 - 3. Is. 55:11—‘So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it.’
 - 4. Balaam—illustrates the power of word curses
 - 5. The occult is activated in words and actions over people and things
- H. Power of prayers—Rev. 5:8; 8:3, 4—demonic/fleshly vs. godly
 - 1. Today we are building on the prayers and prophetic declarations of the past.
 - 2. Satanists, witches, etc. are actively praying and fasting against the church and its leaders.
- I. Eph. 6:12—the ruling spirit beings
- J. Demons—demonize people leading them into sin and further darkness
- K. Satan is the deceiver, accuser, great dragon, serpent of old, father of lies, the destroyer, tempter, adversary
 - Eph. 2:2—‘...according to the prince of the power (authority) of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.’

VII. Knowing your authority and having the power

- A. Lk. 10:19—‘ Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you.’
1. Authority= 1849 **exousia** exousia=the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege), the power of rule or government (the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed)
<<it is lawful
The power indicated is the power to decide, but only in respect to God as the source of all power and legality. It means freedom for the community. It is not intrinsic autonomy—Paul taught it from this vantage point.
 - a. Mat. 8:9—‘For I, too, am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come!’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this!’ and he does *it*.’
 - b. Mat. 10:1—‘And having summoned His twelve disciples, He gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.’
 - c. Mat. 28:18—‘And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven(s) and on earth.”’
 - d. Mk. 3:15—‘And He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him, and that He might send them out to preach, and to have authority to cast out the demons.’
 - e. Lk. 19:17—‘And he said to him, ‘Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, be in authority over ten cities.’’
 - f. Rev. 2:26-28—‘And he who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received *authority* from My Father; and I will give him the morning star.’
 - g. Rev. 22:14—‘Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.’
 2. Power=1411 **dunamiv** dunamis=strength, power, ability, power for performing miracles—usually translated ‘mighty works’ performed by Jesus
 - a. Mat. 6:13—‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.’
 - b. Lk. 4:36—‘... For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.’
 - c. Lk. 5:17—‘... the power of the Lord was *present* for Him to perform healing.’
 - d. Lk. 9:1-2—‘He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons, and to heal diseases. And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God, and to perform healing.’

- e. Acts 1:8—‘But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes...’
 - f. Acts 4:33—‘And with great power the apostles were giving witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all.’
3. Jude 8-10—‘Yet in the same manner these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and reject authority, and revile angelic majesties. But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you.”’ But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.
- a. We are given authority and power that the angels do not have for we will judge the angels. We have been given the place to use Jesus’ name by the Holy Spirit which is Christ within us rebuking demonic spirits.
 - b. ‘Dunamis’ power is might and ability while ‘exousia’ is the right to act in authority.
4. Jesus did not take down the principality over Jerusalem in His ministry. He dealt with the demonic kingdom on the cross and in His resurrection. After giving the disciples His authority (Mat 28:18-20), they were to wait in Jerusalem until they received the power to be witnesses (Lk. 24:49, Acts 1:8, 2:1-4).