

Believers are not exempted from spiritual warfare

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Declaration of Authenticity

I, the undersigned,

Barend Daniël Steyn Roux,

Hereby certify that:

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3. To take and use the writings or ideas of another as one's own.

The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language

Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1985

Second College Edition, page 946

Name: _____

Date: _____

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May every person reading this dissertation be covered under the blood of Jesus.

BELIEVERS ARE NOT EXEMPTED FROM SPIRITUAL WARFARE

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Prolegomena

1. Introduction

Spiritual warfare is the concept of a spiritual fight, which takes place in the supernatural realm against satan and his evil fallen angels. The Bible warns believers against the influences of evil spirits and the effects of their interference. Although many believers may be ignorant or passive about these interferences, the demonic forces capitalize on their ignorance and passivity to create a foothold.

It is through this foothold that full-scale attacks occur. Even though many believers fail to stand against these attacks because they do not understand nor believe in spiritual warfare. Whether a believer believes in these supernatural attacks or not is immaterial because the Word of God cannot be more prominent about the existence of these evil forces and the believer's resistance against them.

The problem in many churches today is that spiritual warfare is underemphasized, which causes people sitting in the church to be oblivious to the works of satan. Spiritual passivity and ignorance are the playgrounds of satan and his demons who may destroy people's lives.

Believers should ask themselves only two relevant questions to realize if they are oblivious to satan and his demons or willingly ready to resist the devil;

- a) Are you willing to give your body as a living sacrifice to God?
- b) Are you aware of Scriptures regarding your involvement in spiritual warfare, such as James 4:7¹.

¹ James 4:7 (KJV) "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

When the reality of these questions severs the negative influences, believers may start to realize the importance of spiritual warfare that may change their life.

2. Background of this study

Through the ages, people are yearning to serve someone or something superior to them. The modern world does not differ from this inclination to honour a “higher power”

The Word of God is clear that believers have an inherent desire to surge for the knowledge of the greatness of God (Hebrew 8:10-11).

“¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel in those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: ¹¹And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.” (KJV)

Hebrew 8:10–11 (KJV)

Satan and his demons are cunning and use the desire people have to worship God to entice them into the sin of idolatry and demon worship (1 Tim 4:1-2).

“¹Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; ²Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;”

1 Timothy 4:1-2 (KJV)

What Paul experienced and the reality of today’s world do not differ. Hypocrisy and lies are the same now as it was then. Immorality and disregard for the Word of God

are in the order of the day. The humanistic approach of what the person wants to believe is not sinning and when it is against the Word of God, they justify themselves by their own belief.

Statistics indicate that 75.49% of South African people claim to be Christians². Should that be the case, one would think that the fruit of the Spirit would be evident throughout their lives. The opposite is that is that people have fallen into the trap and cunningness of satan and his demons.

The church is not exempt from the problems of the world. Since this is the truth, some believers become passive and make emotional decisions to follow the Lord instead of submitting to the will of the Lord.

This dissertation will prove that believers are not exempted from spiritual warfare and will further prove that believers cannot be possessed but can experience oppression. This dissertation will also provide evidence that without spiritual warfare, which is rooted in the truth of God's Word and His presence, believers cannot prevail in their ability and strength. The Lord Jesus Christ has won all battles on the cross and does not need to fight more battles. Believers have been set free of sin. They do not have to fight the fight that was already won on the cross of Calvary.

Believers are set free in the Lord, satan is not happy. He will attempt to entice believers with his cunningness to sin. 1 John 5:19 clarifies a believer's freedom in the Lord.

“And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.”

1 John 5:19 (KJV)

² South African religion, 2002, The South African Yearbook 2002. [On Line] Available at: https://www.jyu.fi/viesti/verkkotuotanto/kp/sa/soc_religion.shtml [Accessed 29 November 2021]

Satan knows the freedom that every Christian man, woman, and child has in the Lord and may try to prevent the blessings of the Lord. Daniel, when he started praying to the Lord, the angel of the Lord came to him and declared that it took Him twenty-one days to reach him because of the fight taking place in the heavenly. Exactly what happened with Daniel is still happening today with the children of God.

Romans 8:1 state: believers in Jesus Christ will not experience condemnation, only those who are not in Christ, will experience this condemnation.

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” (KJV)

Romans 8:1 (KJV)

Believers are free in Christ: therefore, satan and his demons may try to entice them into sin against God. He wants to sever all blessings that the Lord has in store for His children and let the believer feel hopeless. God declares in His Word that all believers must put on the girdle of truth: not only around their waist but also around their minds to stand firm (1 Peter 1:13).

“Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;”

1 Peter 1:13 (KJV)

Satan wants to sever all believers from the blessing of God, for this reason, it is necessary to do spiritual warfare. However, believers do not to rely on their strengths but submit to God in this spiritual warfare (James 4:7).

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

James 4:7 (KJV)

3. Problem Statement

This dissertation will contain two hypo dissertations. This first hypo dissertation will prove that all believers are not exempted from spiritual warfare and cannot be possessed by demons. However, believers may be oppressed by satan and his demons.

The second hypo dissertation will provide evidence that without spiritual warfare, which is rooted in the truth of God’s Word and His presence, believers cannot prevail in their ability and strength.

Pew notes that there is a remarkable decline in the number of people in America attending church gatherings. The centre did a survey which was completed during 2018 and 2019. The survey indicated that 65% of adult Americans claim to be Christians. During the last decade, this number dropped by 12%. The religiously unaffiliated share of the population in America, consisting of people who describe their religious identity as atheist, agnostic, or nothing in particular, now stands at 26% ³.

For these reasons above, Paul warns the people to stay vigilant. Many people start with a lot of enthusiasm but cannot finish the race.

³Life, P. R., (2019, October 17). In U.S., Decline of Christianity Continues at Rapid Pace. An update on America’s changing religious landscape: (On Line) Available at: <https://www.pewforum.org/2019/10/17/in-u-s-decline-of-christianity-continues-at-rapid-pace/> [Accessed 12 October 2020]

Scripture is used in this dissertation to provide proof that believers are not exempted from spiritual warfare, the same Scripture is to provide solutions for those that want to be free in the Lord.

4. Purpose and significant aims of the research

4.1 The purpose of this research dissertation is to:

- 4.1.1 Understand what happens in the psyche of a person when they enter into idolatry.
- 4.1.2 Show what occurs in the conscience of a person before the person enters into the funnel.
- 4.1.3 Show how satan and his demons use believer's emotions to entice them into idolatry.
- 4.1.4 Analyse Biblical Scripture to understand how satan wants to sever the blessings from believers.
- 4.1.5 Document the different spirits in the Bible and their strategies.
- 4.1.6 Research the long-term effect of idolatry, which includes future generations.
- 4.1.7 Assist believers in the deeper meaning and knowledge of the implications of spiritual warfare.
- 4.1.8 Analyse Biblical Scriptures to understand who believers are in Christ.
- 4.1.9 Know the plan of God in believer's lives.
- 4.1.10 Explore the options for people who want to be free from idolatry.

4.2. The results of this dissertation are to benefit all believers and non-believers in the following significant ways;

- 4.2.1 Assisting believers to be aware of the pitfalls in their own lives.
- 4.2.2 Explore the effects idolatry has on their relationship with God.

4.2.3 Recognize idolatry immorality according to Biblical standards.

4.2.4 Recognize the relationship standard set by God.

4.2.5 Exploring satan's tactics to use emotions and free will to entice believers into idolatry.

4.2.6 Recognize the different spirits who are still operating within the structures of the church.

5. Objective and research questions

5.1 The objective of this research is to answer the following questions;

5.1.1 What is spiritual warfare?

5.1.2 Can evil spirits transfer?

5.1.3 What is idolatry?

5.1.4 What effects does spiritual warfare have on people?

5.1.5 Why is satan so effective in changing a believer's belief system?

5.1.6 What does Scripture teach believers about idolatry?

5.1.7 What is the relationship between emotions and idolatry?

5.1.8 Why the lying spirit is so evident when people explore idolatry?

5.1.9 Why satan finds it so easy, through idolatry, to separate you;

- a) From yourself.
- b) From people, and,
- c) From God.

6. Dissertation / Hypo dissertation / Research Statement

A hypo dissertation is a phenomenon that can be tested. This phenomenon must demonstrate the accuracy of the dissertation. The dissertation may then, through this test, provide a tentative solution or explanation of the research problem.

This dissertation will examine two hypotheses. This first hypo dissertation will define idolatry and show that all believers are not exempted from spiritual warfare. Furthermore, it will show that although believers cannot be possessed by demons, they can be oppressed by satan and his demons. To prove this hypo dissertation, correct or incorrect perspectives from believers and non-believers will be used.

The dissertation will show what role emotions and free will has on peoples' decisions when they become idolatrous.

The second hypo dissertation will provide evidence that God created man in His image and to worship Him alone.

The dissertation will also prove that without spiritual warfare, which is rooted in the truth of God's Word and His presence, believers cannot prevail in their own ability and strength.

To explain the hypo dissertation above, the following hypo dissertation statements serve as the basis for this research;

- Chapter 1: Question: What is the two spiritual kingdoms?

- Chapter 2: Question: What is Spiritual wickedness and authorities?
- Chapter 3: Question: Can spirits transfer?
- Chapter 4: Question: Can believers invade the enemies' camp?
- Chapter 5: Question: What are the weapons of believer's warfare?
- Chapter 6: Question: Does God have a plan for man's victory?

The emphasis of this research is to prove the abovementioned hypo dissertation to be true or false.

7. Demarcation in clinging scope and limitation

The researcher acknowledges that there are different views of idolatry and the interpretation of idolatry but will endeavour to stay within the mentioned aims and objectives as discussed.

The researcher will investigate the sin of idolatry based on Biblical standards.

The dissertation will view how the idolatry funnel can exist within a believer's life and the effect of emotions and free will on deciding to fall into the trap of idolatry.

The main purpose of this dissertation is to help believers and show them that no one is not exempted from spiritual warfare.

The knowledge of this dissertation revealed to believers is to understand the importance and the spiritual effects of practicing idolatry.

Furthermore, this dissertation seeks to provide believers with the truth as set out in the Word of God to the sin of idolatry. This dissertation will also provide an understanding

of the standard, which believers have to adhere to when it comes to worshipping God alone.

8. Literature review

The researcher will obtain data from the list of books as contained in the bibliography. However, the researcher is not limited to only these books.

9. Research methodology

The general methodological approach while carrying out the research is to make use of both quantitative and qualitative methods for the data collection.

Qualitative methods such as Ethnography and Theology will be used.

9.1 Ethnography

Anthropology is a well-known form of qualitative research and includes the recording and analysis of the study of;

“Human beings and their ancestors though space and time, culture or society.”⁴

Theologically, anthropology is concerned with;

“The nature, origin and destiny of human beings.”⁵

⁴ Webster, M., (n.d.). Anthropology. Definition of anthropology. (On Line) Available at: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/anthropology> [Accessed 14 September 2021]

⁵ Webster, M., (n.d.). Anthropology. Definition of anthropology. (On Line) Available at: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/anthropology> [Accessed 14 September 2021]

The data collection is based on research that resulted in a written account of a person, place, or institution. This dissertation will explore how vulnerable different cultures are to spiritual influences.

9.2 Historical Research and Analysis

Historical research and analysis are systematic examinations of past events. The data will show the nuances of social and cultural influences from the past. It will further show how it will influence spiritual passivity in people's lives.

Significant reasons for conducting historical analysis will include;

- Uncover as far back as Egypt, the effect spiritual passivity had on believers from the past;
- Understand the cultures that influence the way people live and make choices;
- Understand how the past influences believers' choices in respect of their relationship with God.

9.3 Phenomenology

David Woodruff Smith quote Husserl who indicates that qualitative research, which is also a form of phenomenology,

“The science of the essence of consciousness”⁶

⁶ David Woodruff Smith (2013) Husserl. E., *Phenomenology, The History and Varieties of Phenomenology*. [Online] Available at: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/phenomenology/> [Accessed 21 October 2020]

Health professions education researchers may find this methodology powerful yet very intimidating.

Phenomenology is a variety of studies that range from perception, thought, memory, reasoning, imagination, emotions, desires, and social activities.

Through the cognitive, emotional, and conative approach, knowledge will be gained in the observation and studies from various fields.

10. Multi-disciplinary approach which includes theology and psychology

This dissertation will seek to understand from a spiritual perspective how the development of man may be influenced by passiveness and negative influences from the world.

This dissertation will also explore the perspective of idolatry that occurred during the exodus from Egypt that led to God's anger towards idolatry.

11. Referencing

The Harvard referencing method will be used in the bibliography and citations will be inserted where applicable.

12. Exposition of chapters

- **Dedication**
- **Acknowledgment**
- **Table of content**

After completion of the research and the necessary data collected, this data and research information was integrated and coordinated so that the facts and

observations may speak for themselves. A thematic approach is followed throughout, and the results are divided into the following chapters:

- **Prolegomena:** This chapter serves as the orientation and background study to this dissertation, research methodology, the aim and objectives, and the problem statement.
- **Chapter 1:** This chapter highlights the reality of the two spiritual kingdoms believers and non-believers associate with. It furthermore highlights what spiritual warfare is and the counterfeit way satan uses to effectively change a believer's belief system.
- **Chapter 2:** This chapter highlights what spiritual wickedness and authorities are and the counterfeit doctrines of satan.
- **Chapter 3:** This chapter highlights how spirits may transfer, what idolatry is, how satan operates through idolatry, separates you from yourself, God, and others. It also deals with the different spirits affecting people.
- **Chapter 4:** This chapter provides insight on how to invade the enemy's camp and take authority back.
- **Chapter 5:** This chapter highlights the spiritual weapons of a believer.
- **Chapter 6:** This chapter highlights the plan of God for man's victory.
- **Conclusion**
- **Bibliography**

Chapter 1

The Two kingdoms

1. Introduction

The two spiritual kingdoms are not imaginary or even philosophically constructed but they are real. These kingdoms are kingdoms that exist worldwide. It does not matter from which country the person is, which language they speak or from which culture they are, every person in the world belongs to one of these two kingdoms.

The two spiritual kingdoms are the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of satan.

For kingdoms to exist, there are criteria's they must fulfil, such as;

- Every kingdom must have a ruler. Someone concerned about the destiny of that kingdom.
- The ruler of this kingdom must have a territory over which he must rule, whether physical or spiritual.
- In this territory or realm, the ruler must have people that support his kingdom.
- The people in these kingdoms must have laws or rules that they abide to.
- The kingdom must also be aware of the power and strength to defend or conquer the enemy.

When the reality of the criteria is considered, people should realize that these spiritual kingdoms are just as authentic as the physical kingdoms that exist today.

Whether people accept or reject this reality, their everyday life will be affected by either one of these supernatural kingdoms. Continually people experience thoughts that did not originate in their mind or an invisible hand that guides them into a direction, whether good or bad. This influence gives people a glimpse into the unseen supernatural world and teaches them to recognize these worlds. Every person in the

world that exists in one of the two spiritual kingdoms must choose between the two kingdoms. This choice is the right to serve in the kingdom of their choice. However, it is a grave mistake to make the wrong choice of what is right.

2. THE TWO OPPOSITE KINGDOMS

2.1. The Kingdom of God

The Kingdom of God is referred to in a few different ways in the New Testament such as;

- The kingdom of God and Christ (Matt 13:41⁷, Eph 5:5⁸)
- The kingdom of David (Mark 11:10)⁹
- The kingdom of Heaven (Matt 3:2)¹⁰

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

1 John 5:7 (KJV)

1 John 5:7 states that the triune existence of who God is, which refers to His heavenly Kingdom, is an essential element of the teaching of Jesus in the New Testament.

⁷ Matthew 13:41 (KJV) The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

⁸ Ephesians 5:5 (KJV) For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.”

⁹ Mark 11:10 (KJV) Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.”

¹⁰ Matthew 3:2 (KJV) “And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

The characterization, relationship, and trust between God and believers involve the Kingship of God and His authority that every believer must yield to. Believer's faith is constrained to the teachings of Jesus Christ that are recorded in the Bible. In God's Kingdom: which is a trichotomous existence, there is order. This order consists of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God dwells in His high places and sits on His throne, and has His doctrine. God also has believers that worship Him, have communion, and pray. Ministers are preaching the Word of God. There is the five-fold ministry and the gifts of God through which believers reign in the world. God also wants all believers to render their bodies as a living sacrifice unto Him (Rom 12:1)¹¹. Believers that trust God is in a relationship with the trinity of God and live by His Word experience Luke 17:20-21¹² to be part of their lives.

“¹Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, ²Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³And this will we do, if God permit.”

Hebrew 6:1-3(KJV)

¹¹ Romans 12:1 (KJV) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

¹² Luke 17:20-21 (KJV) ²⁰And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: ²¹“Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

In Hebrew 6:1-3, there are doctrines of Christ that believers must abide in:

- Repentance of dead works. Believers cannot put the new garment on without taking the old garment of the world off. Elijah could not put the garment of Elisa on without taking the old garment off.
- Faith towards God. Faith interpreted is to have a relationship or trust in God.
- Believers should be baptized.
- Laying on of hands.
- The resurrection of the dead.
- Eternal judgment.

These are the foundations that control every believer. These foundations are also there to ensure every believer reaches spiritual maturity in the kingdom of God. Because this Kingdom of God is spiritual, believers can only understand it with their spiritual mind 1 Corinthians 2:14¹³.

In Matthews 6:33¹⁴, God gives believers an advantage should they seek His presence in His Kingdom. Should the condition be met, blessings of Christ filter to all believers on this earth?

¹³ 1 Corinthians 2:14 (KJV) But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

¹⁴ Matthew 6:33 (KJV) But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Satan has come to kill, slaughter, and destroy all blessings that are upon the children of God. He aims to sever these blessings of God and let all believers in Christ Jesus feel hopeless.

2.2. The kingdom of satan

From the beginning, satan has set himself up against the authority of God. This rebellion caused satan to imitated God and set himself higher than God. He wants all men to serve him. As is written in Hebrew 8:10-11¹⁵, man has an inherent desire to honour a higher power. Satan uses this desire to infiltrate the minds of people. Here is where the battle of the mind begins. Through this mind battle, satan sets himself up to counter God's will in man.

These false imitations are well-known in:

- The trinity of satan – Revelations 20:10.¹⁶
- Satan's believers (satan's church) – Revelation 2:9.¹⁷
- Satan has his Communion services – 1 Cor 10:21.¹⁸

¹⁵ Hebrew 8:10-11 (KJV) ¹⁰For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: ¹¹And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

¹⁶ Revelation 20:10 (KJV) And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

¹⁷ Revelation 2:9 (KJV) I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

¹⁸ 1 Corinthians 10:21 (KJV) Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

- Satan has his sacrifices – 1 Cor 10:20.¹⁹
- Satan has his preachers – 2 Cor 11:14-15.²⁰
- Satan has his doctrine – Gal 1:8.²¹
- Satan has his throne – Rev 13:2.²²
- Satan has his worshippers – Rev 13:4.²³
- Satan has his teachers – 2 Peter 2:1.²⁴
- Satan has his prophets – Matt 24:11.²⁵
- Satan has his apostles – 2 Cor 11:13.²⁶

¹⁹ 1 Corinthians 10:20 (KJV) But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God:

²⁰ 2 Corinthians 11:14-15 (KJV) ¹⁴And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. ¹⁵Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

²¹ Galatians 1:8 (KJV) But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

²² Revelation 13:2 (KJV) And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

²³ Revelation 13:4 (KJV) And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

²⁴ 2 Peter 2:1(KJV) But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

²⁵ Mattews 24:11 (KJV) And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

²⁶ 2 Corinthians 11:13 (KJV) For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

- Satan will even imitate Christ – Matt 24:5.²⁷
- Satan has his communication system. There is doubt in Genesis chapter 3 through the Theta and Beta wavelengths, Trauma, astrology, horoscopes, witchcraft, rebellion, reading of hand palms, territ cards, crystal balls, reading of tea leaves and mediums.
- Satan also has his supernatural power – Rev 16:14.²⁸

The occultic infiltration in world religion is evident throughout Christian congregations today. Believers are oblivious to satan's attacks when he comes as an angel of the light. This statement may then lead to the question below.

3. Can a true believer be possessed by demons?

To clearly understand the question, the researcher is to investigate the difference between demons and spirits.

3.1. Demons

The Greek word for Demon is "*daimonia*" which means fallen angels. These are the angels that were cast from heaven with satan when they rebelled against God.

Throughout the Word of God, believers may read about these demons and the works they do. The book of Hebrews that notes about satan as the head of the demons. However, some believers do not believe in the existence of the demonic world.

²⁷ Mattews 24:5 (KJV) For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

²⁸ Revelation 16:14 (KJV) For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)

When the Word of God warns believers to be aware of demonic influences, there must be intellectual beings at work, as is written in Ephesians 6:12. To even consider someone to be intelligent, there should be some personality characteristics present such as rationality, emotions, own willpower, intellect, and conscience.

Matthew 8:28²⁹ shows how fierce these demons become when they are emotional. In James 2:19,³⁰ believers may read about the fallen angels that tremble of fear for God. Fear is an over secretion of the adreno-corticotropic hormone (ACTH).³¹

This aluminate the fact that 1 John 4:18³² is true when it comes to the existence of demons, inasmuch that fear has torment, and they tremble because of it.

Intellect refers to someone's thoughts, imagination, reasoning, and memory. Through these intellectual perceptions, demons may be regarded as intelligent beings. The demons immediately recognized Jesus for who He is in Luke 4:34³³, and they knew where they will end-up.

²⁹ Matthew 28:8 (KJV) And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

³⁰ James 2:19 (KJV) Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

³¹ Strydom, M.K. dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P 210.

³² 1 John 4:18 (KJV) There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

³³ Luke 4:34 (KJV) Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God.

