

Spiritual Warfare – Lesson 3

Jesus is the only hope for the world today, He is the solution for all our social ills. If any nation would truly put their trust in Him, what an impact that would have on all aspects of society. As nations walk away from the light of Jesus Christ, the only thing left is to walk into darkness, confusion and misery. Only until the Millennium will we see a global theocracy of Jesus' reign.

Proverbs 14:34, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people."

The Mandate Continues – Setting the Captives Free

Question: When Jesus left the earth, what was to become of the ministry He had started?"

John 14:12-14, "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater (*more of them*) things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

- The word "Ask" here would be better translated "Demand"
 - o NT:4441 aiteo – "which is strictly a demand for something due"
 - o "Whatever you shall demand as your rights & privileges, that shall I make good"
 - o John 16:23-24 is talking about the prayer of petition
 - Ask for what the Bibles says to ask- Luke 10:2; Eph. 1:15-19; James 1:5
 - o What already belongs to us in redemption we don't have to ask- confess it!
 - Whether it's forgiveness of sins, healing, dominion over the devil etc.

We are not demanding of Jesus, rather we are demanding of the devil in the Name of Jesus. When we demand in the Name of Jesus, He backs us up in exercising the will of God on earth.

- Isaiah 61:1-3 & Luke 4:17-21: Spoke of the earthly ministry and commission of Jesus

Please Read: Acts 10:36-38

- Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-18; Lk. 24:45-49; Acts 1:8: Speaks of our ministry/commission

Question: What is the difference between Jesus' earthly ministry back then and ours today?"

God never intended that there should ever be any change in the methods of ministry down through the ages; only as nations developed, should these methods be broadened, but the miraculous element enfolded in the Name of Jesus should be the means of opening closed doors to the Church everywhere; the sick should be healed; the power of Satan broken over peoples' lives and captives set free. All this is done in the Name of Jesus.

- There is life in His Name for those who believe in Him!
 - o 1 John 3:8- *"The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work"*
 - o We to are to continue that ministry of destroying the devil's work in Jesus' Name
- Jesus knew the place His Name would hold among men

Men would love it enough to die for it; others would hate it enough to commit murder on account of it- this Name that makes demons tremble and saints rejoice.

Question: Sinners use Jesus' Name in vain as a curse word- not Buddah/Mohammad why?

Enforcing Satan's Defeat

Please Read: Luke 10:17-20

- Satan is a defeated foe, but we still have to keep him under subjection in our lives
 - o Otherwise he will exploit ignorance, lack of faith or disobedience
- During Jesus' ministry He always put the devil and demons in their place
- In today's liberal churches the teaching of demonology is non existent
- Our society as a whole deems demons and Satan as fairy tales and superstition
- The enemy wants to push people to two extremes
 - o Either there is no devil or demons
 - o Or folks become obsessed with demons and the devil is behind everything

Please Read: Luke 13:10-16

Question: Would healing be a form of spiritual warfare against the works of the devil?

Sickness and disease is Satanic oppression (according to Acts 10:38) either directly by the presence of a spirit of infirmity or indirectly through the fall and introduction of sin and death in the world. So when it comes to ministering to the sick, whether we are dealing directly or indirectly with the devil we demand in the Name of Jesus rather than offer a prayer of petition

There is no question as to God's will when it comes to dealing with the devil in folks lives- cast the sickness out, depression & oppression- rebuke it and command it to leave in Jesus' Name!

- Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil and we are to continue that mandate
- When driving out demons, we don't ask God to do it for us
- We have been authorized to act on His behalf to enforce Satan's defeat in Jesus' Name
- Sickness and disease is the work of darkness, so we don't pray to God about it- rebuke it

Luke 4:38-39, "Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them."

Mark 9:25

When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the evil spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

- When it comes to dealing with the devil, it does not have to be drawn out and long
- Jesus did not spend hours exorcising demons nor did the early church nor should we
- However, it does take faith and a measure of prayer and consecration to be effective
- Matthew 17:21, "*However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.*"
- **Please Read: Acts 16:16-18; Hebrews 2:14-15**

Question: Have you ever had to cast out demons or deal with the spiritually oppressed?

- Remember that it's the Greater One inside you; the Holy Spirit the devil is afraid of

Luke 11:20

But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.

God in us (1 John 4:4) makes us a master in this world. God is bigger than the devil, storms, tests trials or any force that comes against us- we need to learn to lean on the Holy Spirit. Romans 5:17 states that we reign in life as kings through Christ Jesus.

It's not about experiences, feelings or natural things, but the reality of faith in God's Word.

Please Read: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 – Until Jesus returns, keep the devil under your heel!