They use this system to communicate false doctrine to the saved, as noted in 1 Timothy 4:1.³⁴

The third aspect of the characteristics is willpower, the will, is in the corpus callosum in the emotional brain. Urges, impulses, and desires incite the will to react. When someone is impulsive, wrong choices are made in life because they are without the Spirit of God. This happened to the two men that came out of the tombs. Jesus did not send the demons to the dry places. They pleaded to go into the nearby pigs. They had the intent to leave the two people and have another place to co-exist.

Demons, unlike humans, do not have a conscience. They cannot have remorse over something they did wrong. In Hebrew 4:12³⁵, indicates that the thoughts and purposes of the heart are judged. The Word of God, in Jeremiah 17:9³⁶, warns believers that their hearts are deceitful.

For this reason, according to Hebrew 10:22³⁷, believers must have their hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience. Only true believers can sever their hearts from a bad conscience and turn from their wicked ways. Demons do not possess this ability. This proves that they do not have a conscience.

The last personality characteristic that must be present is to act at a rational level of decision making. This characteristic is not in the makeup of any demon because they are either emotional or reactionary.

³⁴ 1 Timothy 4:1 (KJV) Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

³⁵ Hebrew 4:12 (KJV) For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

³⁶ Jeremiah 17:9 (KJV) The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

³⁷ Hebrew 10:22 (KJV) Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

The ability to make logical decisions requires that the person must have integrity and have relationships that are honest and sincere. Demons are never truthful about their attacks; they are reactionary beings.

Another factor of demonization is that a demon cannot change its characteristics or trades. Family intervention³⁸ stipulates that through the same questions posed to people all over the world, who have a drinking problem and based on their reply, the trades, and characteristics of an alcoholic, for an example, is the same if you take an alcoholic from each country in the world and put them together. Their mannerisms, once they consume alcohol, are the same because they cannot change. This finding proves that the influence of demons cannot change; they are the same all over the world.

3.2. Spirits

The actions of any person reflect the true spirit that influences them to do and react the way the person does.

There are different types of spirits, good and bad, mentioned in the Word of God, such as a Spirit of God, a spirit of man, Holy Spirit, spirit of knowledge, spirit of wisdom, spirit of understanding, a spirit of reverent fear for the Lord, a spirit of love, a spirit of rebellion, a spirit of lust, a spirit of fear, a spirit of error, a Jezebel spirit. There is a long list of spiritual beings in the world that may influence people to the extent that they feel destroyed and hopeless.

³⁸ Family first intervention. (February 26, 2021) Recognizing the Behaviors of an Alcoholic. [On Line] Available at: <https://family-intervention.com/blog/recognizing-the-behaviors-of-an-alcoholic/> [Accessed 03 May 2021]

Through these spiritual beings, satan has one aim, he wants to sever the blessings of God from all believers. In John 10:10, his attitude and motive towards believers are revealed. Whether it is through demons or spiritual beings;

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:”

John 10:10 (KJV)

To illustrate the magnitude of how these spirits work, the twelve spies that went into the Promised Land will be used. In Numbers 13:17, to Numbers 14:39, the Word of God gives an account of what transpired from the time the spies went into the Promised Land to the time they came back.

Ten spies returned with a negative report of giants in the land. Immediately through their negative statement, they transferred fear and unbelief to the rest of the Israelites (Numbers 13:32).³⁹ However, Caleb and Joshua came back with a good description of what they experienced. Numbers 14:24⁴⁰ notes that both these men had “another spirit with them.”

Numbers 14:24 symbolizes the two different types of spirits operating in the world that seeks to control people. The same spiritual beings working then are in the world now, a spirit of truth and unbelief. Believers must therefore, be vigilant and do spiritual warfare.

³⁹ Numbers 13:32 (KJV) And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

⁴⁰ Numbers 14:24 (KJV) But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

4. What is spiritual warfare?

Spiritual warfare is based on a Biblical belief that there are spiritual beings, which humans encounter daily. 2 Corinthians 10:3, explains;

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh.”

2 Corinthians 10:3 (KJV)

This Spiritual warfare is a war from the beginning of time between light and darkness. As it is in every type of war, there is no neutral ground for believers to exist. You are either for one or against the other. However, many believers are aware of this warfare but may choose to be passive about it, and by doing so, they become prisoners of this war. The devil will not flee from believers that are easily influenced (James 4:7).

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

James 4:7 (KJV)

Jesus, as the crucified, won every battle there is against satan. However, there is still a battle on this earth for the souls of people. Satan and his demonic forces are continually attacking people in spirit, body, and soul; that is why every believer should submit to the Lord and resist the devil. Spiritual warfare means that the power of satan does not go unnoticed and that believers should guard against these attacks.

4.1. Believers are to encounter spiritual warfare in one of the following areas of their lives:

4.1.1 At Home and Church

The church and the home are the two places where every person, irrespective if you are a believer or a non-believer, should feel safe. These are the two most likely places where satan infiltrates to continue his destruction. His destruction is systematic of

nature. He starts with a negative thought or word that enters the person's mind. This thought or word may anger the person into a rage. In this rage, the person may say or even do things to his family or congregation members. Satan obtained a foothold into the person's life through this anger, which makes them fear him. The Word of God in Ephesians 4:27 notes:

“Neither gives place to the devil.”

Ephesians 4:27 (KJV)

Through this anger, the person does not do what the Word of God tells him to do and retire to bed with anger.

During the night, in the subconscious, the brain sorts all the day's activities and reacts the same in the subconscious as it would have in the conscious.⁴¹ During the sorting process, chemicals are released in the brain during sleep. The person may wake up in the morning feeling all grumpy because he has given satan, through this sin of disobedience to the Word of God, a legal foothold in his life. As long as he does not repent, he may struggle with anger throughout his life.

Through this anger, the spirit of envy and strife enters the home or congregation. As indicated in James 3:16, when there is rebellion against God,

“For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.”

James 3:16 (KJV)

⁴¹ Leaf, Caroline (2013) Switch on your brain. Grand Rapids, MI, United States of America: Bakers Books Publishers. P. 24.

The Word of God says: such people are not to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. The places where people should feel safe are the home and the church. These are the places where the most negative emotions occur. Through this discord, satan leads the family into a warzone, and negativity becomes a daily routine. Aggression is part of the home, and peace cannot exist. This aggression opens the door for rejection to become part of the family. Rejecting each other is where satan wants the family to be, which allows the curse of Deuteronomy 28:20⁴² to have a stronghold on the family. Through envy and strife within the family, violence erupts, family abuse sets in, or the church divide. What was only a foothold, became a stronghold for satan. The person or the congregation may be in bondage.

4.1.2. In the mind and body

God created people with a spirit, soul, and body. When satan cannot corrupt someone spiritually, he will attack the soul and the body. Through this attack, every believer should be able to differentiate between the different voices talking to them. They must know if God, satan, the world, or their voice speaking to them.

Satan knows if he controls a believer's mind, he restraint their life. He starts by giving personal thoughts in the first person, such as "I hate my life" or "I hate the way my life is." These thoughts then become toxic thoughts of disappointment and a feeling of rejection.⁴³

⁴² Deuteronomy 28:20 (KJV) The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.

⁴³ Strydom, M.K. Dr. 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 89.

The brain secretes a chemical called protein synthesist that attaches to negative thinking patterns. The more the person meditates on this negative toxic thinking pattern, the stronger the thought becomes. The negative thinking pattern becomes the lens through which life is seen. This negative emotion allows depression to take over the person's life, and the person becomes anti-social. Viewing life through this negative lens allows Leviticus 17:11⁴⁴ to become a reality. The toxicity flows through the blood into the rest of the body. This toxic thought opens the door for the spirit infirmity, and satan may put sicknesses on the believer's body.

Believers should know the source of the stronghold in their minds. Should a thought require attention continually, then it must be eradicated as indicated in 2 Corinthians 10:4.

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.”

2 Corinthians 10:4 (KJV)

4.1.3. In the Heavenly Places

The apostle Paul warns believers in Ephesians 6:12⁴⁵ that their fight is not against flesh and blood. If the battle is not against flesh and blood, it means that it must be against spirits and demons in the heavenly places. These are spirits and demons that cannot be seen with the naked eye but can be discerned through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in believers.

⁴⁴ Leviticus 17:11 (KJV) For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

⁴⁵ Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Demons operate in the spiritual realm; they cannot operate in the physical realm as humans do and therefore need a body to work through. When the person gives heed to a toxic thought such as hate, he becomes one with satan and his demons in body, soul, and spirit. The demonic realm may use him to sin, such as murder. This sin becomes the person's sin. Through this sin, satan has a legal right to a person's life.

5. The counterfeit way satan so effectively use to change believer's belief system?

“¹⁴And no marvel; for satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. ¹⁵Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

2 Corinthians 11:14-15 (KJV)

According to 2 Corinthians 11:14-15, satan can transform into the angel of light and deceive and tempts people to believe him. He uses people's senses to entice them. The enticement is through the media, thoughts, and words. What believers may believe through satan's cunningness, and sees as right, is wrong in God's view.

In Genesis 3, the serpent verbally convinced Eve to take of the fruit through doubt. Eve disobeyed God's Word and His command, ate the fruit, and convinced Adam to do the same. The cunningness of satan obliterated Adam and Eve because they disgraced themselves and were left alienated. This cunningness of the serpent in the Garden of Eden still affects people today. The fall of Adam meant that physical and spiritual death became a permanent part of human life (Rom 5:12).⁴⁶

⁴⁶ Romans 5:12 (KJV) Wherefore, as by one-man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

In Matthews 4:1,⁴⁷ states that even our Lord Jesus Christ had to endure this verbal attack from satan in the wilderness. In 1 Peter 5:8,⁴⁸ God warns all believers to be vigilant and on guard. With this Scripture in mind, it is not a question if, but when satan attacks and how he attacks.

In the church, his attack may differ from outside the church. Inside the church, a member may receive a word from God to set up a counselling division. During this process of gathering information, someone may tell the counsellor to be, that he has an excellent voice and should join the choir. The person feels good about the compliment and decides to join the choir. They become so busy with choir practices that he does not continue with the counselling division.

God never called him to join the choir. Satan knows that if he continues with the counselling division, he may save many people.

When someone does not listen to the voice of God and follows his way, he sins against God. What seemed to be a good thing to do is not always the correct thing to do. James 4:17 tells believers guard against sin.

“Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.”

James 4:17 (KJV)

⁴⁷ Matthews 4:1 (KJV) Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

⁴⁸ 1 Peter 5:8 (KJV) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

6. What is the relationship between emotions and Spiritual warfare?

People's strongest reaction to any situation in life is through their emotions, whether it is their belief system, prayer, spiritual warfare, abuse, danger, war, or trauma. It is through this emotional reaction that satan manipulates believers and endeavour to change their way of thinking. He knows that for every emotional response, there is a physical reaction to it.

When God gives a believer a word, and they experience it in the spirit, the thought runs from their heart to their frontal lobe, where their rational decision-making level is.⁴⁹ When this person experiences an emotional event such as a traumatic event, there is chaos in their heart. The heart does not secrete the peace chemical, atrial natriuretic factor, and the person then experiences confusion.

This thought runs from their brain back to their heart, and eventually, they drown out the voice of their heart.

Through this chaos in the heart, satan wants the believer to doubt if the word is actually from God. The believer not only has turmoil in their heart, but they also start to stress. These negative emotions of stress set off a cascade of chemical reactions.

During stress level one, the hypothalamus releases a chemical called corticotropin-releasing hormones (CRH). This hormone is an excellent memory-building hormone. The release then stimulates the pituitary gland, which will release a hormone called Adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH). ACTH hormone keeps the person alert and stimulates the adrenal gland to release cortisol and adrenalin. When these hormones release in small quantities, they keep the person alert and focused.

⁴⁹ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. PP. 21-22.

The adrenal gland sends a message to the hypothalamus to indicate that is enough CRH and ACTH released and that the hypothalamus can stop producing CRH and ACTH. This process is called negative feedback. When a negative toxic thought is triggered, and a person remains in stage one of stress for too long, it becomes harmful. The negative thinking pattern may shift the body into stage two of stress. Stage two of stress can also be called the resistance stage, or severe long-term stress. When someone transfers from alert to bitter, anxious, worried, fearful, or angry, the hypothalamus responds by secreting too much CRH. When there are large quantities of CRH released, the chemical structure of CRH changes, from good hormones to negative hormones, this is called Chemical of Negative Expectation. CRH released in large quantities then stimulates the pituitary gland to release ACTH in large amounts, which are fear hormones. Excessive release is fear in a physical form.⁵⁰

Satan has the believer exactly where he wants him because he starts to doubt the Word of God and is disobedient to the Word of God.

Now the person has become one with satan and his evil force, and they can lodge a full-scale attack on his body or even kill him prematurely.

When satan attacks and he gets the believer emotional, he has won the battle. He will stand back, and the believer may self-distract. Goleman⁵¹ in his book Emotional Intelligence, notes: that the brain gives the amygdala the privilege, as the emotional sentinel, to hold views independently of the rational mind. Goleman further notes that the amygdala responds in twelve milliseconds which is twelve-thousandths of a second.

⁵⁰ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 182.

⁵¹ Goleman, Daniel (2020) Emotional Intelligence. London. Bloomsbury Publishers Place. PP. 16-18.

The process may allow emotions to hijack the rational brain which, may render the rational brain defenceless. The person then becomes a double-minded person that battles to differentiate between right and wrong.

7. Conclusion

The research proves that two spiritual kingdoms exist in the world today. They are God's Kingdom and satan's kingdom. For any domain to survive, they must adhere to standards. Both God's Kingdom and satan's kingdom comply with the standards. However, believers have no neutral ground to stand in when it comes to the two domains. They are either for one or against the other. In Hebrews 6:1-3, there are six doctrines of Christ that believers must abide in. These foundations are also there to ensure every believer reaches spiritual maturity in the kingdom of God. The kingdom of satan is imitating the Kingdom of God. A demon cannot possess a true believer. However, a spirit may oppress a believer and rob them of God's blessings.

Believers may encounter these spiritual attacks in different areas of their lives, such as their homes and churches, the mind and the body, and in heavenly places.

Satan lodges a full-scale onslaught through the imitation system to try and change the believer's belief system. The soul's dimension is one of the most susceptible areas for these attacks. Believers are not free from spiritual warfare and must know the spiritual wickedness and authorities. The next chapter will deliberate on these spiritual authorities.

Chapter 2

Spiritual Wickedness and Authorities

1. Introduction

Believers may experience that spiritual wickedness, and authorities want to sever them from God's blessings. More so from every believer that follows the doctrines of Christ Jesus. Through voodoo, black magic, astrology, psychics, witchcraft, new age movement, the occult, mediums, freemasons, false doctrines, and many more, passive and ignorant people are prey to demonic forces Moshood Fayemiwo and Margie Neal⁵². In the demonic kingdom, some principalities have their geographical area and are honoured by ignorant people. Demons have a higher-ranking power they report to, which is Beelzebub (Matthew 12:24)⁵³. Beelzebub, who organizes these demons, gives them their tasks and assignments. Should any of these demons encounter difficulties, they contact Beelzebub. Beelzebub is assigned to send reinforcements to assist in the attacks. As hosts roam the heavenly, so do people, angels, demons, and spirits roam the earth (Neh 9:6).

“Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.”

Nehemiah 9:6 (KJV)

⁵² Moshood A. Fayemiwo PHD and Margie Neal, E. (2015). The Kingdom of satan exposed. Activities of principalities and demon worship in the world, 1st edition ed. Publisher: Alternative Lifestyle Communication DBA Chicago, IL in collaboration with Booklocker.com, INC, Bradenton, KL, USA. P. 46

⁵³ Matthew 12:24 (KJV) But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

In Deuteronomy 4:19⁵⁴, God warns the Israelites not to bow down to the sun, sea, moon, and stars. Satan used the same hosts and did the opposite of what God told the people not to do. He succeeded in getting the people to worship the stars, moon, the sea, and the sun. The root cause of people's disobedience to God is selfish power. The serpent did the same with Eve in the Garden of Eden. He told Eve that she will become the same as God. The same reason why satan was thrown out of heaven, selfish power, is why so many people today fail to receive their blessings from God.

Satan beguiles many believers. The reason is that they do not have the knowledge to do spiritual warfare because they do not understand or are passive about satan's kingdom.

This chapter will assist believers in gaining knowledge about evil forces, such as their high places, the seven princes of hell, Jezebel spirit, The trinity of satan, their strategies, and how they are organized. This chapter will also focus on how these spirits infiltrate the religious systems of the world.

2 What are high places?

Spiritual high places are not only places on a mountaintop or a hilltop; they may, from a biblical context, also be in a valley or a home. Couturier⁵⁵, explains that the term high places as "localized or regional worshipped centres dedicated to a god." These high places are where they sacrifice to their gods.

⁵⁴ Deuteronomy 4:19 (KJV) And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

⁵⁵ Couturier, A., (2017, October 10). What were the high places? (On Line) Available at: <http://www.biblestudymagazine.com/bible-study-magazine-blog/2017/10/10/what-were-the-high-places> [Accessed 01 December 2020]

In 1 Kings 3:2-3⁵⁶, God required that His people sacrifice on altars to Him, which is God's high place. In Numbers 33, Satan mimics these high places in Canaan. They build for themselves high places and forsake God by worshipping these false gods and the shrines. In Numbers 33:52, God warned the Israelites to destroy the images and demolish the high places.

“Then ye shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their pictures, and destroy all their molten images, and quite pluck down all their high places:”

Numbers 33:52 (KJV)

For an Israelite to sacrifice anywhere else than the high place of God was a sin. When King Solomon built the temple of God in Jerusalem, the twelve tribes of Israel came together as one and had one place to sacrifice. Solomon defiled the temple because he built altars so that his wives may honour their gods (1 Kings 11:4-8)⁵⁷. This sin resulted that God split his kingdom (1 Kings 12).

King David stood at the mountain, looked up and proclaimed in Psalms 121:1&2;

⁵⁶ 1 Kings 3:2-3 (KJV) ²Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built unto the name of the LORD, until those days. ³And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

⁵⁷ 1 Kings 11:4-8 (KJV) ⁴For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. ⁵For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. ⁶And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. ⁷Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. ⁸And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

“I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. ²My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.”
(KJV)

Psalms 121:1&2 (KJV)

King David knew that when he looked at the mountain tops and saw all the high places of satanic worship, and proclaimed that his help does not come from these satanic high places, but from the God who created the heavens and earth.

3 Satan’s strategies

In this spiritual battle, there is a war raging, and every person on this earth, whether they are aware or oblivious to this war, is in satan’s aim through this strategic attack against God’s creation. The degree of satan’s attack varies from skirmishes to a full-out onslaught which the person may feel is never-ending.

For satan to be successful, there must be people to wage war against, with goals and plans. Satan does not only have his goals, and his strategies, he also contains the elements of deceiving and outwitting people. The root cause of his rage against believers is the hate that he has towards God. With satan’s war that is raging against believers God warns all believers to be vigilant.

“Lest satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”

2 Corinthians 2:11(KJV)

Satan’s goals and plans to accomplish his strategy are made known in John 10:10

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:”

John 10:10 (KJV)

Satan knows to accomplish his goals he must entrap believers through deception and not allow James 1:21⁵⁸ to become their reality. He aims to destroy believers with;

- Pride – Psalm 59:12⁵⁹
- Lust – Matthew 5:28⁶⁰
- Doubt – Matthew 14:31⁶¹
- Temptation – 1 Timothy 6:9⁶²
- Lies – John 8:44⁶³

Satan knows that the whole earth is lying in wickedness with many people that are ignorant to his attacks. He aims to destroy believer's integrity and let them feel like hypocrites in the presence of other believers. His strategy starts in the brain, the intellect. The intellect or cognitive consists of thoughts, memory, imagination, and reasoning⁶⁴. The corpus callosum is where the free will is situated⁶⁵.

⁵⁸ James 1:21 (KJV) Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

⁵⁹ Psalm 59:12 (KJV) For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying which they speak.

⁶⁰ Matthew 5:28 (KJV) But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

⁶¹ Matthew 14:31 (KJV) And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

⁶² 1 Timothy 6:9 (KJV) But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

⁶³ John 8:44 (KJV) Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

⁶⁴ Van Veuren, Gerrit. JJ. Dr. (2010) The counsellor study guide book 2. Pinetown, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Publishers, A.Y.M. Services cc, Pinetown. P. 32.

⁶⁵ Strydom, M.K. Dr. 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 13.

In the brain, people make choices to either accept or reject any thought that enters their minds. The prefrontal cortex, is where rational decisions are made⁶⁶. God gives people a window of opportunity to make the correct choices in life. It is though these choices, people change the physical reality of the brain to reflect their selections. It is also in the mind that people make choices to either follow God or satan's strategies.

In these strategies, there is spiritual wickedness in high places that have, through time, infiltrated the religious systems of the world, homes, and congregations. Through this infiltration, satan has evil forces that imitate true believers to set up false worship. For satan to mislead so many believers, he must not only imitate the world religious system but counterfeit God's trichotomy.

4 The counterfeit trichotomy of satan

In the first chapter, the two spiritual kingdoms are explained, with a brief explanation of the trichotomy of satan. However, this section is to show if the hypo dissertation of satan's counterfeit trichotomy is true.

4.1 The trinity of satan

1 John 5:7⁶⁷, Genesis 1:26⁶⁸, and Matthew 3:16-17⁶⁹, declares that God exists as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

⁶⁶ Strydom, M.K. Dr. 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 13.

⁶⁷ 1 John 5:7 (KJV) For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

⁶⁸ Genesis 1:26 (KJV) And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:

⁶⁹ Matthew 3:16-17 (KJV) ¹⁶And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: ¹⁷And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

In Revelation 20:10⁷⁰, Satan imitated God's trinity, "as satan, the beast, and the false prophet." When satan fell from heaven, he started to impersonated God in everything. Satan is wandering on earth, and may through his power on earth, influence people to the extent that they lose not only their hope but their faith in God because people are oblivious or even ignorant to his attack.

4.1.1 Satan

"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:"

Colossians 1:16 (KJV)

Satan, according to Colossians 1:16, was also created by God. However, God never created anything imperfect or evil. Since every believer must choose between life and death (Deut 30:19)⁷¹ satan, also had to choose between right and wrong but preferred to rebel against God. Therefore, all evil forces had the same choice as satan, but they took the rebellious ways, which will end in death. These evil forces knew what they were doing when he rebelled against God. In Isaiah 14:12⁷², the name of Lucifer means "***bright morning star.***" Lucifer formally called the bright morning star, who God created, demonstrated his character by opposing God on every spiritual level.

⁷⁰ Revelation 20:10 (KJV) And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

⁷¹ Deuteronomy 30:19 (KJV) I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

⁷² Isaiah 14:12 (KJV) How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Ezekiel 28:13-14⁷³ declares the marvel that God created Satan in. He lived in Eden, the garden of God, and walked on God's Mountain. He wore gems of every kind with angles that protected him until the day he began to do evil. God expelled him from Eden, and the very same angel that guarded him drove him away. Satan got expelled from heaven because of the rebellion that was personified by the pride in him, as indicated in Isaiah 14:13-14⁷⁴ It also explains the five proud statements he made.

Satan not only imitates God, but he imitates Jesus as written in Matthew 24:4 and 5:

“⁴ And Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceives you. ⁵For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.”

Matthew 24:4-5 (KJV)

Satan also imitates Holy Spirit. Isaiah 11:2 personifies the Holy Spirit and magnifies who God is.

“And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;”

Isaiah 11:2 (KJV)

⁷³ Ezekiel 28:13-14 (KJV) ¹³Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. ¹⁴Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

⁷⁴ Isaiah 14:13-14 (KJV) ¹³For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

The Word of God in Isaiah 11 clarifies what the seven spirits of God entail. Satan also mimics the Spirit of God, and he has his seven princes of hell. Kim Alice⁷⁵ notes the seven deadly sins, which also became known as the seven princes of hell.

In 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12, Paul notes: that satan will come with all power, he will tell lies, do signs and wonders and, many will follow him and perish.

⁹Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, ¹⁰and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: ¹²That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12(KJV)

4.1.2. The Beast

From the triune entity of satan, the beast, because of the symbols used in the Bible, is most probably the one entity that can be considered the most confusing. According to the visions that both Daniel and John the baptized had, the beast represents kingdoms and individuals. Revelation 20:10⁷⁶ mentions the “beast,” and Daniel 7:3⁷⁷ refers to the “four kings”,

⁷⁵ Alice, K., (2013, December 09). Christianity. Who are the seven princes of hell? (On Line) Available at: <https://christianity.stackexchange.com/questions/23647/who-are-the-seven-princes-of-hell> [Accessed 20 October 2020]

⁷⁶ Revelation 20:10 (KJV) And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

⁷⁷ Daniel 7:3 (KJV) And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

that will arise as described in Daniel 7:4-7⁷⁸.

In Daniel 7:7⁷⁹, Revelations 13:1⁸⁰, and 17:3⁸¹, the “beast” has ten horns. Revelation 13:3⁸² notes that the beast received power to heal the wounded, and for that, he is exalted.

The dragon mentioned in Revelation 13 is identical to the beast, and the dragon will give his power to the beast. During the tribulation period, the beast is to cause a large-scale desolation and destruction of the human race. Those that worship the beast will receive a mark (Rev 20:4)⁸³.

⁷⁸ Daniel 7:4-7 (KJV) ⁴The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. ⁵And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. ⁶After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. ⁷After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

⁷⁹ Daniel 7:7 (KJV) After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

⁸⁰ Revelation 13:1 (KJV) And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

⁸¹ Revelation 17:3 (KJV) So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

⁸² Revelation 13:3 (KJV) And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

⁸³ Revelation 20:4 (KJV) And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

4.1.3. False prophet

According to 1 Kings 22:7⁸⁴, a false prophet speaks on behalf of someone else, and a true prophet speaks for God. Revelation 13:11⁸⁵ indicates another beast, the false prophet. The false prophet mentioned in Revelation has supernatural powers, such as calling fire from heaven and performing signs. The false prophet will mislead people and get them to declare their allegiance to the beast. During the tribulation period, this man will be reckless in his attempt to populate hell with as many people as he can. He is going to succeed in convincing people to commit idolatry (Revelation 13:12)⁸⁶. Revelation 19:20⁸⁷ indicates that he will be in the pool of fire with the beast for the ungodly work they performed on this earth.

5. Satan has believers, a throne, apostles, worshipers, teachers, and prophets

- Satan's believers (satan's church) – Revelation 2:9⁸⁸.
- Satan has his Communion services – 1 Cor 10:21⁸⁹.
- Satan has his sacrifices – 1 Cor 10:20⁹⁰.

⁸⁴ 1 Kings 22:7 (KJV) And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him?

⁸⁵ Revelation 13:11 (KJV) And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

⁸⁶ Revelation 13:12 (KJV) And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

⁸⁷ Revelation 19:20 (KJV) And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

⁸⁸ Revelation 2:9 (KJV) I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

⁸⁹ 1 Corinthians 10:21 (KJV) Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

⁹⁰ 1 Corinthians 10:20 (KJV) But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

- Satan has his preachers – 2 Cor 11:14-15⁹¹.
- Satan has his doctrine – Gal 1:7-8⁹².
- Satan has his throne – Rev 13:2⁹³.
- Satan has his worshippers – Rev 13:4⁹⁴.
- Satan has his teachers – 2 Peter 2:1⁹⁵.
- Satan has his apostles – 2 Cor 11:13⁹⁶.
- Satan will even imitate Christ – Matt 24:4-5⁹⁷.
- Satan has his communication system – Such as doubt in Genesis chapter 3, through the Theta and Beta wavelengths⁹⁸, Trauma, astrology, horoscopes, witchcraft, rebellion, reading of hand palms, torrid cards, crystal balls, reading of tea leaves, and mediums.

⁹¹ 2 Corinthians 11:14-15 (KJV) ¹⁴And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. ¹⁵Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

⁹² Galatians 1:7-8 (KJV) ⁷Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

⁹³ Revelation 13:2 (KJV) And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

⁹⁴ Revelation 13:4 (KJV) And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

⁹⁵ 2 Peter 2:1 (KJV) But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction

⁹⁶ 2 Corinthians 11:13 (KJV) For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

⁹⁷ Matthew 24:4-5 (KJV) ⁴And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. ⁵For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

⁹⁸ Strydom, M.K. Dr. 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 89.

- Satan also has his supernatural power – Rev 16:14⁹⁹.
- Satan has his prophets – Matt 7:15¹⁰⁰.

Believers may find that there are many false prophets in congregations today. Men and women who declare they are messengers of God. They are the ones who come as wolves in sheep clothes. They aim to steal, kill and destroy and; to confuse people to such an extent that they do not know right from wrong. There are two ways to recognize these false prophets at work, representing the kingdom of satan. Firstly, believers can recognize these false prophets by having a spirit of discernment which is from God. Secondly, these wolves in sheep clothes leave striking clues, their tracks. Wolves cannot change their marks and make it the same as sheep's tracks. Matthew 7:16¹⁰¹ indicates that believers are to know them by their fruits.

6. Satan's supernatural powers

As reflected in chapter 1, there are two spiritual kingdoms on this earth, and every person on this earth is part of one of them. There is also the natural world that people live in that is controlled by these spiritual kingdoms. One of the main reasons people, whether believers or non-believers are so oblivious to the spirit world is because they experience everything in the physical world. Satan uses ignorance to mislead believers and make them doubt their faith. In Ephesians 6:12¹⁰², satan sends his principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness to exercise control over this wicked world which, according to 1 John 5:19, lies in wickedness.

⁹⁹ Revelation 16:14 (KJV) For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

¹⁰⁰ Matthew 7:15 (KJV) Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

¹⁰¹ Matthew 7:16 (KJV) Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

¹⁰² Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

“And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.”

1 John 5:19 (KJV)

Satan strategically manipulates people in the world, into his kingdom, through false religions, the world's monetary system, sexuality, occultism, and world politics. These are also the five dominium's that represent the pentagram in occultism. Through these dominium's he sends the spirits mentioned in Ephesians 6:12¹⁰³ and other spirits that are to be dealt with in this section to attack people in this world.

6.1. Satan the leader of the demonic world – Wrath

Satan, the adversary mentioned in 1 Kings 11:14¹⁰⁴ and 1 Chronicle 21:1¹⁰⁵, notes satan as the adversary in the Bible for the first time. When Jesus spoke to Peter in Matthew 16:23¹⁰⁶, His disciple who had been with Him, Jesus used adversary in the original form to address the work of satan. The influence of satan, subordinate position, and absence of power over man are from the beginning of the Gospel. Satan also tempted Jesus, just as he tempts believers. Ephesians 2:2¹⁰⁷ notes satan as a "spirit," and Matthew 25:41¹⁰⁸ determines that satan has his subjects which are his "angels."

¹⁰³ Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

¹⁰⁴ 1 Kings 11:14 (KJV) And the LORD stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's seed in Edom.

¹⁰⁵ 1 Chronicle 21:1 (KJV) And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

¹⁰⁶ Matthew 16:23 (KJV) But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

¹⁰⁷ Ephesians 2:2 (KJV) Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

¹⁰⁸ Matthew 25:41 (KJV) Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Satanic actions want to corrupt the heart of man. Two words, temptation, and possession can summarize what satan has set out to achieve. In James 1:2-4¹⁰⁹, the Word of God expresses that temptation which is essential to man and is ordained for him and is sent to man by God. Through passiveness, which is in Scripture, the temptation of satan has vast power. Every sin committed makes man the servant of sin (John 8:34¹¹⁰; Romans 6:16¹¹¹). Sin creates in the spirit of a man a tendency to evil tendency. This tendency sympathizes with and aids the temptation of the evil one. Though people may have a good knowledge of who satan is and where he comes from, it remains just as important to know that he cannot work alone; he has demonic spirits who are eagerly waiting to do his evil work and put people in bondage.

Below are some names of satan according to the Word of God:

- Matthew 4:1¹¹² – Devil means false accuser¹¹³.
- Matthew 4:3¹¹⁴ – Tempter¹¹⁵.

¹⁰⁹ James 1:2-4 (KJV) ²My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ³Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. ⁴But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

¹¹⁰ John 8:34 (KJV) Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

¹¹¹ Romans 6:16 (KJV) Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

¹¹² Matthew 4:1 (KJV) Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

¹¹³ Stong's # eSword. G1225; a traducer; specifically, Satan (compare [H7854]): - false accuser, devil, slanderer.

¹¹⁴ Matthew 4:3 (KJV) And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

¹¹⁵ Dictionary search Tempter – Smith. eSword. The personal existence of a spirit of evil is clearly revealed in Scripture; but the revelation is made gradually, in accordance with the progressiveness of God's method. In the first entrance of evil into the world, the temptation is referred only to the serpent. In the book of Job, we find, for the first time, a distinct mention of "Satan," the "adversary," of Job. But it is important to remark the emphatic stress laid on his subordinate position, on the absence of all, but delegated power, of all terror and all grandeur in his character. It is especially remarkable that no power of spiritual influence, but only a power over outward circumstances, is attributed to him.

Spiritual Wickedness and Authorities

- Matthew 13:39¹¹⁶ – Enemy¹¹⁷.
- Mark 1:13¹¹⁸ – Satan means adversary¹¹⁹.
- John 8:44¹²⁰ – Liar¹²¹ and murderer¹²².
- John 12:31¹²³ – Prince of this world¹²⁴.
- John 10:10¹²⁵ – Thief¹²⁶.
- 1 John 5:18¹²⁷ – Wicked one¹²⁸.

¹¹⁶ Matthew 13:39 (KJV) The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels.

¹¹⁷ Strong's #H7854 eSword. an opponent; especially (with the article prefixed) Satan, the arch enemy of good: - adversary, Satan, withstand.

¹¹⁸ Mark 1:13 (KJV) He was in the wilderness for 40 days being tempted by Satan. He was among wild animals, and angels were ministering to him.

¹¹⁹ Strong's #G2190, eSword. From a primary word ἔχθω echthō (to hate); hateful (passively odious, or actively hostile); usually as a noun, an adversary (especially Satan): - enemy, foe.

¹²⁰ John 8:44 (KJV) You belong to your father the devil, and you want to carry out the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning and has never stood for truth, since there is no truth in him. Whenever he tells a lie he speaks in character, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

¹²¹ Strong's #1455, eSword. Eng-kath'-et-os, From G1722 and a derivative of G2524; subinduced, that is, surreptitiously suborned as a liar in wait: - spy.

¹²² Strong's #G5407, eSword. fon-yoo'-o, From G5406; to be a murderer (of): - kill, do murder, slay.

¹²³ John 12:31 (KJV) Now is the time for the judgment of this world to begin. Now will the ruler of this world be thrown out.

¹²⁴ Strong's, #G2232, eSword. hayg-em-ohn'. From G2233; a leader, that is, chief person (or figuratively place) of a province: - governor, prince, ruler.

¹²⁵ John 10:10 (KJV) The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

¹²⁶ Strong's #G3027, eSword. From ληΐζομαι lēizomai (to "plunder"); a brigand: - robber, thief.

¹²⁷ 1 John 5:18 (KJV) We know that the person who has been born from God does not go on sinning. Rather, the Son of God protects them, and the evil one cannot harm them.

¹²⁸ Strong's #H2154 eSword. From H2161; a plan, especially a bad one: - heinous crime, lewd (-ly, -ness), mischief, purpose, thought, wicked (device, mind, -ness).

6.2. Apollyon

“And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.”

Revelation 9:11(KJV)

“Apollyon” is one of the high-ranking demons of satan. He leads the army of demonic “locusts” that arise from the bottomless pit after the fifth trumpet echoed to torture those that do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. The pains they are to inflict will be so intense that the people would wish to die. However, death is going to depart from this earth for five months.

Timmons¹²⁹ notes that Apollyon does not always work alone; his allies are Ashtaroth and Baal. Through the Old Testament, it is notable that both Ashtaroth and Baal are involved with false religion. The function of this demon is to promote false religion throughout the world. This false religion corrupts people’s minds and entices them into bad habits such as using drugs, heavy metal music, fornication, incest, bestiality, alcohol, and paedophilia. He aims to ensure believers are disheartened and hopeless to turn away from serving God and serve idols. Idols may not be merely carved images. It is that thing you spend the most time with, such as TV, sport, and entertainment. Apollyon’s main aim is to keep the person’s mind occupied so that the person does not spend time thinking about God and His Word.

¹²⁹ Timmons. J.P. (2012) *Mysterious secrets of the Dark Kingdom: The battle for planet earth*. Montana. Publisher: Zondervan Bible Plu. P. 115.

6.3. Beelzebub – Gluttony

“² And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them, Go, enquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of this disease. ³ But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron?”

2 Kings 1:2-3(KJV)

Beelzebub is a Philistine god worshipped in Ekron. The name Beelzebub is also associated with the Canaanites god Baal. In 2 Kings 1:3¹³⁰, the Word of God mentioned him as Baalzebub. New World Encyclopedia¹³¹ notes that the name Beelzebub means;

- ***“lord”***

He controls everything that flies and is called the;

- ***“lord of the flies.”***

¹³⁰ 2 Kings 1:3 (KJV) But the angel of the LORD spoke to Elijah the foreigner, "Get up and go meet the messengers from the king of Samaria. Ask them 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you're going to consult with Ekron's god Baal-zebub?"

¹³¹ New World Encyclopedia. (November, 27, 2020) Beelzebub. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Beelzebub> [Accessed 12 March 2021]

When the Philistines sacrificed to Baal, flies congregated on the corpses. The Baal worshippers believed the more flies present, the more acceptable the offering is to Baal. These flies congregate on corpses, spread diseases from the dead to the living. There are seven princes of hell, with Beelzebub as one of them. He oversees the witches and wizards who, in the spirit world, fly at night. Beelzebub is the one who sends out evil spirits to attack humans with fiery darts of wickedness.

6.4. Lucifer - Pride

Lynn Hayes¹³² notes; in various mythological and religious figures, the name Lucifer has associated with the planet Venus hence the name “Morning Star.” Only one verse in the Bible refers to “Lucifer” Ezekiel 28:15¹³³ Lucifer is the spirit of pride on the mountain of God. Pride is another word for narcissism which is excessive love for oneself.

“Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.”

1Timothy 3:6 (KJV)

Pride, has a detrimental effect on the belief system of a person;

- Pride allows a person to turn away from God. – Genesis 11:4¹³⁴.
- Pride can deceive. – Ezekiel 28:17¹³⁵.

¹³² Hayes Lynn. (07 February 2012) Astrological Musing, Lucifer: Satan or Venus? [On Line] Available at: <https://www.beliefnet.com/columnists/astrologicalmusings/2009/07/lucifer-satan-or-venus.html> [Accessed 22 April 2021]

¹³³ Ezekiel 28:14-15 (KJV) Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

¹³⁴ Genesis 11:4 (KJV) And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

¹³⁵ Ezekiel 28:17 (KJV) Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

- Pride disqualifies humility in a person. – Proverbs 11:2¹³⁶.
- Pride may block the ability to forgive. – Mark 3:29¹³⁷.

The Concise Oxford Dictionary¹³⁸ defines pride as “(unduly) high opinion of one’s qualities, merits, etc.; arrogant bearing or conduct; exalted position, the consciousness of this arrogance.”

God declares in Proverbs 16:5¹³⁹ that He hates everyone who is arrogant. Arrogance is a sin because it separates the person from God’s saving presence. God relinquished satan from Heaven because of pride. The greatest sin against God came to earth from heaven and infected man. For this reason, many people are narcissists and separate from God. Pride can deceive people and corrupt their wisdom. Their proudly boasts then becomes empty. However, the same pride makes them slaves to a false god.

6.5. Mammon - Greed

Both Gospels, Matthew, and Luke quote the words of Jesus when they say that people cannot serve God and mammon. The word mammon means wealth¹⁴⁰. Whichever way people interpret the word mammon, whether it is money, wealth, or power, it remains a reality that mammon is close to the beast at the end-time when the beast controls the world’s financial systems.

¹³⁶ Proverbs 11:2 (KJV) When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.

¹³⁷ Mark 3:29 (KJV) But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:

¹³⁸ Dictionary: The Concise Oxford Dictionary, (1989) Great Brittan. Publisher: Oxford University Press, New York. P. 815.

¹³⁹ Proverbs 16:5 (KJV) Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not unpunished.

¹⁴⁰ Strong’s #G3126, eSword. Of Chaldee origin (confidence, that is, figuratively wealth, personified); mammonas, that is, avarice (deified): - mammon.

According to Timmons¹⁴¹, God called the apostles to establish His government on this earth, and today God calls every believer to continue doing the same.

Satan established through his apostles and his government the illuminated heads. Satan wants to keep, through this establishment, money out of the hands of believers, more so when a believer is tithing.

Many believers struggle with financial problems and do not know why. Mammon is at work to restrict them from tithing. He is to send the demon of poverty to cause financial problems.

Daniels¹⁴² in her book; *The demon Dictionary*, states that the spirit of mammon works closely with the python spirit. The python spirit is also known as the enemy of a believer's finances. When a believer pays his tithes and finds obstacles in the way for money to return to him, the python spirit is at work. This python spirit does the same in the spirit realm as the physical realm. When the victim exhales to breathe in, the snare tightens.

The effect of Greed allows the person to feel God has abandoned him, and he must provide for himself.

Greed may allow;

- Temptation.
- Uncontrollable desires.
- Doubt.
- Self-will

¹⁴¹ Timmons. J.P. (2012) *Mysterious secrets of the Dark Kingdom: The battle for planet earth*. Montana. Publisher: Zondervan Bible Plu. PP. 136,137.

¹⁴² Daniels, K, (2013) *The Demon Dictionary, Know your enemy. Learn his strategy. Defeat him. (Volume 1)*, Lake Mary, Florida, USA. Publisher: Charisma House, Charisma Media/Charisma House Book Group. P. xxix.

- Independency.
- Loss of control.
- Gambling addiction.
- Fear.

6.6. Asmodee – Lust

Timmons¹⁴³ notes that Asmodeus, as the spirit of lust, is associated with sexual immoralities. His task is to work with Baal and is responsible for the Spirit of Jezebel. Timmons further notes that Asmodee, who reports to the principality Abaddon is responsible for;

- Prostitution.
- Homosexuality.
- Lesbianism.
- Bestiality.
- Womb barrenness.
- Marital conflict.
- Divorce.
- Miscarriages.
- Death of biological children

He is working just as hard in churches as in the film industry, where he is polluting people's minds with immorality. For Asmodee to reach as many people as possible, he works with spirits that cause depravity, such as pornography and perversion. He marries people to a spiritual husband or wife. In some African countries, even Christian people in these countries, are given a spirit wife or husband. The problem compounds by those that are possessed when they are involved with water spirits.

¹⁴³ Timmons. J.P. (2012) Mysterious secrets of the Dark Kingdom: The battle for planet earth. Montana. Publisher: Zondervan Bible Plu. P. 144.

Asmodee breaks down the morals of a married couple. He is the spirit that ensures jealousy promotes adultery in marriage. The reason is that he wants to break down the holiness that God created in the institution of marriage. Asmodee is encouraging societies around the world to do away with marriage as an institution.

It allows people to think that marriage is not modern and that people should live their lives the way they want to. Asmodee wants people to live exuberant lives, enjoy sex with as many people as they want, and live together. This type of reasoning is more so if the person is divorced and has small children. Thinking that marriage is not for modern people allows many children in these homes to become insecure, neurotic and they start to feel unloved because of this lifestyle. Satan wants to ensure that generation of unloved, unstable, self-condemned young people enter the grownup world without knowing the moral standards of marriage.

6.7. Leviathan – the twister

According to the New World Encyclopaedia¹⁴⁴ Leviathan, “a sea monster of ancient Near Eastern mythology, represented the forces of chaos and is held in check by the power of the creator deity.” “Leviathan may also be rendered a “sea monster” or “dragon” in modern English biblical translations.”

Cannistraci¹⁴⁵ notes that Leviathan, known as the twisting serpent, relating to the Nile crocodile. However, Leviathan has the same methodology as the crocodile; he is more than a crocodile. Isaiah 27:1¹⁴⁶ declares Leviathan as a spiritual enemy of God.

¹⁴⁴ New World Encyclopaedia, (03 July 2018) Leviathan. [On Line] Available at:

<https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/leviathan> [Accessed 5 February 2021]

¹⁴⁵ Cannistraci, D. (18 December 2015), Leviathan, The Spirit of Separation. [On Line] Available at:

<http://www.davidcannistraci.org/news/2015/12/18/leviathan-the-spirit-of-separation> [Accessed 23 February 2021]

¹⁴⁶ Isaiah 27:1 (KJV) In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

The mission of Leviathan is to ensure there is division, not only in the homes but in the churches as well. His name can translate to twist. Isaiah 27:1¹⁴⁷ declares Leviathan's primary task is to strike and twist what is said. Twisting words ensures the next person miss-interprets the intention and causes an explosive argument.

Job 41:34¹⁴⁸ describes him as the "monarch over the sons of pride." Leviathan is a glory stealer and a homewrecker, a demon that speaks in a rough tone. He is very controlling, religious, operates independently, brings division, and is rebellious. This spirit leads people to arrogance, which causes self-exaltation and haughtiness. Leviathan makes people lie, curse, argue, and be angry. Leviathan is unyielding and unteachable and brings much destruction. Envy and strife enter the home or congregation when this spirit is active.

According to Proverbs 6:16-19, Leviathan has seven heads;

"There are seven things that the LORD hates and cannot tolerate: A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that kill innocent people, a mind that thinks up wicked plans, feet that hurry off to do evil, a witness who tells one lie after another, and someone who stirs up trouble among friends."

Proverbs 6:16-19 (KJV)

For anyone to deal with the spirit of the leviathan, they should first acknowledge the spirit's presence and then start to pray for their deliverance. Because of the believer's obedience to God, our source of peace is in Romans 16:20¹⁴⁹.

¹⁴⁷ Isaiah 27:1 (KJV) In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea.

¹⁴⁸ Job 41:34 (KJV) He beholdeth all high things: he is a king over all the children of pride.

¹⁴⁹ Romans 16:20 (KJV) And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

He is the One who brings salvation. Substitute Pride with humility, a tongue that lies with truth, killing hands with healing hands, wicked plans with surging the heart of God, evil feet with feet that do good, false witness with truthfulness, trouble maker with friends with bringing peace and unity.

6.8. Belphegor – Sloth

According to Rosemary, E. Guiley¹⁵⁰, Occult World, Belphegor originated as Baal-Peor, the Moabite god to whom the Israelites became attached in Shittim, was associated with licentiousness and orgies. She further notes that Belphegor is one of the princes of hell. He lures people who want fame and riches into his trap and helps them with ingenious discoveries. These discoveries, as in most of the demonic findings, are doomed to fail from the start. Belphegor's true mission is not to see people succeed but fail. Through their failure, he draws them into laziness, which is the sin of sloth. It causes the person to procrastinate and have idle dreams rather than producing success they feel condemned.

6.9. Jezebel

Got questions ministries¹⁵¹, notes, that in 1 Kings 1 & 2 Jezebel was the daughter of Ethbaal, king of Zidonians, and the high priest to Baal. When Jezebel married Ahab, they introduced Baal worship to the Israelites (1 Kings 16:31)¹⁵².

¹⁵⁰ Rosemary, E. Guiley, (2009) The Encyclopaedia of Demons and Demonology, Occult World, [On Line] Available at: <https://occult-world.com/belphegor/> [Accessed 12 February 2021]

¹⁵¹ Got questions ministries, (April, 26, 2021) You Questions, Biblical answers. What is the Jezebel spirit? [On Line] Available at: <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jezebel-spirit.html> [10 May 2021]

¹⁵² 1 Kings 16:31 (KJV) And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.

Ahab relinquished his authority to Jezebel. Jezebel started to dominate and control everyone in their kingdom. She promoted Baal worship to the extent that she ordered all God's prophets to be slewed (1 Kings 18:13)¹⁵³. Baal was a statue that the people worshipped. The Baal spirit is male, and his female counterpart is Ashtaroth (Judges 2:13)¹⁵⁴. Astarte was a statue after Ashtoreth. Baal is a territorial spirit, which is a spirit that lets people rebel against God.

Willette, Dorothy¹⁵⁵, notes that Asherah's symbol is a dove. Therefore, Asherah must betray believers and get their spirits corrupt. This evil spirit may get people to walk in rebellion and disobedience and give them a false spiritual cover of the dove so that they cannot recognize him for who he is. This spirit knows all too well what it is to imitate the power of God. The Baal and Asherah spirits cannot imitate purification because the righteous of God live in the Spirit of God. This chameleon spirit must camouflage himself to live amongst believers. It is God's righteousness in believers that determines if the salvation in them is real. Although Ahab was the king of Israel, he was overwhelmed and dominated by Jezebel. Jezebel, who introduced pagan worship to the Israelites, lured the Israelite men into erotic encounters and moon worshipping. Through Jezebel's influence on Ahab, most Israelite men stopped worshipping God and started to worship Baal and Ashtoreth.

Jezebel spirit is a self-righteous spirit therefore, to know that the Jezebel spirit is not in people, they do not mind whether their name is called or given credit when a job is complete. They rejoice because everyone is happy and the work is finish. They praise God because He gets the Glory.

¹⁵³ 1 Kings 18:13 (KJV) Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD'S prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

¹⁵⁴ Judges 2:13 (KJV) And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.

¹⁵⁵ Willette, D, (August 05, 2021), The Enduring Symbolism of Doves. Retrieved from Biblical Archaeology Society. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/ancient-cultures/daily-life-and-practice/the-enduring-symbolism-of-doves/> [Accessed 20 August 2021]

The Jezebel spirit originated from Baal and is a male spirit, and although it can transform into a male or female, it does not forget its original state. That is why, when a woman has a Jezebel spirit, she finds it very easy when an argument or problem arises to stand toe-to-toe with any man. She sees herself not as a woman but as the dominant spirit.

Jezebel is also a spirit of war and is always ready for battle. Anyone who says “no” to this spirit must prepare themselves for war. When Baal and Asherah come together, they determine information from the second heaven, or astrology world, and promote false religion¹⁵⁶. In the second heaven is where believers find the spirits mentioned in Ephesians 6:12¹⁵⁷. This demon gives information and purpose. When this spirit confirms himself in someone, he strengthens himself in them. This Jezebel spirit jumps from generation to generation (generational curses). He is still vivid in people today.

6.9.1 How to recognize when someone has the spirit of Jezebel:

- Exaggeration comes easy for someone with this spirit.
- Boasting becomes the norm.
- Someone with this spirit is in constant disagreement with others.
- Someone with this spirit shows no gratitude.
- This spirit seduces people’s minds.
- Someone with this spirit never gives credit where it is due.
- Someone with this spirit tells lies with ease.
- He aids to be in control.
- He is rebellious.

¹⁵⁶ Timmons. J.P. (2012) Mysterious secrets of the Dark Kingdom: The battle for planet earth. Montana. Publisher: Zondervan Bible Plu. P. 115.

¹⁵⁷ Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

- He is hateful.
- This spirit easily manipulates people.
- He thinks he can work independently.
- He is clairvoyant.
- He works in witchcraft.
- He is always domineering.
- He is insubordinate.
- He thinks he knows everything and believes he is always right and everyone else is wrong.
- This spirit always lets people feel they are the ones making the mistakes and not him.
- This spirit takes control of a conversation and talks incessantly.
- This spirit withholds information easily.
- This spirit is self-righteous and never admits to making mistakes.
- He always takes credit for anything he contributes.
- He is always negative and criticizes everyone else.
- He appears to be very religious.
- Someone with the Jezebel spirit finds it difficult to repent.
- He promotes seduction and immorality.
- Always works closely with leadership.
- He always wants to be in leadership and achieves it.
- He hates male authority.
- This spirit uses the divide and conquers tactic.
- Highly self-centred and can be a narcissist.

“So any person who knows what is right to do but does not do it, to him it is sin.”

James 4:17(KJV)

James 4:17 declares that when believers do not abide in God's Word, they sin. Therefore, when believers do not do what God tells them to do, they open themselves to the spirit of Baal. When they are open to Baal and rebel against God, Baal introduces them to the Jezebel spirit. The Word of God indicates that Jezebel did not take over anything Jezebel walked in relinquished authority. She walked into a place that Ahab gave her. Believers must understand that Jezebel is not the sister in the church with the high heels and the short skirt. Jezebel is anybody God has already told to start something constructive, like setting up a counselling division but has not begun their ministry. If God has given someone an assignment and they are disobedient to His Word, well, "Hello Jezebel." The Jezebel spirit is then obliged to allocate a new task when they say "NO" to the assignment God has given them.

There are many believers in the church doing the opposite of what God has told them to do. As long as people are out of order and under the command of the Jezebel spirit, he can continue using them. People with the Jezebel spirit will complain about everything. When they are in charge, everything is going well, according to them. Jezebel can let people succeed abundantly, thinking it is from God and whatever they do is a Godly idea. This spirit then makes people pursue worldly things. When they stop desiring God's ways, Jezebel gives them their way, but the Bible says that is the way of destruction. The Jezebel spirit only serves what this spirit can take over because it is a lying spirit.

All the spirits mentioned above affect people's lives, whether they are believers or non-believers. In Egyptian methodology, there are many false gods and idols they worshipped. These false deities affected their lives. The next part is to investigate how these deities still affect people today.

7. Spirits from Egyptian methodology still affecting people today

Satan's cunningness misleads many believers. When God speaks to these believers, they hear His voice but are reluctant to react. They either prolong or refuse to obey

God. Although they do not physically say they will not follow God's Word, their whole intent shows their reluctance to do so. These people, although not verbally, but through their actions, say the same as Pharaoh did when Moses spoke to him.

“And Pharaoh said, who is the Lord that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go.”

Exodus 5:2 (KJV)

Van Vuuren¹⁵⁸, noted that Pharaoh was a god to his people in Egypt. He also had his priest's doing signs and wonders. Two of them were Jannes and Jambres. 1 Corinthians 10:19-20, note where they received their evil powers.

“¹⁹What say I then? That the idol is anything, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is anything? ²⁰But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.”

1 Corinthians 10:19-20(KJV)

Ham, K. and Chaffey, T.¹⁵⁹, refer to the “dragon,” in Hebrew as “Tannin.” “Tannin” may also be translated as a “sea monster.” In Hebrew mythology, the sea monster depicts as evil. Tannin is also a snake. It is, therefore, concluded that this is not a common snake and God, therefore, warns Pharaoh against the great dragon, (Ezekiel 29:3)¹⁶⁰.

¹⁵⁸ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat? Benoni, Gauteng. P. 13.

¹⁵⁹ Ken Ham and Tim Chaffey, (08 August 2012) Answers in Genesis. Tannin: Sea Serpent, Dinosaur, Snake, Dragon, or Jackal? [On Line] Available at: <https://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/tannin-sea-serpent-dinosaur-snake-dragon-or-jackal/> [Accessed 03 March 2021]

¹⁶⁰ Ezekiel 29:3 (KJV) Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river is mine own, and I have made it for myself.

The protector of the ruling Pharaoh was known as Buto, also known as Wadjet. Buto was an ancient Egyptian cobra goddess who was associated with the papyrus plant. The real name was Uto which means the papyrus coloured green one. Although she was known as Uto, people referred to her as Buto. However, Buto was the name where Uto lived. She depicts a cobra wrapped around a papyrus plant¹⁶¹. As the protector of Pharaoh, Uto was painted or drawn on the face of Pharaoh. Symbolizing the holy serpent or as part of his headdress. Often next to the eagle goddess, sometimes depicted as a woman with the head of an eagle, otherwise known as a cobra, or Nekbeth, which is her upper Egyptian equivalent.

The Egyptians believed that the magical powers of Uto were protruding into the ruling Pharaoh. This magical power was supposed to make him invincible and further elevate him to a god in his own right. The Egyptians further believed that the power and authority of the ruling Pharaoh were locked up in the power of Uto, the holy serpent who had dominion over life and death. Uto was also known as the personal bodyguard of Pharaoh (V. Vuuren)¹⁶².

With this evil force that projected into the ruling Pharaoh, he declares that he is the one who created the Nile River (Ezekiel 29:9)¹⁶³. To the Egyptians, there is no doubt that the Pharaoh amplified to a god. However, the Greeks and Romans worshipped the Nile only as a divine river, but the Egyptians brought sacrifices to the Nile. The Nile, or the annual overflow of the Nile, between June and September every year, is associated with the ancient water Noen, which the Egyptians believed, in turn, was the source of all potential life. The Egyptians worshipped the Nile under various names, such as Hapi or Hopi, which means giver of life.

¹⁶¹ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 28.

¹⁶² Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 28.

¹⁶³ Ezekiel 29:9 (KJV) And the land of Egypt shall be desolate and waste; and they shall know that I am the LORD: because he hath said, The river is mine, and I have made it.

The Egyptians believed in reincarnation and would never kill any animal. They could not stand the sight of blood. God turned the water of the Nile, which they worshipped, into blood, to prove that their deity, Hapi, is helpless.

Staff. T. Courtesy of the European Space Agency¹⁶⁴, Shows images of the Nile River colouring red.

During the second plague, God decimated the false belief that frogs are responsible for fertility. Heqt or Hekt is also known as the Egyptian goddess of fertility, represented in the form of a frog. The Egyptians have seen the frog as an ancient symbol of fertility which is related to the annual flooding of the Nile.

Hill¹⁶⁵ notes that Heka was also known as the goddess who assists women during childbirth. However, they believe that her authority extended beyond just humans to the animal kingdom. God demonstrated to the Egyptians that Heka has no control over the number of frogs produced and their lives if God decides to kill everyone, except those in the Nile.

During the third plague, Aaron used his staff to strike the dust of the earth, and it turned the dust into gnats (Exodus 8:16)¹⁶⁶. The Oxford Concise Dictionary defines gnats as a small two-winged fly that resembles a mosquito¹⁶⁷. These gnats include both biting and non-biting forms and can form large swarms.

¹⁶⁴ STAFF, T., (2016, April 02). The Times of Israel. Satellite image of red River Nile evokes biblical legend. (On Line) Available at: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/satellite-image-of-nile-evokes-biblical-legend/> [Accessed 01 July 2021]

¹⁶⁵ Hill. J. (2010) Heqet, Retrieved from Ancient Egypt, [On Line] Available at: <https://ancientegyptonline.co.uk/heqet/> [Accessed 22 April 2021]

¹⁶⁶ Exodus 8: 16 (KJV) And the LORD said unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch out thy rod, and smite the dust of the land, that it may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

¹⁶⁷ The Concise Oxford Dictionary. (1989), Great Brittan. Publisher: Oxford University press, New York. P. 423.

Britannica¹⁶⁸ notes that Geb was an Egyptian idol, depicted as the god of the earth. Geb and the heavenly goddess Nut, his wife and sister, would have formed the universe. Egyptian belief is that Nut is a colossal woman who stands with her feet to the East and then bends her body high above the earth to support the West at her fingertips. Her body is covered with stars and supported by Sjoë, the god of the earthly atmosphere. However, the earth depicted as Geb is lying flat on its back. Geb's fingers touch Nut's toes in the East, and his toes touch her fingers again in the West.

This interaction between Nut, Geb, and Sjoë creates the illusion that Nut is bent over Geb, just as heaven and earth form a unity. It depicted that Geb and Nut were a loving couple until Ra, the sun god, told Sjoë to divorce them. From then on, only their fingers and toes could touch each other. According to the Egyptians, the children born from this relationship are the gods and goddesses, Isis, Osiris, Seth, and Neptune¹⁶⁹.

The Egyptians deemed Geb as the god of the earth. They depicted that all his powers were seated in the dust of the ground. For this reason, God instructed Moses to tell Aaron to strike the earth with his rod and, from the soil there arose gnats (mosquitos).

God warns believers not to become involved in occultic worship, which includes astrology, Deuteronomy 18:9-14¹⁷⁰. When believers involve themselves with the occultic world, they indirectly confirm that;

¹⁶⁸ Heilbron J. L. (n.d.). Geb Egyptian god. Retrieved from Britannica: The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica (On Line) Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Geb> [Accessed 04 October 2021]

¹⁶⁹ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 58

¹⁷⁰ Deuteronomy 18:9-14 (KJV) ⁹When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. ¹⁰There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, ¹¹Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. ¹²For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee. ¹³Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God. ¹⁴For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do

- Their faith is no longer in God.
- They rely on their understanding.
- They rebel against God.
- They worship a false god.

The flies are mentioned as the fourth plague (Exodus 8:21)¹⁷¹. It is a clear display of God's ability to demolish another entity that the Egyptians trusted, namely Beelzebub, the god of flies! Cotton, M.¹⁷² found the symbol of Beelzebub, the god of Ekron, is a fly as depicted in Collin de Plancy's *Dictionnaire Infernal*, Paris (1863). This symbol was tattooed on humans as early as the third millennium B.C. During the religious rituals of the Egyptians, flies were always present. The Egyptians believed that this was proof of the involvement of Baalzebub and that he accepted their sacrifice as good and right. The Egyptians further depicted that the sacrifice acceptance by Beelzebub would give rise to more blessings.

The fifth plague becomes a reality when God causes a pestilence to break out among the cattle of the Egyptians. The book of Exodus testifies that even as the cattle of the Egyptians died, the cattle of the Israelites were untouched (Exodus 9:6)¹⁷³. This plague only affected the cattle of the Egyptians that were in the field, which is a direct attack on various idols of the Egyptians, including Hathor: the daughter of the Sun god Ra¹⁷⁴,

¹⁷¹ Exodus 8:21 (KJV) Else, if thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground whereon they are.

¹⁷² Cotton, M. (27 November 2020) *New World Encyclopaedia*, Beelzebub. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Beelzebub> found that Beelzebub, as depicted in Collin de Plancy's *Dictionnaire Infernal*, Paris, (1863) is a fly. [Accessed 12 March 2021]

¹⁷³ Exodus 9:6 (KJV) And the LORD did that thing on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt died: but of the cattle of the children of Israel died not one.

¹⁷⁴ Tikkanen, A., (n.d.). *Britannica*. Retrieved from Hathor: Egyptian goddess: (On Line) Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Hathor-Egyptian-goddess> [Accessed 04 October 2021].

the mother goddess of Egypt depicted with a head resembling that of a cow (Exodus 9:3)¹⁷⁵.

Throughout history, many plagues impacted livestock with pandemic proportions. John R. Fisher¹⁷⁶ notes that the term “rinderpest” depicts from the German word “cattle plague.” The impact of “rinderpest” swept through Europe in the 18th century and killed about 200 million cattle. In Southern Africa, “rinderpest” killed millions of cattle. Between 1865 and 1867, “Mad Cow Disease” became the primary focus of Britain.

The sixth plague came suddenly, and without warning, ulcers strike at humans and animals that continually fester (Exodus 9:9)¹⁷⁷. In the court of Pharaoh was a sacrificial oven, where the Egyptians, through the priests, sacrificed babies to the idol Typhon, which in turn guaranteed good health to the Egyptians¹⁷⁸. This idol was further known as the evil principle. Consequently, the Egyptians treated Typhon with great awe.

In modern history, ulcers are part of the human race. The curse of Deuteronomy 28:27 will be upon those that rebel against God’s will.

“The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.”

Deuteronomy 28:27 (KJV)

¹⁷⁵ Exodus 9:3 (KJV) Behold, the hand of the LORD is upon thy cattle which is in the field, upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the sheep: there shall be a very grievous murrain.

¹⁷⁶ John, R. F., Volume 33; No.2. (April 1990). Cattle plagues past and present: The mystery of Mad Cow Disease. Journal of contemporary history, [On Line] Available at: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/260973> [Accessed 04 October 2021]

¹⁷⁷ Exodus 9:9 (KJV) And it shall become small dust in all the land of Egypt, and shall be a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast, throughout all the land of Egypt.

¹⁷⁸ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat? Benoni, Gauteng. P. 74.

Rebellion allows negative emotions to attach to a toxic thought process. In the negative thinking pattern, the brain secretes a poisonous hormone called protein syntheses¹⁷⁹. When the person meditates long enough on the negative thought of rebellion, he forms a long-term memory, and the toxic hormones then attach to the negative thinking pattern. Proverbs 23:7¹⁸⁰ becomes the reality the person starts to experience. The same as protein syntheses attaches to the negative thinking pattern in the brain, it also becomes attached to the blood that flows through the brain. The negativity thinking pattern becomes part of the person, and they lose the peace that God gave them. When they lose their joy and peace, they have a broken spirit that dries out the bones (Proverbs 17:22)¹⁸¹.

The seventh plague was a terrifying hailstorm! Thunderstorms, hail, and lightning strikes to the ground were by no means a common occurrence in the desert land of Egypt! The hailstorm in itself was a miracle in a country where there was almost no rainfall. The average rainfall was only about 1 inch per year!

Exodus 9:18¹⁸², explain that God aggravated this natural wonder by turning it into a destructive plague. The hail was a direct attack on some of the Egyptian gods, among others:

- Isis: was worshipped as the goddess of life. In Egypt, Isis existed as the mother-goddess. She was also the wife and mother of Osiris¹⁸³.

¹⁷⁹ Strydom, M.K. Dr. 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 14.

¹⁸⁰ Proverbs 23:7 (KJV) For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

¹⁸¹ Proverbs 17:22 (KJV) A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

¹⁸² Exodus 9:18 (KJV) Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now.

¹⁸³ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat? Benoni, Gauteng. P. 82.

- Set: was worshipped as the deity that protect the crops¹⁸⁴.
- Osiris: was worshipped as the firstborn among the gods¹⁸⁵. Also known as the deity Ra.

The seventh plague had to make a deep impression on the Egyptians, as they had a separate idol for each force of nature. Everyone only exercised control over a part of nature. Here they are dealing with a God who has control over all the natural powers!

This plague, Exodus 9:19¹⁸⁶, is the first one where God directly declares to the Egyptians that people could lose their lives if they did not heed His warning. In the same way, God warns us in the New Testament that we may lose our lives if we do not heed to His Word.

The eighth plague was locusts (Exodus 10:4)¹⁸⁷. The Egyptian deity Serapis was depicted as a man with the head of a bull¹⁸⁸. Serapis was the god of crops, plants, and fertility, and one of its main tasks was to protect the fields from various pests¹⁸⁹. God once again emphasizing the inability of this idol and that he is powerless to help the Egyptians.

There are many locusts that are devouring believers' spiritual fields because they are not in the right standing with God.

¹⁸⁴ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 82.

¹⁸⁵ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 82.

¹⁸⁶ Exodus 9:19 (KJV) Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die.

¹⁸⁷ Exodus 10:4 (KJV) Else, if thou refuse to let my people go, behold, tomorrow will I bring the locusts into thy coast:

¹⁸⁸ Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc. (n.d.) Serapis. [On Line] Available at: <https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/Serapis/313409> [Accessed 10 January 2021]

¹⁸⁹ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 96.

Silja Fröhlich, and Andrew Wasike, noted that East Africa is suffering the worst locust plague in decades. Experts are concern about food security for East Africa because of the invasion. Since the invasion of locusts into East Africa, it has driven the already struggling economy and hardship experiencing in the region to more extreme levels of poverty¹⁹⁰.

The ninth plague was total darkness for three consecutive days. Such murk as the Egyptians has never experienced before. Exodus 10 gives an account of the effect of this plague.

22 “And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: 23They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.”

Exodus 10:22-23(KJV)

The impact that the eclipse of the sun, moon, and stars should have on the inhabitants of Egypt would be twofold: God demonstrates His power over the elements in the sky, especially over the sun, which was worshipped in Egypt as one of their most prominent idols, namely Ra; It was further a direct attack on Pharaoh himself, as Pharaoh was considered the incarnation or embodiment of Ra. In other words, he was considered the son of the sun-god Ra!

Two of the most important deities for the Egyptians were Amun and Ra. Amun was honoured in the city of Thebe, which is the capital of Upper Egypt and Ra in the ancient capital within the Nile Delta¹⁹¹.

¹⁹⁰ Silja Fröhlich, Andrew Wasike, (January, 05, 2021), Made for Minds, East Africa braces for a return of the locusts. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.dw.com/en/east-africa-braces-for-a-return-of-the-locusts/a-56133496> [Accessed 06 February 2021]

¹⁹¹ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat? Benoni, Gauteng. P. 101.

Believers do not need to wonder in darkness. In John 8:12 Jesus declares:

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk-in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

John 8:12 (KJV)

God directed the tenth plague against the deity Osiris as the first born of the gods. Osiris, the Egyptian deity, was revered as the king of the gods. After Set killed his brother, Osiris, he cut his body into fourteen pieces and buried him in various places in Egypt, hence the fact that there are many tombs for Osiris in Egypt¹⁹².

Osiris was further regarded as the god who could control the waning and rising moon, as well as the flooding of the Nile. According to another myth, he drowns as a result of Set in the Nile, but is revived by his sisters Isis and Nephthys. In all these myths it is primarily about the dead [the firstborn] who is raised from the dead. Osiris is hereafter regarded as king of the underworld and his son Horus as king of the living. The so-called power of Osiris was thus, according to the Egyptians, locked up in the fact that he was the one who overcame death¹⁹³.

8. Religious spirit

“Wherefore the Lord said, forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:”

Isaiah 29:13 (KJV)

¹⁹² Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 116

¹⁹³ Van Vuuren, Rolien, (2016) *Luister jy nog wanneer God met jou praat?* Benoni, Gauteng. P. 101.

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There are still many believers today, as it were in the past, who honour God with their lips, but there is venom like a poisonous snake under their lips. Jesus warned against the religious spirit that has its root in pride when He reprimanded the Pharisees in Matthew 15:3¹⁹⁴. Spiritual people are:

- Always looking down on other people, Matthew 23:4¹⁹⁵.
- May let other people feel they cannot measure up to the standard, Galatians 3:1-3¹⁹⁶.
- May blind the believer's eyes and bring a cloud over people's eyes not to see the truth, Matthew 15:4-6¹⁹⁷.
- This spirit allows the person to be surface deep, Matthew 23:25,26¹⁹⁸.
- This spirit makes people have an appearance of godliness, 2 Timothy 3:5¹⁹⁹.

¹⁹⁴ Matthew 15:3 (KJV) But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

¹⁹⁵ Matthew 23:4 (KJV) For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

¹⁹⁶ Galatians 3:1-3 (KJV) ¹O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? ²This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?

¹⁹⁷ Matthew 15:4-6 (KJV) ⁴For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. ⁵But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; ⁶And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

¹⁹⁸ Matthew 23:25-26 (KJV) ²⁵Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. ²⁶Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

¹⁹⁹ 2 Timothy 3:5 (KJV) Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

The religious spirit is a tagalong and a hijacker of the faith. If any person's belief and their spiritual relationships are based on the pastor's knowledge or the Sunday school teacher's knowledge, they are in real trouble. For this is why the Word of God warns people in Romans 3:13, that if the religious spirit is with them;

“Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips:”

Romans 3:13 (KJV)

9. Conclusion

Since God warned the Israelites in the Old Testament not to bow down to the sun, moon, stars, and any other idols opposing God. God is still warning believers today not to exalt deities and not to worship satan and his demons. Satan, through the ages, blinded people to the reality and the truth of God's Word in their lives. Satan, through his cunningness, turned many believers' hearts away from serving God because he got them to become disobedient in the surge for self-power.

Satan has his high places for worship with plans and strategies to entice people to worship him and not God. For him to get people to worship him, he has to copy God in everything.

- Satan has a trinity the same as God,
- He has his seven spirits of hell,
- He has his worshippers,
- He has his priests,
- He has his altars,

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- He has his teachers, and,
- He has his prophets.

Through these plans and strategies, the spiritual wickedness in high places has, through time, infiltrated the religious systems of the world, various homes, and congregations. With this infiltration, satan has evil forces that imitate the truth of God to set up a form of worship.

There are evil forces, such as wizards, witches, witchcraft, sangoma, voodoo, water spirits, spiritualism, new age, the spirit of Camelot, a spirit of fear, deaf and dumb spirit, Occult, and many more not mentioned in this chapter.

Chapter three will deal with the hypo dissertation and answer the question, can these forces be transferred to people and how?

Chapter Three
Transfer of Spirits

Transference of Spirits

1. Introduction

The Israelites complaint in the desert, and it displeased God. God's fire consumed those in the uttermost part of the camp when His anger kindled against them. Moses pleaded with God, and the fire stopped. With all the complaints directed to Moses, he felt mentally and physically exhausted. In Numbers 11:14²⁰⁰, Moses said to God that the burden is too heavy to carry alone. God told Moses to gather seventy elders from the tribes at the tabernacle. When God visited the Israelites, He transferred the same spirit in Moses to the seventy elders.

“And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.”

Numbers 11:17 (KJV)

Since there is a transference of God's Spirit to all men that believe, occultic spirits and influences also transfer. Spiritual transference is one of the most powerful strategies used against people. People are oblivious to the subtle manner satan attacks them in their spirit, mind, and body. There are many individuals, whether they are believers or unbelievers that fall prey to these negative influences. These authorities change nations, families, churches, friends, or even the person, through the transference of evil spirits.

These influences are evident in the ten spies that brought the report back to the Israelites and said the enemy is too big and it is impossible to take possession of the promised land.

²⁰⁰ Numbers 11:14 (KJV) I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.

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They conveyed a negative spiritual influence on the Israelites who believed them. When the Israelites were at Mount Sinia and they, as a nation, heard the voice of God, bestowed Moses to speak to God on the mountain. Jannes and Jambres, who were affected by demons, left Egypt with the Israelites. When the occultic gateway opened through the negative transference of the ten spies' spirits, satan found his way through the manifestation of his demonized men, Jannes and Jambres, to build a golden calf that was to be worship as an idol.

2 What is idolatry?

The concise Oxford dictionary of Current English defines idolatry as;

“Honour a person and making him short of a god.²⁰¹”

From the beginning of creation, there has been a struggle between true worship and idolatry. For believers to worship God, they see God's manifested works.

Begg A. notes

“For people to commit idolatry does not mean that they only worship a false god. It may also be that they worship the true God falsely²⁰².”

To worship the true God falsely means that believers reduce God to someone that must supply their needs or that God must always be ready to answer their demands. Should He not answer them, they have someone to blame, which is also a form of idolatry. Many believers create, for themselves, an image of who God is not. In believers' quest for existence, satan and his powers exploit believers to get them to seek more than God.

²⁰¹ The Concise Oxford Dictionary (1989) Great Brittan, Publisher: Oxford University, New York. P. 496.

²⁰² Alister Begg, (November, 17, 2014) The Truth for Life with Alister Begg. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.facebook.com/truthforlife/posts/10153089292047262:0> [Accessed 17 August 2020]

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No person can be neutral in their faith. They will worship the true God, or an idol, in whatever form.

3 What does Scripture teach believers about idolatry?

“³Thou shalt have no other gods before me. ⁴Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: ⁵Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; ⁶And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.”

Exodus 20:3-6 (KJV)

In Exodus 20, God gave the commandments to His people. However, the commandments mirrored the fact that they needed a sacrifice. Galatians 3:22-25²⁰³ notes that the law is believer’s schoolmaster to bring them unto Christ, that they are justified by faith. When faith arises, believers are no longer under the schoolmaster. Therefore, when idol worship manifests itself amongst people, the spirit of rebellion is present.

There are many Scriptures in the Word of God, whether in the New Testament and Old Testament, about idolatry. Although God has warned people to be aware that there cannot be any other god that takes the creator’s place in their lives, they did it then and are still doing the opposite today. God warns the Israelites not to worship idols, Leviticus 26:1.

²⁰³ Galatians 3:22-25 (KJV) ²²But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. ²³But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. ²⁴Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

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“Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God.”

Leviticus 26:1(KJV)

Habakkuk explains why God does not want the Israelites to fall prey to idol-worshipping:

“¹⁸What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies, that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols? ¹⁹Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it is laid over with gold and silver, and there is no breath at all in the midst of it:”

Habakkuk 2:18-19 (KJV)

Satan wants to take capture every person who experienced sanctification of the heart. That is why Paul explains how idolatry can originate in a believer's life and how unclean spirits transfer if they are not careful:

“²¹Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²²Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, ²³And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.”

Romans 1:21-23 (KJV)

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No idol-worshipping can exist without full manifestation of the spirit of rebellion which is an abomination to God. Jonah 2:8²⁰⁴ warns people not to allow idols in their lives. The rebellious spirit may separate people even further from God. 1 Samuel 15:23 declares:

“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.”

1 Samuel 15:23 (KJV)

4 Idolatry and the Israelites

The Israelites often fell into decay since they made and worshipped Idols. They were also taken into exile and thus became involved with other nations' idols. Be that as it may, God was angry with them because they teased Him with idolatry and tried to make Him jealous. David knew what the Israelites were doing. He stood in front of the mountain where the Israelites worshipped idols and raised his voice to the heavens:

“¹A Song of degrees. I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. ²My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.” (KJV)

Psalm 121:1-2 (KJV)

David knew that his help did not come from all these idols in the mountains. His guidance comes from the Lord, who created the heavens and the earth. God showed His power to the Israelites, but they continued with their idolatrous lives.

²⁰⁴ Jonah 2: 8 (KJV) They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

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God does not want believers to worship or honour any false god and declares in Hosea 2:16-17:

“¹⁶And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali. ¹⁷For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name.”

Hosea 2:16-17 (KJV)

5. Why the lying spirit is so evident when people explore idolatry?

Idol worship means there is a full manifestation of the rebellious spirit, which is a false spirit. Nimrod was rebellious against God and was known as Osiris, the sun god. Robinson. J²⁰⁵, notes when he married his mother Semiramis, also known as Ishtar queen of heaven, they introduced pagan worship. Only then a full manifestation of idol worshipping existed. They lured people into occultic worship and sacrificing on altars to their gods. These false spirits aim is to divert all true born-again believers from God's presence by manifesting in superstitions. They further flatter believers and deceive them with lies and false teaching into idolatry.

When believers are not vigilant and become passive in the Kingdom of God, satan may lure them into his lies through the religious spirit. In Romans 1:24, Paul warns all believers what is to happen when they stop glorifying God:

“Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:”

Romans 1:24 (KJV)

²⁰⁵ Robinson, J (2020) True Riches Radio, a unique Bible teaching podcast and the True Riches Academy, an online Bible teaching center that educates, equips, and empowers believers. Led by Christian thinker/writer/speaker. Who Is Semiramis? [On Line] Available at: <https://truerichesradio.com/who-is-semiramis/> [Accessed 30 September 2021]

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When the door of ignorance and unbelief opened and people changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image, they are in religious bondage. This bondage allows the full manifestation of the false spirit. The false spirit is also a lying spirit, was at work outside the Garden of Eden when God confronted Cain about his brother Abel that he killed.

“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he: is a liar, and the father of it.”

John 8:44 (KJV)

The cyriel spirit²⁰⁶ is responsible for speaking in tongues and prophecies in the kingdom of satan. The cyriel spirit fills the person with lies. The person will then proclaim false prophecies as the truth. It allows the lying spirit to manifest itself through accusations, slander, and gossip.

“Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.”

Psalms 31:18 (KJV)

6. Why satan finds it so easy, through idolatry, to separate believers from themselves, others, and God

The foundation of God’s Kingdom consists of relationships, trust, and love. Satan’s kingdom is the direct opposite of God’s Kingdom. Satan’s foundation is to kill, destroy and slaughter all relationships people have with God so that there is no peace in their lives. When believers feel they have no peace in their lives, they may condemn themselves, which drives them even further from God.

²⁰⁶ Timmons, JP, (2012) Mysterious Secrets of The Dark Kingdom. The battle for Planet Earth. United States of America. Publisher: CCI Publishing Company Bigfork, Montana, 59911. P. 165.

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“But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”

Isaiah 59:2 (KJV)

From the Scripture above it may be noted that it becomes a reality in many believers lives when they do not adhere to the conditions of God’s Word. Therefore, due to sin, people may be separated from God, themselves, and others.

6.1. Separation From God

Believers separated from God experience separation from God in person, from His Word, and even from His love. When people severed from God in person, they do not know God at all. They do not allow Jesus in their lives as Lord and saviour and may find themselves in an empty self-made religion, without a relationship with God. However, through the Word of God, it is clear that no person can bear fruit by themselves. Believers must abide in the Lord as John 15:4 declares:

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.”

John 15:4 (KJV)

People may not only be severed from God but are separated from God’s Word as well. When believers separate from God’s Word, satan may lure them into occultism. Satan may, through this ignorance of God’s presence in their lives, take the opportunity to get them involved in occultism. Occultism includes involvement in not only satanism but also other forms of false religions. Occultism consists of mediums, sorcery, contacting evil spirits by any means or form, Eastern mysticism, and yoga. The kundalini spirit²⁰⁷ is involved in the last two mentioned.

²⁰⁷ Hridaya Yoga Retreat. (2021) Kundalini Shakti: The Serpent Power. [On Line] Available at: https://hridaya-yoga.com/kundalini-shakti-the-serpent-power/?DictionaryEN&qclid=EAlaIqobChMloNqTpc6_8wIVJOLmCh2wKg5nEAAAYiAAEgL39PD_BwE [Accessed 02 June 2021]

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Fortune telling, instead of trusting the Word of God, makes that person who is doing this a god. Believers find their wisdom and knowledge from the Word of God and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in them and not from astrology, false prophets, or the study of creation.

When people separate from God and His Word, they separate from His love. These are people that are unable to receive God's love in their lives. Many people are serving God, and yet, they are not sure that He loves them. Often, they had an earthly father who was abusive and harsh, and now God the Father is guilty by association. The result is people are walking with all this hurt from their past. When the name Father, referring to God, is mentioned, the connection is made, in their brain, with their earthly father that was so horrible to them, and they think God has the same attributes as their earthly father. When people with all this hurt converse about Jesus and do not have inner healing, they become irritated because they want what they never had.

Doctor Michelle Strydom²⁰⁸ quote pastor Henry Wright who holds seminars in America: found that a staggering 85% to 95% of people who attended his sermons claims not to have heard their father say "I love you". Not hearing these words gives them a sense of rejection.

6.2. From yourself

Someone may feel separated from themselves through self-hatred, self-rejection, guilt, low self-esteem, poor self-image, self-disapproval. These are manifested today through different diseases and heart problems people experience. Believers cannot exempt themselves from these problems. Life's pressure may allow people to experience an emotional breakdown which will make them not like themselves. This low self-esteem may give them a feeling of rejection and self-hatred, which may cause them to become depressed and have suicidal thoughts.

²⁰⁸ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 46.

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Yet, God declares that He loved every person so much that He gave His only Son Jesus Christ so that every person may experience His love. What is the basis then why people, even believers, may claim they hate themselves? Doctor Strydom²⁰⁹ notes that self-hatred and low self-esteem cause a physical reaction in the body. This physical reaction in the body attacks the body tissue. When the immune system is compromised, through the door of disobedience to the Word of God, satan has a righteous entry to the believer to put different diseases on their lives. What God has created good, satan has turned around and used it against the believer.

Strydom²¹⁰ further notes that the brain responds to thoughts like self-hatred and low self-esteem by lowering the serotonin levels in the brain. The lowering of serotone is one of the main reasons people experiencing depression. Serotonin is created in the body to allow the person to feel good about themselves.

6.3. From people

Poor and broken relationships become a door that people regularly open to satan and his evil forces to destroy them and separate them from people. Harboring long-term unforgiveness, hatred, anger, resentment, bitterness, jealousy, competitiveness, drivenness to achieve, and perfectionism is dangerous to the body. Strydom²¹¹ states that when these negative thoughts enter the brain and are meditating upon, cortisol may increase in the body. The negative effect of these strongholds ensures that the body cells are under attack by the cortisol hormone, which results in the cells becoming rigid. This attack on the body cells does not allow the cells to filter out the toxic waste products. The accumulation of these toxins becomes like battery acid in the body cells, which starts to eat away or destroy the anti-oncogenes in the cells.

²⁰⁹ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 54.

²¹⁰ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 79.

²¹¹ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 57.

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The function of the anti-oncogenes²¹² is to protect the body cells from becoming cancerous. When the DNA of the anti-oncogenes is damaged, the cells may become cancerous. The old saying of bitterness eats at you like cancer may become a reality if strongholds are not severed. When a person, according to Proverbs 17:22, has joy and peace it is good medicine.

“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.”

Proverbs 17:22 (KJV)

Satan knows that if any person allows bitterness, unforgiveness, or anger in their lives, a relationship breakdown occurs, and strongholds form. This stronghold also projects fear into the person, and a feeling of rejection allows the person to experience disappointment with every other person they are in contact. Bitterness has a direct influence on the body cells to become cancerous. This stronghold allowed into the brain by a negative thought can translate into a physical reaction in the body. This physical reaction allows Proverbs 23:7 to become the persons' reality,

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.”

Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)

Strydom²¹³ further notes that medical research provides evidence that there seems to be a link between people, who are malicious with their tongue, slandering other people, and who perpetually gossip. This evidence is why Romans 3 gives believers a clear warning of what such a person looks like:

²¹² Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 57.

²¹³ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 57.

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“¹³Their throat is an open sepulchre (tome); with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: ¹⁴Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.”

Romans 3:13-14 (KJV)

When someone gossips, they open the door to satan because they allow the spirit of envy and strive to enter into their lives. James 3:16 becomes the reality that these people must face.

“For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.”

James 3:16 (KJV)

Strife has many faces such, as jealousy, arguments, disagreements, slander, and anger. This envy and strife may allow the person to open the door to 100 incurable diseases²¹⁴ on their body. Satan then becomes the winner. He knows to give the person a negative thought, they self-destruct.

“For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:”

1 Peter 3:10 (KJV)

7. How do spirits transfer?

Believers must understand why satan is so ruthless to impart as much of his spiritual influences and why he is targeting the spirit of believers. The attack of satan on the heart of man is to corrupt the person's conscious and not allow them to experience salvation (Romans 8:16)²¹⁵.

²¹⁴ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 57.

²¹⁵ Romans 8:16 (KJV) The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

Transference of Spirits

The second reason why satan attacks the spirit of man is that God is using believers' hearts to guide their lives (Proverbs 20:27)²¹⁶. Satan uses the tongue as the breach in the spirit of man to obtain a rightful entrance to their lives:

“A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.”

Proverbs 15:4 (KJV)

Although many believers may doubt that a spirit can transfer to them, Paul mentions in 2 Corinthians 11:4 that there is a possibility that spirits can transport;

“For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.”

2 Corinthians 11:4 (KJV)

Numbers 11:17²¹⁷ is clear biblical evidence that spirits transfer, good or evil. The spirit, which was upon Moses, was transferred to seventy men from the twelve tribes.

As discussed in chapter one, satan imitates God in everything. What God has done, satan endeavours to copy. Satan is obliged to transfer negative spirits such as rebellion, fear, or unbelief to people that open the door for him through their negative mindset and speech.

²¹⁶ Proverbs 20:27 (KJV) The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

²¹⁷ Numbers 11:17 (KJV) And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.

Transference of Spirits

A biblical example is when the twelve spies were sent into the promised land by Moses to spy. The account in Numbers 13:17 to Numbers 14:39 declares that ten of the spies came back and presented a negative report to Moses and the congregation of Israelites. They proclaimed that the people in the promised land were a powerful force. This negative report they presented opened the door for satan to give the people a spirit of fear which kept them under his power. They did not believe in God but rather the report of satan.

However, two of the spies, Caleb, and Joshua had a different spirit, which they also presented to the Israelite congregation. The negative influence that rested upon the Israelites made them unbelieving and not accept God's promise.

“But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land where into he went; and his seed shall possess it.”

Numbers 14:24 (KJV)

Both influences belief and unbelief wanted control of the Israelites.

There are many ways and mediums through which spiritual transference may occur as voodoo, sangoma, occult, spiritualism, religious spirit, a spirit of error, and curses, only to name a few.

8. Know the attack of your enemy to win the war!

Every person has a choice to be directed by either God's Kingdom or satan's kingdom. Paul notes in Ephesians 6:12 that believers' fight is more spiritual than physical. There is a hierarchy of fallen angels that wants to destroy their lives.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)

Transference of Spirits

People that are oblivious to the cunningness of satan and his demons fall prey to their attacks. The main reason is they do not know how satan attacks and what he can do to their bodies. For believers doing spiritual warfare, there are a few strategic plans that should be in place. The strategies should consist of:

- know the enemy,
- know how the spiritual forces of the enemy work,
- know their territory,
- know their battle plans,
- know what the offensive and defensive weapons are,
- how to deal with demonic powers,
- know to lose a battle does not mean you have lost the war.

Knowing who you fight against and what the enemy is capable of is detrimental to the success of spiritual warfare. The keyword to spiritual warfare is faith. The Bible explains that without faith, it is impossible to please God. The Old Testament and New Testament note about men who had faith in God and were willing to battle for God. These are men that not only won battles but also lost some of the battles. Joshua was a mighty man and had the task to lead the Israelites into the promised land. Before the Israelites crossed the Jordan river, God warned Joshua that no one can take the spoils of the land they were about to battle. An Israelite did not listen and took of the spoils. The Israelites lost the war at Ai. When Joshua lost the war at Ai, he did not return to his tent as someone without faith (Joshua 7:10)²¹⁸. He knew something was wrong and dealt with it.

²¹⁸ Joshua 7:10 (KJV) And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?

Transference of Spirits

Believers should never feel they have lost the war when there are setbacks in their lives. Setbacks are the strategy of satan to keep believers hopeless and faithless. All believers should rise, take charge, and believe the Word of God (2 Timothy 2:26).

“And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.”

2 Timothy 2:26 (KJV)

The Oxford dictionary²¹⁹ notes that the word recover means to ***“regain possession or use or control of, acquire or find (out) again, reclaim.”*** This definition also indicates that believers must take steps to recover after losing the battle by recognizing their failures. They must repent and rebuild their spiritual strengths, and finally, they should return to the battlefield.

9. Conclusion

When the door of ignorance and unbelief opens, because people are oblivious to the subtle manner satan attacks them in their spirit, mind, and body, they may experience a stronghold on their lives. There are many people, whether they are believers or unbelievers that fall prey to these negative influences. These influences change families, churches, friends, or even the person, through the transference of evil spirits. People in a state of ignorance and unbelief may find themselves turning to different idols to compensate for the void in them. The Oxford dictionary²²⁰ defines idolatry as honouring a person and making him short of a god.

People are surging for the necessary things to exist. For this reason, people find it is easy to reduce the triune entity of God to what they want them to be, such as;

- an image of what the Lord's work is in their lives, or,
- to serve believers and do things for them.

²¹⁹ The Concise Oxford Dictionary (1989) Edited by J. B. Sykes. 7.ed. Published in United States by Oxford Press in New York P. 867.

²²⁰ The Concise Oxford Dictionary (1989) Edited by J. B. Sykes. 7.ed. Published in United States by Oxford Press in New York P. 496.

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Diminishing the triune entity of God may also be seen as a form of idolatry. Every believer should strive to adapt their life according to God's Word. In this quest for existence, satan and his powers exploit believers to get them to seek more than God. People are not born to be neutral, they either are going to worship the true God, or they are going to worship an idol, in whatever form.

When people change the glory of the incorruptible God to an image because they have unbelief in their heart, they are in satan's snare. They find themselves in religious bondage, and the false spirit manifests. This false spirit is also a lying spirit, may find its way into homes and congregations. Once the lying spirit manifests itself, the cyriel spirit is active. When this cyriel spirit starts functioning, he makes it possible for people to speak in tongues and prophecy in the kingdom of satan, making people believe it is from God.

The lying spirit uses the tongue as a breach to enter and have a rightful entrance in their lives. He manifests through slander, gossip, dis-unity, and accusations in a congregation. When this sin enters and people entertain it, they may experience separation from people in the congregation, God, and themselves. They start to experience hopelessness and self-condemnation. Satan direct his attack at the spirit of believers because it is the spirit that guides their lives to God.

Many people may doubt the possibility that spirit may transfer. Paul mentions that it is possible. Numbers 11:17 notes that God's spirit, which was upon Moses, conveyed to the seventy elders.

In the next chapter, the researcher will exploit how to invade the enemy's camp and set the captive free.

CHAPTER 4

Invading the Enemies Camp

Invading The Enemies Camp

1. Introduction

The strategies of the spiritual world and the natural world are no different. Before an invasion takes place and the combat zone entered, there should be a few things in place, such as:

- The believer should know how to put in action that which they learned, i.e., the importance for believers to identify the two spiritual kingdoms,
- Know what it means to have a spirit of discernment,
- Know the strategies of the dark kingdom,
- Know how to use spiritual counter-strategies,
- Know how to use offensive as well as defensive spiritual weapons,
- Know the importance of deliverance and the knowledge to set captives free.

When believers are passive in their approach to spiritual warfare, they acknowledge there is a battle but do not know how to use their spiritual weapons. Passiveness makes them ineffective in the Kingdom of God.

As indicated in Luke 14:31²²¹, every believer entering into spiritual warfare should know the resources and strategies that are available to them. Without this knowledge, the believer remains vulnerable to the enemy's subtle onslaught. Once a careful assessment of the enemy's strategies, plans, and weapons are made, and through spiritual warfare, a strategic approach is to ensure victory.

²²¹ Luke 14:31 (KJV) Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

Invading The Enemies Camp

When spiritual knowledge expands, mobilization ensures a state of readiness. This readiness allows believers to enter the spiritual warfare zone. Spiritual knowledge leads the invasion to proceed on all levels of spiritual warfare, such as the flesh, the tongue, the mind, and the will. When these battles prevail, the believer takes back the territory lost.

2. The battle of the mind

Satan, from the time of Eden, used the battle of the mind as an approach. It is through this approach that he let people disobey what God has told them to do. Genesis 2:17²²² notes of a Tree of Knowledge. Knowledge in Hebrew²²³ translate:

“dah'-ath defined as: - cunning, [ig-] norantly, know(-ledge), [un-] awares (wittingly).”

The Concise Oxford dictionary (1989)²²⁴ notes that:

“Knowledge is familiarity gained by experience.”

Therefore, it is to gain knowledge through the senses. This knowledge opens the door for satan to lure people into disobeying God. It is through the five senses people see, smell, hear, touch, and hear everything. It is through this Beta wavelength²²⁵ that satan entices people to sin. He gives a negative thought to the person, and the battle of the mind begins. Satan stands back, and the person self-distracts.

²²² Genesis 2:17 (KJV) When spiritual knowledge expands, mobilization ensures a state of readiness. This readiness allows believers to enter the spiritual warfare zone. Spiritual knowledge leads the invasion to proceed on all levels of spiritual warfare, such as the flesh, the tongue, the mind, and the will. When these battles prevail, the believer takes back the territory lost.

²²³ Strongs # H1847. eSword. dah'-ath From H3045; knowledge: - cunning, [ig-] norantly, know(-ledge), [un-] awares (wittingly).

²²⁴ The Concise Oxford Dictionary (1989) Edited by J. B. Sykes. 7.ed. Published in United States by Oxford Press in New York P. 556

²²⁵ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 89.

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Every person gains knowledge through their senses, which is called an objective approach. Objectivity comes through four different wavelengths that God created in man. They are the Theta, Beta, Alpha, and Delta wavelengths²²⁶. Satan and his demons speak to people in the first person from their invisible kingdom to the physical realm of people. They do this through the Beta wavelength activity, where they deposit a thought in the soul dimension of the person. Whatever the person then comprehends through their five senses can program their soul. In Romans 12:2, Paul warns the people:

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

Romans 12:2 (KJV)

How do thoughts in the first person get from an invisible spirit world dimension to the physical realm? The answer is the Theta and Beta brain wave activity. The spiritual kingdom can speak to people in their thoughts through their brain wave activity. The Beta brain wave activity unites the soul and the body, which is their external world. The Theta brain wave activity joins the soul and spirit, that is the inner world. The Theta brain wave activity projects thoughts from the spiritual world to the mind.

Strydom²²⁷ further notes the wavelengths through which people have different experiences in life. The Alpha brain waves, which is an internal activity, translate information and thoughts from the Beta and Theta experiences and helps people to understand their experiences.

²²⁶ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. PP. 89-90.

²²⁷ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 89.

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Through the Theta brain wave activity, people can understand thoughts, whether they are good or bad. It is thoughts between their soul and the spiritual realm that includes their spirit, the Holy Spirit, or evil spirits.

Through the Theta brain wave activity, people listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit when He is convicts of the truth. The Theta wavelength helps people to understand their spirit from deep down in their hearts. Jeremiah 17:9 warns people of the intention of the heart.

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”

Jeremiah 17:9 (KJV)

Believers are convicted by the Holy Spirit, through the Theta brain wave activity. Therefore, evil spirits also enticed believers through the Theta brain wave activity. Through this enticement, evil spirits are then perceived, in the soul's dimension, more so in the first person.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 is clear that people must be aware of what they think about:

“³For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) ⁵Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;”

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (KJV)

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3. The battle of the tongue

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.”

Proverbs 18:21 (KJV)

Proverbs 18:21 indicates the power of the tongue, which is one of the most perplexing things to contain in the human anatomy. With the tongue praise are given to the Lord, sing hymns, and pray to the Lord. With the same tongue, they swear, gossip, slander, and curse others, as seen in James 3:6,8.

“⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. ⁸But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.”

James 3:6,8 (KJV)

When the tongue is not contained, the spirit of envy and strife enters the home or congregation which, may cause bickering, arguments, slander, hatred, undercurrents, fighting, and disagreements. This stress allows the body to be in a distressful state. This distress is where satan wants the person or the congregation to be because he has control over their lives. Satan, through this open door of envy and strife, and the body that is in the toxic state of stress has the opportunity to put over one hundred incurable diseases²²⁸ on the person.

Strydom²²⁹ notes, that when there is a toxic thought through bitterness that forms in the brain, there is an increase of the body's stress hormone cortisol. These high levels of cortisol make the walls of the body cells rigid.

²²⁸ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 17.

²²⁹ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 57.

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The result is that the body cells are not able to filter out the toxic waste products, which leads to an accumulation of these toxins within the body cells. These toxins then become like battery acid, which destroys the anti-oncogenes. The anti-oncogenes are there to protect the body cells. With the destruction of the anti-oncogenes, the cells may become cancerous. Strydom²³⁰ further notes:

“There may be a correlation between colon cancer and bitterness in a slanderer who continually gossips.”

Biblical and medical truths indicate when the body is in this distressful state, then healing is blocked. Now the truth is in the saying bitterness eats away like cancer. This distress is because the tongue is not contained.

4. The battle of the flesh

Every person walking this earth makes decisions in either their rational level, emotional level, or reactionary level. Satan knows to get the spirit of man perverted, he must lodge an attack against their body and let believers make their decisions either in their emotional level or worse in their reactionary decision-making level. Leaf²³¹ notes that 75% to 95% of illnesses that people go to the doctor started with a thought in their head.

Although Ephesians 6:12²³² teaches believers Biblical truths, they do not understand how these evil forces work. For satan and his evil spirits to attack someone, they must attack in the first person, such as I hate my mother-in-law. The hate for the mother-in-law was first spiritual, then physical, through the different hormones secreted.

²³⁰ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 277.

²³¹ Leaf, Caroline (2013) Switch on your brain. Grand Rapids, MI, United States of America: Bakers Books Publishers. P. 37.

²³² Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

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They now may think that the thought of hate is in their head. This toxic thought puts the body under stress because of hatred, bickering, and strife. Satan enters and destroys the person through hatred that severed the relationship with the mother-in-law. Satan has the stronghold he wanted and can begin with his destruction.

Proverbs 23:7 states:

“for as a he thinks in his heart, so is he [in behaviour – one who manipulates].”

Proverbs 23:7 (AMP)

Leaf²³³, notes that this Scripture’s reality, through medical science, has proven that epigenetics changes people’s thoughts and genes. It is not their genes that change their thoughts. When people allow a negative idea to enter their mind, such as “I hate my mother-in-law,” and they meditate on this negative thought, they effectively allow their DNA, which is made up of genes, to be infiltrated and muddled. Everyone can switch these DNA genes, in their bodies, on or off. When these genes switch on in the body’s DNA, then the body starts to secrete proteins. These proteins then become the building blocks that allow the genes in the DNA to memorize the effect of the protein. Toxic thoughts such as hatred or unforgiveness support the cells to be infiltrated by these negatory proteins. The permutations of the body cells become obstinate and ridged when negatory cells penetrate the body cells. This penetration does not allow any oxygen or nutrients to enter the cells, and for the same reason, does not allow the unwanted waste products to disperse. Unwanted waste is dangerous for the person because it will damage the cell genes, which will damage the cell DNA.

These damaged cells that harbour hatred or unforgiveness in the DNA carry over from generation to generation. Through this negative experience, people may allow satan to reduce their body’s ability to heal slower.

²³³ Leaf, Caroline (2013) Switch on your brain. Grand Rapids, MI, United States of America: Bakers Books Publishers. P. 65.

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However, people that repent from this hatred and unforgiveness heal faster than those that do not repent. Forgiveness is not only for the body to heal God has also given it so that generational curses break.

5. The battle of the will

The Concise Oxford dictionary²³⁴ defines free will as:

“Power of determining one’s choices of action independently of causation or fate.”

Strydom²³⁵ states that free will is in the corpus callosum, and is between the right and left brain, and connects the two hemispheres of the brain. Strydom further states the corpus callosum allows the two hemispheres of the brain to communicate with each other. It is also called the conative and is driven by impulses, urges, and desires. It is through these impulses, urges, and desires that people base their decisions. The free will may also be called the throne room of life. When a person decides without acknowledging God, they become their own god, because they do not need God.

They ultimately say, deliberately or unknowingly, what Pharaoh said to Moses in Exodus 5:2.

“And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.”

Exodus 5:2 (KJV)

²³⁴ The Concise Oxford Dictionary, 7 ed. (1989) Published by Oxford University Press, New York. P. 1232.

²³⁵ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. PP. 13-17.

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In the decision-making process, people have a window of opportunity to either reject or accept what is happening to them. Satan is walking like a roaring lion to devour those that deny God's authority in their lives (1 Peter 5:8)²³⁶. However, there is an opportunity to receive God's blessings if the right choices are made, even in adverse circumstances.

When satan presents a temptation of lust, which is a thought that satan gives in the person's mind, or when the person has a fantasy of desire, which is when the person meditates on the idea, the free will either rejects or accepts this thought of lust. Through this process, the person should recognize the source of the desire and know that they are not on their own. According to 2 Corinthians 10:5²³⁷, when the person brings every thought captive under Christ, the negative thought is severed and does not affect the person. Thus, the sin of lust stops in its tracks.

Should the sin not be rejected and the person meditates on the lust, then the thought becomes part of their long-term memory, which allows satan to put a stronghold on the person's life. According to James 4:8²³⁸, the person becomes double-minded, which is a sin unto God.

6. Taking territory back

“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

James 1:12 (KJV)

²³⁶ 1 Peter 5:8 (KJV) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

²³⁷ 2 Corinthians 10:5 (KJV) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

²³⁸ James 4:8 (ISV) Come close to God, and he will come close to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

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James 1:12 indicates that believers may experience temptation in life, which are the small battles believers endure. Although many small battles in life are lost, it does not mean that the person should give up. People will go through complex situations in life. If everyone gives up because of their experiences, they are doomed.

In life, people lose battles, feel defeated, ridiculed, broken, or even condemned. They may feel even God has forsaken them in their quest. However, when people realize the truth of Ephesians 6:12²³⁹, that their fight is not against flesh and blood, their way of thinking changes, and the spiritual battle is on. They start to think of ways to take the territory back they have lost. They realize they are not doomed, and their recovery from these situations allows the Kingdom of God to be re-established on this earth through them.

When people recover, they substitute bitterness, hate, and unforgiveness with timidity, gentleness, and goodness. Gossip, envy, and strife by love, joy, and peace. Strydom²⁴⁰ notes that this allows the heart to secrete atrial natriuretic factor (ANF), a peace chemical. The fullness of Christ, according to 1 Corinthians 2:16, is then experienced. The person may then start to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking into their spirit. They then interpret in their logical brain; without their emotions, negative thoughts, memories, imagination, and reasoning, God's Word concerning them. Through this change in the way they hear the voice of the Holy Spirit, they start to love their God according to (Matthew 22:37)²⁴¹; and they are no longer a double-minded people. They hear God's voice and react according to 2 Timothy 4:7²⁴².

²³⁹ Ephesians 6:12 (ISV) For our struggle is not against human opponents, but against rulers, authorities, cosmic powers in the darkness around us, and evil spiritual forces in the heavenly realm.

²⁴⁰ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 21.

²⁴¹ Matthew 22:37 (ISV) Jesus told him, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

²⁴² 2 Timothy 4:7 (ISV) I have fought the good fight. I have completed the race. I have kept the faith.

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7. Conclusion

When believers enter the combat zone, they should be able to;

- Use the knowledge they gained,
- Be able to identify the spiritual kingdom of satan,
- Be able to discern evil spirits,
- Know satan's dark kingdom strategies,
- Know how to use spiritual counter-strategies,
- Know how to use offensive as well as defensive spiritual weapons,
- Know the importance of deliverance, and,
- Know how to set captives free.

With all this knowledge gained and believers are passive in their approach, they make their involvement in spiritual warfare ineffective. However, positive strategies mobilize believers and put them in the combat zone. They invade the enemy's camp and proceed on all levels of spiritual warfare, such as the flesh, the tongue, the mind, the body, and the will. This invasion allows all negative influences to be substituted by the fruit of the Spirit.

When believers lose ground because of the trials and tribulations they experience, it is necessary to know that these small battles lost do not mean they have lost the war. During these battles, they may come to know that their fight is not against flesh and blood, and they have the fullness of Christ in them, which allows them to be victorious over every situation.

For believers to be victorious, they should know what their spiritual weapons are and how to use them. The next chapter will deal with Spiritual weapons.

Chapter Five

Weapons of War

Weapons Of War

1. Introduction

To exalt God through confessing the Word of God is to express the relationship and trust that believers have in God. However, to slander or talk negatively is to acknowledge the character of demonized influences. Populations across the earth, whether they are believers, or non-believers are in a spiritual battle. Some may not recognize it, some may be oblivious to the fact, some may be passive about it and try to hide away from the contention, and then there are those believers that recognize the attacks for what it is and knows the origin. The last mentioned are believers that know the plans and strategies satan has they stay alert and close to God. In 1 Corinthians 16:13²⁴³, God instructs that all believers should stand firm in the race to be victorious. Yet, through all the instructions from God's Word, believers are sometimes so busy with daily tasks that they do not heed the fact that they are on a battlefield. Satan is not waiting for people to get ready for his attack, he will attack at any time. When people are vulnerable, satan utilizes the opportunity to lodge an attack on their mind, body, and soul through objective or subjective approaches. For these reasons, God has assurance every believer that He has equipped them for the battle.

“³For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: ⁴(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds)”

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (KJV)

The battle that is not carnal, as described in (2 Cor 10:3-4), is fought in the unseen realm of the heavenly, and the weapons, therefore, are also not carnal but mighty before God to ensure every believer has the opportunity to prevent an onslaught from the demonic forces.

²⁴³ 1 Corinthians 16:13 (GNB) Be alert, stand firm in the faith, be brave, be strong.

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God gives believers the armour of God to protect themselves in this battle, which is contended in the spiritual realm, in different levels of the unseen world; such as:

- The wickedness of the worldly systems that hate God (1 John 5:19)²⁴⁴;
- The sinful nature of people (Romans 8:5-8)²⁴⁵;
- Lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6)²⁴⁶.

Paul delayed traveling to the city of Ephesus because he was under house arrest in Rome. Even with his house arrest, he did not allow the message to be late. He wrote to Timothy and said in 2 Timothy 3:12;

“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

2 Timothy 3:12 (KJV)

He knew that the body of Christ, will not be spared from these attacks, which come from satan and his demonic forces. It is to protect believers that he instructs them to wear the armour of God, as indicated in Ephesians 6:11-17.

“¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

²⁴⁴ 1 John 5:19 (KJV) And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

²⁴⁵ Romans 8:5-8 (KJV) ⁵For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. ⁷Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. ⁸So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

²⁴⁶ Hosea 4:6 (KJV) My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

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¹³Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:"

Ephesians 6:11-17 (KJV)

There is a spiritual battle that is continuing for souls on this earth. That is why Paul urges all believers to wear the armour of God. Keith Thomas²⁴⁷ notes that there are different defensive and offensive measures that believers must know.

2. Defensive measures

2.1. The belt of truth

In John 8:44, Jesus speaks to the Israelites that wanted to kill Him and declared they are children of the lie.

***"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."* (KJV)**

²⁴⁷ Keith Thomas (n.d.). The armour of God. Offensive Weapons of the Believer. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.groupbiblestudy.com/offensive-weapons> [Accessed 27 May 2021]

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As in any warfare, there must be a stabilizer to overcome the enemy, and Paul knew this truth, which is found in the triune of God and is the stabilizer every believer must deploy. Without God's truth, believers start to exaggerate, tell little white lies, and allow the enemy to infiltrate their life.

God declares that every believer must, on different levels of their existence, protect themselves with the truth. Jesus, in John 14:6, notes:

"I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6 (KJV)

Through this Scripture, Jesus personified what it meant to walk in the truth. When people are in a relationship with Jesus, they are set free from the past (John 8:32)²⁴⁸. Romans 12:2²⁴⁹ warns believers not to conform to the world and its standards but to renew their minds, and according to 1 Peter 1:13²⁵⁰, every believer must protect their soul.

When the lions of the mind are protected, integrity in Christ becomes the person's priority. Every decision made, whether it is in their thoughts, memory, imagination, or reasoning, is driven by their desires and urges to honour God. Their impulses, will, and negative emotions are no longer part of the decision-making, which made them double-minded people before (James 4:8)²⁵¹.

²⁴⁸ John 8:32 (KJV) And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

²⁴⁹ Romans 12:2 (KJV) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

²⁵⁰ 1 Peter 1:13 (KJV) Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

²⁵¹ James 4:8 (KJV) Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

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Today, there are many lies, corruption, discontentment for the Word of God, occultism, false prophets, and doctrines. Through these negative influences, people are affected to such an extent they sometimes battle to acknowledge right from wrong. Satan presents these lies as truth and allows many people to fall into his trap because they do not know the Scriptures (Matthew 22:29)²⁵². Believers who honour God in their lives use the belt of truth and know they have freedom from emotional outbursts.

When believers have the belt of truth on, they acknowledge:

- The truth of God's triune existence (1 John 5:7)²⁵³.
- That the Word of God is the truth (2 Timothy 2:15)²⁵⁴.
- That Holy Spirit is the spirit of truth (1 Corinthians 2:12,16)²⁵⁵.

When believers acknowledge the truth of God and live a truthful life according to the will of God, then 3 John 1:4 declares,

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

3 John 1:4 (KJV)

2.2. The Breastplate

The breastplate protects the heart, which is the most vulnerable place in the body, and satan knows that.

²⁵² Matthew 22:29 (KJV) Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

²⁵³ 1 John 5: 7 (KJV) For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

²⁵⁴ 2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV) Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

²⁵⁵ 1 Corinthians 2:12,16 (KJV) ¹²Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. ¹⁶For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

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The Bible declares that believers should be vigilant over their hearts (Proverbs 4:23)²⁵⁶ because their hearts are wicked (Jeremiah 17:9)²⁵⁷. Mark echoes the warning of Proverbs and tells believers where evil proceed from (Mark 7:21-23)²⁵⁸. When Ezekiel 36:26²⁵⁹ becomes a person's reality, they will find that Hebrews 10:22²⁶⁰ becomes a natural thing to do in God's Kingdom. Through all of this, Romans 1:17²⁶¹ is a lifestyle, and Satan's kingdom takes notice of Romans 8:31²⁶².

Satan hates everything God stands for. He is going to attack every person that walks in the righteousness of God. He attacks the heart with all his might to ensure the person loses faith.

Strydom²⁶³ notes that the heart does have a heart-brain. This heart-brain has about forty thousand neurons, which is similar to the neurons in the human brain. When there is chaos in the heart, negative things penetrate the heart, such as hate, unforgiveness, bitterness, anxiety, etc. When negative thoughts penetrate the heart, it does not secrete the peace chemical atrial natriuretic factor (ANF). Oxytocin is not released, and a feeling of despair fills the heart. This feeling of hopelessness allows the defence to be lowered or destroyed. The person then becomes an open target for any or all spiritual influences. The fiery darts hit the mark, and the breastplate of righteousness is ineffective. Sin becomes part of the person's life, and hate, bitterness, and anxiety replace love, joy, and peace.

²⁵⁶ Proverbs 4:23 (KJV) Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

²⁵⁷ Jeremiah 17:9 (ISV) "The heart is more deceitful than anything. It is incurable—who can know it?"

²⁵⁸ Mark 7:21-23 (KJV) ²¹For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, ²²Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: ²³All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

²⁵⁹ Ezekiel 36:26 (KJV) A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

²⁶⁰ Hebrews 10:22 (KJV) Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

²⁶¹ Romans 1:17 (KJV) For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

²⁶² Romans 8:31 (KJV) What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

²⁶³ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 21.

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The breastplate is to protect the believers' spirit from satan's attack. Paul commands all believers to wear the breastplate and have a life that is in right standing with God. When believers abide in Christ, He will purify them from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9)²⁶⁴.

2.3. Shoes of peace

The shoes are an essential part of spiritual warfare. When Christians are regenerated, they have to put on the shoes of peace to share the good news with other people. It allows Christians to preach and impart peace which Jesus imparted in them, as seen in John 14:27.

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

John 14:27 (KJV)

God made covenants with people from His nation Israel. From the time that God made these covenants, satan wanted to replicate God. Historically there were peace accords signed with God's people Israel. According to Minette, van Zyl²⁶⁵, many people influenced peace treaties with Israel.

Peace accords such as:

- ***“The Sykes-Picot Agreement in 1916 - Secret discussions took place in 1916, which involved the governments of Britain and France. They aimed to retain control of the former Ottoman territories, and to split the region in a British and French Mandate after the Ottoman Turks were defeated.”***

²⁶⁴ 1 John 1:9 (KJV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

²⁶⁵ Minette, v. Zyl, (2008) Joodse aanspraak op die land Israel. Voorgelê ter vervulling van die vereistes vir die graad ma(teol) in godsdiens en sendingwetenskap. Pretoria Universiteit. Pp.123-125.

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- ***The 1917 Balfour declaration. In 1917, the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Balfour, wrote a letter to the Jewish financier, Lord Rothschild. This declaration communicated the assistance of the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine.***
- ***“The Paris Peace Conference in 1919 – There were interruptions, which lasted from 18 January 1919 to 21 January 1920, in the Paris Peace Conference. During the conference, the victors of the First World War peace treaties negotiated with the various parties and is the defeat of the Ottoman Turks officially confirmed. This defeat brought about the end of Ottoman-Turkish rule in the Middle East region.”***
- ***The British mandate of Palestine (1922-1948) - From 1917 to 1920, Britain occupied the territory into which Palestine fell. This mandate held by the League of Nations in 1920 in San Remo concluded that Britain must govern Palestine. This mandate, Britain received, contained the terms and conditions, as formulated in the Balfour declaration.***

The list of peace treaties and mandates to resolve peace in the middle east and around the world with God’s people are merely world systems driven by humanistic approaches which do not last long. Every peace treaty or mandate that was negotiated and signed did not persist for long.

Merriam Webster Unabridged Dictionary²⁶⁶ notes that the opposite of the peace which believers experience is,

²⁶⁶ Mirriam Webster Unabridged Dictionary (n.d.) Peace. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/thesaurus/peace> [Accessed 20 October 2021]

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“Conflict, contention, discord, dissidence, strife, trouble, tumult, turmoil, unrest, upheaval, fighting, warfare, action, battle, or combat.”

These are types of discord that satan wants believers to experience. He relishes those believers who do not convey the message of peace and experiences God’s peace such as Romans 5:1 state,

“Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”

Romans 5:1 (KJV)

Every person who says they believe in the Lord, must-have this peace in their heart. Without God’s peace, there is chaos in the person’s life.

2.4. Shield of Faith

Paul visualized a Roman soldier with his attire ready for war when he wrote about the weapons of warfare. Part of the soldier’s attire was a shield, which they used to cover themselves with when the enemy attacks, with spears or arrows.

Satan uses beelzebub to strategies and sends spirits with fiery darts to shoot at people, especially believers and leaders. When temptation, guilt, self-condemnation, hopelessness, negativity, bitterness, anxiety, fear, depression, hate, anger, or any negative thought enter the believers’ life that causes them to be disobedient to the Word of God, they should make use of the shield of faith. This shield of faith comes through the relationship and trust every believer should have and experience in God. It is also the shield of faith that becomes a cord connecting other believers in times of trials.

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In Ephesians 6:16, Paul commands believers:

“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”

Ephesians 6:16 (KJV)

Using the shield is an action of faith that believers should utilize to stand against the onslaught of the enemy. God’s Word proclaims that He never leaves nor forsakes and never tests his children above their strength.

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”

1 Corinthians 10:13 (KJV)

When beelzebub organizes the demonic spirits in the supernatural world to fire the darts, believers may experience it as darts of illness, depression, hate, irritation, anger, trauma, hopelessness, chaos, and many more; the list is endless. Through such trials and tribulations, God is always with the person. During these attacks, is the time for the believer to take up the shield of faith and believe that God is there to protect them as Proverbs 30:5 states:

“Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.”

Proverbs 30:5 (KJV)

According to Hebrews 1:14²⁶⁷, some angels are ministering spirit which may also become part of the protection believers need.

²⁶⁷ Hebrews 1:14 (KJV) Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

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Angels are part of the protection believers have from God. According to Psalms 91:11²⁶⁸, the angels protect believers in their ways. In 2 Kings 6:16-17²⁶⁹, Elisha prayed to God to open his servants' eyes to see the host of angels that is there to protect them. Mostert²⁷⁰ notes that God charges the angels to protect His children from danger and deliver them (Acts 27:23)²⁷¹.

2.5. Helmet of Salvation

The most vulnerable place of attack, from the spiritual world, is the soul of a person. The helmet is there to protect every thought or idea that enters the mind. According to Strydom²⁷², in the anatomy of man, God also created different wavelengths that people are functioning in and through which the supernatural spiritual dimension communicates with humans. The wavelengths are the Beta, Theta, and Alpha. When the spirit world wants to reach people, they convey their message through the Beta or the Theta wavelengths. It is through these wavelengths that satan gets a foothold which may become either a stronghold or bondage.

2.5.1. The Beta wavelength

Strydom further notes that the Beta wavelength connects the soul and the body, which is the external world. It is in this world that people listen to different voices every day. People hear the voice of the world, their voice, God's voice, and the voice of the supernatural world. The voice of the world is the different types of technology influence lives.

²⁶⁸ Psalm 91:11 (GNB) God will put his angels in charge of you to protect you wherever you go.

²⁶⁹ 2 Kings 6:16-17 (KJV) ¹⁶"Don't be afraid," Elisha answered. "We have more on our side than they have on theirs." ¹⁷Then he prayed, "O LORD, open his eyes and let him see!" The LORD answered his prayer, and Elisha's servant looked up and saw the hillside covered with horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

²⁷⁰ Mostert, Bennie. (1992) *Geestelike oorlogsvoering, Toerusting vir die geestelike stryd van elke gelowige*. Publisher: Christelike Uitgewers maatskappy. Vereeniging. P. 30.

²⁷¹ Acts 27:23 (ISV) For just last night an angel of God, to whom I belong and whom I serve, stood by me

²⁷² Strydom, M.K. Dr. 2nd (2010) *Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart*. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 89.

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Satan uses technology to limit quality family time, which enhances anti-social behaviour and poor or no communication in the family. The television and cell phones take away quality time that was supposed to be with the family. These mediums expose children to witchcraft, violence, or even pornography which may, in turn, lead to rebellion in the home.

2.5.2. Theta brain wave activity

Strydom²⁷³ notes that the Theta brain wave activity connects the spirit and the soul and is called the inner world. Internally the Theta wavelength helps to understand thoughts and feelings, such as their spirit, God's Spirit, and satan. It is through the Theta wavelength that a person hears God as He convicts them of the truth. Satan also uses the Theta wave activity to tempt people in their minds.

2.5.3. Alpha brain wave activity

Strydom²⁷⁴ states that the Alpha brain wave activity takes the information that enters through the Theta and Beta brain wave activities and transforms it to make sense. It is through this transformation that people decide to either accept or reject thoughts. It is called self-talk. Through this process, God gives a window of opportunity to decline negative thoughts. Choosing correct allows the person to return to their rational level of decision making. If these negative views are allowed to impact the person, they may experience negative emotional feelings.

1 Corinthians 2:16²⁷⁵ declares that every believer has "the mind of Christ," which means that the fullness of whom God is, became part of whom the believer is (Isa11:2).

²⁷³ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 90.

²⁷⁴ Strydom, M.K. Dr 2nd (2010) Eagles Wings Ministries. Healing begins with sanctification of the heart. South Africa: Pinetown printers. P. 89.

²⁷⁵ 1 Corinthians 2:16 (KJV) For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

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“And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;”

Isaiah 11:2 (KJV)

When satan attacks through these different wavelengths, the person can change their way of thinking by renewing their mind according to Romans 12:2²⁷⁶. The fullness of Christ, which rests upon the believer, gives them the ability to finish strong.

3 Offensive measures

3.1. Discernment of spirits

Discernment of spirits mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:10²⁷⁷ is a gift that every pastor, leader, or counsellor must have. This gift opens the believer’s eyes to the supernatural realm where spirits function. Evil spirits have tasks with ulterior motives to get a foothold, stronghold, or to put people in bondage.

To be anointed with the gift of discernment of spirits means the believer can see, through their spiritual eyes, everything that is going on around them. They can see how evil spirits entice and manipulate believers into sin. Be able to see demonic spirits, see the spirit of addiction, see familiar spirits, see religious spirits that block the working of the Holy Spirit, Jezebel spirits, the spirit of fear, rebellion, the list is endless. Overall, the anointing allows believers to recognize the working of the Holy Spirit from the wolfs in sheep clothes.

When the Holy Spirit anoints believers with the discernment of spirits, they find that spiritual victories start to exceed ordinary accomplishments.

²⁷⁶ Romans 12:2 (GNB) Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

²⁷⁷ 1 Corinthians 12:10 (ISV) to another miraculous results; to another prophecy; to another the ability to distinguish between spirits; to another various kinds of languages; and to another the interpretation of languages.

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3.2. Sword

Part of the armour of God is the sword. The sword can be a defensive weapon, but for this explanation, be used as an offensive weapon. Satan's attack starts in the supernatural, which manifests in the natural world. An offensive approach nullifies these spiritual attacks.

“And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.”

Revelation 1:16 (KJV)

The sword referred to in Revelation 1:16 is God's Word that went out of the mouth of Jesus when He is to return to this earth. In Revelation 2:12 & 16²⁷⁸, God warns the church of Pergamos to repent otherwise, He is to visit them with the sword of His mouth.

“¹²For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. ¹³Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”

Hebrews 4:12-13 (KJV)

The two-edged sword mentioned in this passage also refers to the Word of God, the truth of God that discerns the intents of the heart, according to Jeremiah 17:9²⁷⁹, is exceptionally wicked and deceitful. The sword of God exposes every creature that wants to manifest itself in people.

²⁷⁸ Revelation 2:12,16 (ISV) ¹²"To the messenger of the church in Pergamum, write: 'The one who holds the sharp, two-edged sword, says this: So repent. If you don't, I will come to you quickly and wage war against them with the sword of my mouth.

²⁷⁹ Jeremiah 17:9 (ISV) "The heart is more deceitful than anything. It is incurable—who can know it?"

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These creatures mentioned in verse thirteen are the spiritual forces that Ephesians 6:12²⁸⁰; 2 Timothy 1:7²⁸¹, and 1 John 4:6²⁸² refer to. They are the invincible creatures that are naked and exposed before God. They are the spiritual wickedness that the Word of God, the sword, must be used.

3.3. Prayer

“Do not be conformed to this world (this age) (fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs), but be transformed (changed) by the (entire) renewal of your mind (by its new ideals and its new attitude), so that you may prove (for yourselves) what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even thing which is good and acceptable and perfect (in His sight for you).”

Romans 12:2 (AMP)

God confirms in His Word that His children are not to conform to this world but to renew their minds. Leaf²⁸³, from a medical perspective, strengthens the Biblical viewpoint that through constructive choices, the brain can change. As the brain changes, man becomes renewed and lives according to Romans 12:2²⁸⁴. Only now Proverbs 23:7²⁸⁵ is a reality because as a man thinks, so is he. When peoples react to thoughts in their brain and make the necessary changes in their lives, and they have no solid foundation to make these choices, they have created what science calls cognitive dissonance.

²⁸⁰ Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

²⁸¹ 2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV) For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

²⁸² 1 John 4:6 (KJV) We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

²⁸³ Leaf, Caroline (2013) Switch on your brain. Grand Rapids, MI, United States of America: Bakers Books Publishers. P. 23.

²⁸⁴ Romans 12:2 (GNB) Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

²⁸⁵ Proverbs 23:7 (ISV) for as he thinks within himself, so he is. "Eat and drink!" he'll say to you, but his heart won't be with you.

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Cognitive dissonance means they have built structures in their brain with a faulty foundation that cannot create persistent patterns in the brain to bring peace.

When positive changes are made and a solid foundation is laid, then prayer becomes an imminent part of the intimate relationship people have with God. Integrity has a new meaning in the believer's life because the solid foundation created in the brain structure ensures that words and actions line up with thoughts, imagination and feelings. This new found feeling of peace motivates the believer to pray. Prayer may then be divided into two categories: (1) individual prayer, and (2) group prayers.

3.3.1. Individual prayer

“I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore, choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”

Deuteronomy 30:19 (KJV)

God, through His Word in Deuteronomy 30:19, allows every believer to choose life and not death. However, satan and demons give people a lot of probabilities in their thought life through the world, fellow man, and the media. Should any negative possibilities collapse onto the brain, it becomes the default thinking pattern, and if these thoughts become actions or words, sin is born (Proverbs 4:20–27)²⁸⁶. Through this negative lens, the person may view every situation in life as cynical. However, when positive changes occur, and there is a solid foundation, believers choose life and spend more time in prayer.

²⁸⁶ Proverbs 4:20-27 (GNB) ²⁰My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen to my words. ²¹Never let them get away from you. Remember them and keep them in your heart. ²²They will give life and health to anyone who understands them. ²³Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts. ²⁴Never say anything that isn't true. Have nothing to do with lies and misleading words. ²⁵Look straight ahead with honest confidence; don't hang your head in shame. ²⁶Plan carefully what you do, and whatever you do will turn out right. ²⁷Avoid evil and walk straight ahead. Don't go one step off the right way.

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Newberg²⁸⁷ states that intimate individual prayer sets off a cascade of neurological effects in the brain. It allows the frontal lobe to activate thoughts, reasoning, imagination, and memories to focus on God. The limbic, is the emotional brain, is associated with aggression, depression, reaction, sorrow, doubt, guilt. Resentment deactivates in prayer because the brain focuses on God, who gives comfort, and stress reduces. When the limbic is not deactivated, the amygdala turns the fight or flight mode on compassion for others is deactivated which may allow relationships to be severed. Newberg further states that twelve-minute of prayers a day slows down the aging process of the frontal lobe. The time and frequency spent in prayer also determine the enhancement of the brain. This time spends in devotion not only enhances the brain but helps improve memory. Intimate prayer allows people;

- Improve their happiness;
- Improves self-control which allows forgiveness according to the Word of God;
- People recover quicker from abusive relationships;
- Reduces the risk of depression;
- Lowers stress levels;
- Improves the recovery from heart surgery;
- Recovers quicker from the loss of a loved one;
- More content with life in general;
- Improves mood swings;
- Reduces fear;
- Improves relationships;
- Increases the rate of successful rehabilitation from addictions;
- Improves the immune function;
- Lowers the feeling of hostility against others;
- Improves healthier marriages, and;
- Cleanse the heart from a guilty conscience.

²⁸⁷ Newberg. A. Dr (n.d.) Full Gospel Businessmen's Training. The Mind Health Report interviews Dr. Andrew Newberg. Strengthen your brain through the power of prayer. [On Line] Available at: <https://fgbt.org/Health-Tips/strengthen-your-brain-through-the-power-of-prayer.html> [Accessed 21 June 2021]

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Focused prayer allows the brain to interpret, in the subconscious during the night, what has happened during the day Leaf²⁸⁸. New nerve cells are created, which brings changes in the mind. These changes are why Laminations 3:22-23 states,

“²²It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. ²³They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”

Laminations 3:22-23 (KJV)

3.3.2. Group prayers

In 2 Chronicles 6, Solomon dedicated the temple he had built for God. He blesses the temple and the congregation that stood with him. Solomon with the assemblage, in prayer, invokes the presence of God:

“Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attend unto the prayer that is made in this place. Now therefore arise, O LORD God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness”

2 Chron 6:40-41 (KJV)

God's Holy power filled the temple, and it changed the atmosphere.

When believers participate in group activities, such as singing hymns or praying in groups, it has a different effect on the brain as when they pray individually. When congregation members sing or pray together, they become aware that they are part of something bigger than themselves. Group prayer allows them to lose the sense of isolation and individuality and invites the power of the Holy Spirit to be present. This connection is absent in a non-praying congregation.

²⁸⁸ Leaf, Caroline (2013) Switch on your brain. Grand Rapids, MI, United States of America: Bakers Books Publishers. P. 14.

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When satan attacks a congregation, he does it on different levels. One of the levels that he attacks is the finances of the assembly. However, when the attack is known, the congregation participates in group prayer, the atmosphere changes, and God restores.

3.4. Faith

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:”

Ephesians 2:8 (KJV)

People reclaim their life through their faith, which is a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8). To have faith can translate as a relationship with God and trust in God. It is impossible to trust God if there is no relationship with Him, and for the same reason, it is impossible to have a relationship with God if He is not trusted. At the tower of Babel, people tried to reach God without having a relationship with Him. God confounded their language and scattered them upon the face of the earth (Genesis 11:7,8)²⁸⁹.

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

Hebrew 11:6 (KJV)

According to Hebrew 11:6, believers must enter into God's presence with faith, which gives them the ability to overcome the world through faith. Faith is an offensive weapon that provides surety of heart.

²⁸⁹ Genesis 11:7,8 (KJV) ⁷Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. ⁸So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

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3.5. Fasting and prayer

The Word of God notes that Jesus got baptized in the River Jordan Luke 3:21²⁹⁰.

Immediately, the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus like a dove. Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan River and was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness. Instead of leaving the Jordan River to go and preach to the lost in Jerusalem, Jesus went away from where the lost people were to spend forty days fasting in the wilderness. In Luke 4:2²⁹¹, Jesus was at His weakest when Satan tempted Him. When Jesus returned to Galilee, He was not only full of the Holy Spirit, but He had the power of the Holy Spirit in Him (Luke 4:14)²⁹². This Scripture also indicates the full potential of the Holy Spirit manifested in Jesus after He returned from the desert. Jesus submitted in obedience to the Holy Spirit.

Romans 12:1²⁹³ calls all believers to submit their bodies unto God as a living sacrifice. That is total obedience to the Holy Spirit to take control of their bodies. When a believer experiences the power of the Holy Spirit, they also have an offensive weapon to cast out demons.

3.6. Agreement

There are many continuums which people live in one of them is that of content or discontent. Discontentment allows someone to struggle with self-condemnation. Self-condemnation is a feeling of not being good enough or abandonment, which will make them experience rejection and betrayal.

²⁹⁰ Luke 3:21 (KJV) Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

²⁹¹ Luke 4:2 (KJV) Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.

²⁹² Luke 4:14 (KJV) And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

²⁹³ Romans 12:1 (KJV) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

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When these thoughts enter the mind, they may feel disillusioned and experience mental pain and suffering. In this process, trust substitutes distrust, and they battle to agree with people. They are then making decisions either on an emotional level or on a reactionary level. Both are mighty weapons in the hand of the enemy because of discontentment birth disunity.

Another powerful weapon for satan to use against believers is disunity, which he uses to provoke arguments and disagreements. Through these arguments, confusion takes charge, and chaos erupts.

When people in the assembly agree, it implies they are sharing physical and spiritual experiences, which helps to promote and strengthen unity in families and congregations. People who have a feeling of belonging make conscious choices. They are in agreement not only with the assembly but with their families and friends. Their sense of belonging inspires them to live in harmony, love, and accord. They not only have a feeling of belonging, but it changes their way of thinking to be God-centred.

3.7. God's Word

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 1:1(KJV)

The Word of God, used as an offensive weapon is powerful, for every believer. It is through the Word believers get knowledge to ensure they live a victorious life. Psalms 138:2²⁹⁴ declares that the Word amplifies above the Name of God. Paul teaches that believers should always be on guard in their authoritative position and warns them not to give in to the spirits of laziness (Ephesians 5:15-17)²⁹⁵.

²⁹⁴ Psalms 138:2 (KJV) I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

²⁹⁵ Ephesians 5:15-17 (GNB) ¹⁵So be careful how you live. Don't live like ignorant people, but likewise people. ¹⁶Make good use of every opportunity you have, because these are evil days. ¹⁷Don't be fools, then, but try to find out what the Lord wants you to do.

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Believers must fill their lives with the Word of God and use it as a measure to guide them in power and strength. Romans 12:2²⁹⁶ notes that believers should not conform to this world and the sinful standards. However, they must change by renewing their minds. According to Leaf²⁹⁷, rejuvenating the mind translates that the brain is neuroplasticity, which may further be defined as the brain can form and reorganize synaptic connections. More so, through the response of an objective approach, feelings, or experiences. Renewing the mind is possible only through constructive choices people make in their cognition, which are their thoughts, memory, imagination, and reasoning. When people react to an objective approach, feelings, or experience in their cognitive and there is no solid foundation, they are building structures in their brain with a faulty foundation that cannot create persistent patterns in the brain to bring peace?

This faulty foundation is why Paul warns believers to conform to the Word of God. Renewing the mind and submitting to God's Word ensures positive choices and a solid foundation. Prayer becomes an imminent part of the intimate relationship they have with God. Integrity, in the Word of God, gets a new meaning in life because the solid foundation created in the brain structure ensures that words and actions line up with their thoughts, imagination, and feelings. Their acts come in line with Proverbs 23:7

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.”

Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)

²⁹⁶ Romans 12:2 (GNB) Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

²⁹⁷ Leaf, Caroline (2013) Switch on your brain. Grand Rapids, MI, United States of America: Bakers Books Publishers. P. 22.

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With these changes, the Word of God flows through to the lost world, and according to Isaiah 55:11²⁹⁸, “it will accomplish that which God purposed” because God is watching over His Word to perform it.

3.8. The Name of Jesus

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;”

Mark 16:17 (KJV)

By calling on the Name of Jesus, believers find there is a response when they cast out demons. The name of Jesus can be called upon for different circumstances, for different situations, such as:

- Salvation - Acts 4:12²⁹⁹,
- Justification – 1 Corinthians 6:11³⁰⁰,
- Healing – Acts 3:6³⁰¹,
- Preaching – Acts 8:12³⁰²,
- Casting our devils – Act 16:18³⁰³, and,

²⁹⁸ Isaiah 55:11 (GNB) So also will be the word that I speak—it will not fail to do what I plan for it; it will do everything I send it to do.

²⁹⁹ Acts 4:12 (KJV) Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

³⁰⁰ 1 Corinthians 6:11 (ISV) That is what some of you were! But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of our Lord Jesus the Messiah and by the Spirit of our God.

³⁰¹ Acts 3:6 (ISV) However, Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold, but I'll give you what I do have. In the name of Jesus the Messiah from Nazareth, walk!"

³⁰² Acts 8:12 (ISV) But when Philip proclaimed the good news about the kingdom of God and about the name of Jesus the Messiah, men and women believed and were baptized.

³⁰³ Acts 16:18 (KJV) And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

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- Prayer – John 14:13³⁰⁴.

When the Name of Jesus is declared, things start to shift in the spiritual realm, and the demons tremble with fear.

3.9. The Blood of Jesus

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.”

Revelation 12:11 (KJV)

Jesus, the son of God, was chastised so that believers heal, and when Jesus died on the cross, He became the curse so that every believer's transgression's, can be forgiven. When believers experience the blessings through the blood of Jesus, they are relieved from afflictions and healed through the faith they have in Jesus as their saviour. Through the blood of Jesus, believers are:

- Forgiven and healed – Psalm 103:3³⁰⁵, Isaiah 53:5³⁰⁶;
- Justified – Romans 5:9³⁰⁷;
- Have power over their enemies – Revelation 12:11³⁰⁸;
- Taken out of the enemy's camp into the presence of God – Colossians 2:15³⁰⁹;

³⁰⁴ John 14:13 (KJV) I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

³⁰⁵ Psalm 103:3 (KJV) Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

³⁰⁶ Isaiah 53:5 (GNB) But because of our sins he was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did. We are healed by the punishment he suffered, made whole by the blows he received.

³⁰⁷ Romans 5:9 (KJV) Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

³⁰⁸ Revelation 12:11 (KJV) And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

³⁰⁹ Colossians 2:15 (ISV) And when he had disarmed the rulers and the authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in the cross.

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- Severed from a bad conscious – Hebrew 10:22³¹⁰.

3.10. God's Angels

God created all people with the free will to choose right from wrong. Even though God can keep harm from every person and stop evil in people's lives, the world people live in, is evil and the choices believers make may determine whether there is peace or turmoil. People need protection in this world that is unholy and full of negativity. The purpose of angels is to protect believers and shelter them from sin to inherit God's kingdom. Scripture is notorious for God's angels watching over His children (Ps 91:11³¹¹, Ps 103:20³¹², Luke 4:10³¹³, Ps 34:7³¹⁴, Heb 1:14³¹⁵, Ex 23:20³¹⁶).

Angels have been mentioned in the New Testament more than one hundred times and archangels only three times (1 Thess 4:16³¹⁷ and Jude 1:9³¹⁸, and Luke 1:26³¹⁹).

The protection that believers experience from angels may be in different forms, such as conveying God's messages to them, fighting on believers' behalf, guarding them, and praising and worshiping the Lord.

³¹⁰ Hebrews 10:22 (ISV) let us continue to come near with sincere hearts in the full assurance that faith provides, because our hearts have been sprinkled clean from a guilty conscience, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

³¹¹ Psalm 91:11 (GNB) God will put his angels in charge of you to protect you wherever you go.

³¹² Psalm 103:20 (GNB) Praise the LORD, you strong and mighty angels, who obey his commands, who listen to what he says.

³¹³ Luke 4:10 (KJV) For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee:

³¹⁴ Psalm 34:7 (GNB) His angel guards those who honor the LORD and rescues them from danger.

³¹⁵ Hebrews 1:14 (GNB) What are the angels, then? They are spirits who serve God and are sent by him to help those who are to receive salvation.

³¹⁶ Exodus 23:20 (GNB) I will send an angel ahead of you to protect you as you travel and to bring you to the place which I have prepared.

³¹⁷ 1 Thessalonians 4:16 (KJV) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

³¹⁸ Jude 1:9 (ISV) Even the archangel Michael, when he argued with the devil and fought over the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him. Instead, he said, "May the Lord rebuke you!"

³¹⁹ Luke 1:26 (KJV) Now in the sixth month of her pregnancy, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth,

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Angels are also associated with the lonely. Throughout history, there are numerous miraculous ways that God's angels protected and guided people all over this world. White³²⁰ notes there are different ways in which angels help people, such as;

3.10.1. Angels Guard and Protect people

Angles sent by God guard and protect His children. They are the angles working on believer's behalf to guard their life. God's unconditional love for His people is evident in the life of Daniel in the lion's den when the angel shut the mouths of the Lions (Dan 6:22)³²¹. Believers may experience the same protection as seen in Psalm 91.

“For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.”

Psalms 91:11,12 (KJV)

3.10.2. Angels as God's Messengers

Angles, who are God's Messengers, communicate God's Word and truth to people as the Spirit of God guides them. Throughout the Word of God, it is clear that these angels, who are God's instruments, appeared to many people to announce the message from God. These messages would include messages of comfort, encouragement, caution, of judgment (in the case of Lot and his family), in other cases carrying out the decision.

³²⁰ White, L. (2021), Belief net. 6 ways angles are working for you. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.beliefnet.com/inspiration/angels/galleries/6-ways-angels-are-working-for-you.aspx> [Accessed 26 June 2021]

³²¹ Daniel 6:22 (ISV) My God sent his angel and sealed the mouths of the lions. They have not harmed me, proving that I'm innocent before him. Also against you, your majesty, I've committed no offense.

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3.10.3. Observing angels

“For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.”

1 Corinthians 4:9 (KJV)

The Greek word “spectacle,” according to Strong’s can be defined as³²²;

“To be a spectator of, that is, discern, (literally, figuratively [experience] or intensively [acknowledge]): - behold, consider, look on, perceive,”

Through their observation of people, angels gain knowledge about people, whether it is good or bad. People should not attract any attention to themselves in such a way they harm their Christianity but should be faithful to the trust they have in God. It is this spectacle that believers exhibit which the angels observe.

3.10.4. Angels Encourage Believers

God sends His angels to encourage His children even in the time of despair. Through the writings of the New Testament, the angels encourage people to start with their ministries. Paul and Silas were inspired while they were in prison until they were free. In 2 Thessalonians 1:7, he calls the angels “mighty.”

“And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,”

2 Thessalonians 1:7 (KJV)

³²² Strong’s # G2334, eSword. Spectacular. To be a spectator of, that is, discern, (literally, figuratively [experience] or intensively [acknowledge]): - behold, consider, look on, perceive,

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When the angel of the Lord descended from Heaven to roll the stone away, the earth shook (Matthew 28:2)³²³. He encouraged Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to go and tell what they have experienced.

3.10.5. Angels help to deliver believers

Hebrew 1:14 declares that there are angels that are actively involved in ministering to people. God sends these ministering angels at specific times in a person's life to convey blessings and warnings of danger.

“Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”

Hebrew 1:14 (KJV)

3.10.6. Praising God

Praise is a powerful offensive weapon to use in spiritual warfare. In 2 Chronicles 20:22³²⁴, when the Israelites praised God, God set up an ambush against their enemies. Psalm 100:4³²⁵ declares that God's children should enter His courts with praise. When Paul and Silas started to pray and praise God, the other prisoners heard them and their bands fell off everyone (Acts 16:25,26)³²⁶. The magnitude of God's presence personified through the earth that shook, and peace came over everyone. They did not even attempt to flee.

³²³ Matthew 28:2 (GNB) Suddenly there was a violent earthquake; an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled the stone away, and sat on it.

³²⁴ 2 Chronicles 20:22 (KJV) And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

³²⁵ Psalm 100:4 (KJV) Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

³²⁶ Acts 16:25-26 (KJV) ²⁵And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. ²⁶And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

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4. Conclusion

Although believers live in this world, they are carnal and have powerful weapons to use offensively against evil spirits. These offensive weapons, when used, confess their actions, the relationship, the trust they have in the Lord. However, by not utilizing offensive weapons, demonic influences may get people to slander and converse negatively. Every person experience spiritual battles, whether they recognize it or deny it. Some identify these spiritual attacks but are passive about them. Even with the awareness, people sometimes lower their guard and become oblivious to the attacks of satan. Satan and his demons are not waiting for believers to get ready for the attack, these demonic spirits attack at any time. Satan aims these attacks strategically to ensure believers are hopeless and without faith. It is for this reason that God assures believers that He equips them for the battle.

God gives every believer the armour of God to protect themselves against the supernatural forces of the enemy. These attacks may be on different levels of the unseen world, such as the wickedness of the ungodly systems that hate God (1 John 5:19)³²⁷, the sinful nature of people (Romans 8:5-11)³²⁸, and the lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6)³²⁹.

³²⁷ 1 John 5:19 (KJV) And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

³²⁸ Romans 8:5-11 (KJV) ⁵For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. ⁶For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. ⁷Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. ⁸So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. ¹⁰And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

³²⁹ Hosea 4:6 (KJV) My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

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Although there is offensive weaponry, there is also defensive weaponry available. The armour of God, as indicated in Ephesians 6:11-17³³⁰, are the defensive weapons believers need in their fight. In this battle, satan may win some of the skirmishes. However, believers should know that Jesus won the struggle and that God guides believers into His plan of victory.

The next chapter will deal with “God’s plan for man’s victory.”

³³⁰ Ephesians 6:11-17 (KJV) ¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. ¹³Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Chapter 6

God's Plan for Man's Victory

God's Plan for Man's Victory

1. Introduction

The central theme communicated throughout this dissertation is that God and satan co-exist within the same universe. In man's quest to serve a higher authority, it may become perplexed to understand how this co-existence is possible. In man's limited resources about the universe and their limited brain capacity, it is impossible to conclude this answer man should then acknowledge the Biblical truth that "God Is." Throughout history, this differentiation of man between good and evil is prevalent in the choices that they have made as to whom they serve.

For Christians the existence of God, from a Biblical perspective, has never been questioned but rather represented as a fact. This Biblical representation is further prevalent in Genesis 1:1, which states:

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth"

Genesis 1:1 (KJV)

This perspective is in John 1:1, which states:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:1 (KJV)

There are many people in the world today who deny the existence of God as their saviour. It is in these choices they make where they decide to either serve God or satan. God, through His love, created man to have a relationship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and satan is there to sever this relationship to populate hell.

Through this chapter, the hypo dissertation of God's view of man is to be analysed.

God's Plan for Man's Victory

2. God's view of man

The Biblical view portrays God as the Creator who created man, in Genesis 1:26³³¹, to be in a relationship with Him. God created people to have relationship with them. In this relationship God nurtures believers in body, soul, and spirit. Man, as a person, has a free will to make moral choices; choices to honour God as their heavenly Father or serve satan and his demons.

From the beginning, Satan endeavoured to sever the relationship that God established between Himself and man. When man sinned, God proclaimed that through the seed of His Son, Jesus Christ, man reign again (Genesis 3:15³³² and Isaiah 53:10³³³).

Stewart³³⁴ states that there is only one word in the Hebrew language to describe seed, and that is "zera." The word "zera" depicts a part of a plant, but it also describes new life that can refer to human offspring or descendants. In 1 John 3:9, the word "zera" is used to describe a new life that is born into the Kingdom of God.

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."

1 John 3:9 (KJV)

All believers that are born again are born of an incorruptible seed. This incorruptible seed lives and abides in the Word of God forever (1 Peter 1:23)³³⁵.

³³¹ Genesis 1:26 (KJV) "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

³³² Genesis 3:15 (KJV) "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

³³³ Isaiah 53:10 (KJV) "Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand."

³³⁴ Stewart, R. (August, 04, 2019). HWL. Hebrew Word Lessons. Zera: A SEED in the garden. [On Line] Available at: <https://hebrewwordlessons.com/2019/08/04/zera-a-seed-in-the-garden/> [Accessed 28 May 2021]

³³⁵ 1 Peter 1:23 (KJV) Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

God's Plan for Man's Victory

When the incorruptible seed lives through the Word of God, they may be known as children of God. It is these children of God that may claim the blessings of Jesus Christ. Through this blessing, God bless the righteous (Romans 1:17).

“For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”

Romans 1:17(KJV)

The righteousness of God, which manifests in believers, urges them to conform to Matthew 22:37;

“Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”

Matthew 22:37 (KJV)

When the reality of God's righteousness urges believers to grasp the fullness of Matthew 22:37, then the responsibility of the body of Christ to the congregation and society supersede individualism. The will of God gets preference, and people live in peace with each other. Through this newfound love for God, believers start to read their Bible, live, and pray according to God's will as stipulated in Romans 10:17.

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Romans 10:17(KJV)

God's plan for man to be victorious is a reality in believers when the righteousness of God's seed takes preference, and man lives his values, emotions, prayer life, belief system, and conscience according to God's will. Past experiences in life no longer dictate the future, and attitude changes towards the world in general.

Renewing the mind allows the believer to know that God's Word is the answer in their life to salvation.

God's Plan for Man's Victory

3. The Word of God is the answer to salvation.

Collins English Dictionary³³⁶ describes the word omnipresent as:

“Present everywhere at the same time: the omnipresent God.”

This definition declares that God is universally present. It furthermore defines God, who is infiltrating the universe in all parts of its existence, as the Great “I AM.”

King David acknowledged this omnipresence and existence of God in Psalm 139:7-12.

“⁷Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? ⁸If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. ⁹If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; ¹⁰Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. ¹¹If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. ¹²Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.”

Psalm 139:7-12 (KJV)

It stands to reason that the relevance of the word omniscience is just as relevant to the understanding of God's existence. Merriam Webster learner's dictionary³³⁷ defines omniscience as:

“Possessed of universal or complete knowledge.”

³³⁶ Dictionary.com. WILLIAM COLLINS SONS & CO. LTD, (1979, 1986), Omnipresent. [On Line] Available at: <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/omnipresent> [Accessed 22 July 2021]

³³⁷ MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY BRITANNICA ENGLISH - ARABIC TRANSLATION ENGLISH - SPANISH-ENGLISH TRANSLATION. Merriam Wester learner's dictionary, (2021). Omniscient. [On Line] Available at: dictionary <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/omniscient> [Accessed 26 October 2021]

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Omniscience is a state of knowing everything. Through these definitions, the truth of God's omniscience and omnipresence is relevant to the revelation of His Word, which is as reliable. God's Word, as the reliable source, declares in John 1:1:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:1 (KJV)

The man was created by God, from the dust of the earth, to rule over every living creature. Sin caused the man to lose his ability to rule over this earth. However, Jesus changed man's relationship with God when He died on the cross. Jesus's death on the cross pathed a way for the children of God to be in His presence (John 12:32).

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

John 12:32 (KJV)

God's salvation for man is through mercy and grace they receive from Him (Romans 3:24-25³³⁸ & 5:17³³⁹). Regeneration ensures that everyone experiences the fullness of which God is in them (1 Corinthians 2:16)³⁴⁰. The fullness of God's Word is prevalent to the seven Spirits of God:

"And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;"

Isaiah 11:2 (KJV)

³³⁸ Romans 3:24 (KJV) ²⁴But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; ²⁵Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

³³⁹ Romans 5:17 (GNB) It is true that through the sin of one-man death began to rule because of that one man. But how much greater is the result of what was done by the one man, Jesus Christ! All who receive God's abundant grace and are freely put right with him will rule in life through Christ.

³⁴⁰ 1 Corinthians 2:16 (GNB) As the scripture says, "Who knows the mind of the Lord? Who is able to give him advice?" We, however, have the mind of Christ.

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With the Spirit of God that rests upon every believer, they must acknowledge that God's Word, according to Psalms 138:2³⁴¹, is magnified above God's Name and that this Word sanctifies believers to be free from condemnation (Rom 8:1)³⁴². When the believer is set free in body, soul, and spirit from the bondage of death, they cry out with God's Spirit that they are one with God, as indicated in Romans 8:16.

"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:"

Romans 8:16 (KJV)

4 Conclusion

Man's quest to serve a higher power and the difficulty to comprehend that God and satan co-exist within the same universe opens a door for satan and his demons to entice people to become confused. History speaks for itself in the choices that man has made between good and evil. The option to believe in God's existence is limited to man's knowledge about the universe and must then conclude in the acceptance of the Biblical truth, which states that "God Is."

From the beginning, when God created man, there was a relationship between God and man. In this relationship, the man had a free will to choose between what is right and wrong. When sin entered into man's presence, satan capitalised to sever the relationship they had with God. God promised that through Jesus, man would reign again. 1 Peter 1:23³⁴³ proclaims that believers are of an incorruptible seed. It is through this incorruptible seed they are children of the living God. This coherence to the Spirit of God conforms believers to Matthew 22:37³⁴⁴.

³⁴¹ Psalm 138:2 (KJV) I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

³⁴² Romans 8:1 (KJV) There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

³⁴³ 1 Peter 1:23 (KJV) Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

³⁴⁴ Matthew 22:37 (KJV) Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

God's Plan for Man's Victory

Therefore, God's will take preference, and believers live in peace. Through this newfound peace, they pray regularly and read the Bible. It furthermore influences life so that negative influences substitute for God's love and compassion for others.

Omnipresent translates as "being present everywhere at the same time," This defines God as the God who infiltrates all parts of the universe as the great "I AM." Omniscience is to have "complete knowledge." These two definitions declare that God is present everywhere with complete knowledge of the universe and its inhabitants. This presence makes the Word of God reliable. It is through this Word of God that the universe and man came into existence. The Word became flesh with the sole purpose to demolish satan's stronghold, which he obtained in the Garden of Eden. Believers' salvation confirms God's grace and mercy for His children. Through this mercy and grace, believers are set free from the bondage of death, and their spirit cries out with God's Spirit that they are children of God.

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