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LESSON THIRTY-SEVEN

... ABOUT THE AUTHORITY OF THOSE IN CHRIST JESUS

INTRODUCTION

Jesus in John 10:10 states,

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that They might have it more abundantly."

Satan who is the thief desires to keep those who are in Christ in a state of sickness, death, frustration and poverty. Jesus on the other hand desires for those who are in Him to live free from sickness, death, frustration and poverty -- to live the ABUNDANT LIFE.

The purpose of this lesson is to remind those of us who are in Christ Jesus,

that we are children of God, and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ;

as children of God, we have authority in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, over Satan and all the powers and principalities of Satan's kingdom; and

if we are going to live the abundant life which God our Father has for us, we need to know about and exercise our authority in Jesus.

According to Romans 8:16-17, what is the position of those in Christ Jesus?

As children of God how much of the kingdom does your Father God desire to give you?

Luke 12:32

THE SOURCE OF OUR AUTHORITY

What do the following Scriptures have to say about God?

Revelation 4:11

Revelation 19:6

Genesis 18:14

Jeremiah 32:17,27

Matthew 19:26

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that God is the Creator of all thing. And as the Creator He sits upon the Throne, ruling and reigning as the all powerful God.

JESUS AND AUTHORITY

What authority does Jesus have?

Hebrews 1:2,3

Matthew 28:18

Philippians 2:9-11

Matthew 8:5-13

Matthew 8:26

Matthew 8:29-32

Matthew 9:35

Mark 1:27

Hebrews 13:8

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that God has given to the Son, The Lord Jesus Christ all power and AUTHORITY for all eternity. He has authority over all the power and authority of the enemy, authority to heal the sick, cast out demons, and still the storms.

AUTHORITY GIVEN

To whom was authority given according to the following Scriptures?

Luke 9:1

Luke 10:19

Mark 13:34

Mark 16:17-18

John 14:12

Acts 3:6

Acts 5:12,16

Acts 6:8

Acts 8:7

Acts 28:3-9

Philippians 4:9

2 Timothy 2:2

Hebrews 13:8

Acts 10:34

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that The Lord Jesus Christ, who has all power and authority has given unto His Disciples, even unto this day and forever, power and authority over all the power and authority of the enemy.

THE SOURCE OF OUR AUTHORITY

Wherein does the source of our authority lie?

John 14:12-14

Mark 16:17

Acts 3:6-16

Philippians 2:10

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that the source of our authority is in The Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

Those in Christ Jesus according to Matthew 16:18,19 have the authority to kick down the gates of hell by binding the enemy and loosening those in the bondage of the enemy.

Are you making use of that authority in your life?

Yes___ No___

In the lives of your family?

Yes___ No___

In the lives of your Christian friends?

Yes___ No___

Psalm 149:9 says, "...this honor have all his saints."

XXXVIII. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-EIGHT

... ABOUT WEAPONS OF WARFARE, OURS AND SATAN'S

INTRODUCTION

In the previous lesson, About the Authority of Those in Christ Jesus, we learned that our Father God the Source of all authority, has given to His children, those in Christ Jesus, authority over all the authority and power of satan and all the host of the kingdom of darkness. God's children have been given the authority to kick down the gates of hell and set the captives free.

Spiritual Warfare is exercising this authority in The Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel of Luke, chapter 16, verse 16, and Matthew's Gospel, chapter 11, verse 12 describes the forcefulness which is to be used in exercising this authority over satan and the host of hell.

Luke 16:16, "The Law and the Prophets were until John: since that time the Kingdom of God is preached, AND EVERY MAN PRESSETH INTO IT."

The Greek verb translated presseth suggests a forceful endeavor on the part of the one who is pressing in.

Matthew 11:12, "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."

We see from this passage that those who make the effort to enter in, face violent opposition from the enemy, there-fore if they are to enter in, they must not yield to or back-off from the violent opposition of the enemy, but by force press in for the victory. They will "take it by force."

Spiritual Warfare, then, is a forceful, violent, endeavor against the violent opposition of the enemy.

WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE

According to 2 Corinthians 10:4, How are our weapons described?

From the following Scriptures identify our mighty, spiritual weapons. (Note in the 1st two Scriptures the word armor is a translation of the Greek word which means weapon/weapons.)

Romans 13:12

2 Corinthians 6:7

1 Samuel 17:45-46

Ephesians 6:17

Hebrews 4:12

Revelation 12:11a

Revelation 12:11b

Revelation 12:11c

James 4:6-7

Matthew 17:21

Psalms 149,

2 Chronicles 20:22

HOW EFFECTIVE ARE THESE WEAPONS?

Deuteronomy 7:24

Deuteronomy 11:25

Deuteronomy 28:7

Joshua 23:9

Isaiah 54:17

Luke 10:19

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that the weapons of our warfare against satan and his kingdom are:

1. spiritual weapons;
2. they are powerful weapons; and
3. they are weapons which promises total victory and invincibility to the who obediently use them.

These weapons are:

Walking in the Light;

Living righteously;

Going forth in the Name of the Lord;

Using the Word of God;

Under the banner of the Blood of Jesus;

Declaring boldly our testimony of Jesus (really not caring what satan might do);

Being in submission to God;

Praying and fasting; and

Singing praises to God who gives us the victory.

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

Knowing that we are in a violent struggle with the enemy, should motivate us to follow the instructions of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:10-18 and 2 Timothy 2:3-4.

1. To be strong in the Lord;
2. To put on the whole armor of God;
 1. loins girded with truth
 2. breastplate of righteousness
 3. feet shod with gospel of peace
 4. shield of faith
 5. helmet of salvation
 6. sword of the spirit (Word)
3. Be not entangled with the things of the world.

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XXXIX. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-NINE

... ABOUT THE WEAPONS OF WARFARE, OURS AND SATAN'S (CONTINUED)

INTRODUCTION

In this lesson we want to look at the weapons which satan uses against us, that we be not ignorant of his devices or schemes and thereby have an advantage over us. As we study these weapons of our enemy let us keep in mind what the Word says in Isaiah 54:17.

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD. Isaiah 54:17

satan's arsenal of weapons

According to the following Scriptures, What does satan's arsenal of weapons include?

Ephesians 6:16

2 Corinthians 12:7

Matthew 12:43-45

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that the devil's arsenal of weapons includes

darts or arrows with which he continually bombards all mankind, and especially believers;

messengers (fallen angels) to devil believers; and

there are demons (unclean spirits) which can and do inhabit even believers.

fiery darts/arrows

The following sets of Scriptures identifies some of the **fiery darts** the devil/satan fires at God's children.

Romans 16:17; 1 Timothy 6:4,5; 2 Timothy 2:23; Titus 3:9;

I Corinthians 3:3

1 Timothy 1:4; James 1:5-9; Genesis 3:4,5; Romans 14:23.

2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:8; Genesis 3:10; 1 Samuel 17:11,24.

2 Corinthians 11:14; Revelation 12:9; 20:8,10, Joshua 9:3-15.

Matthew 4:1-11; 1 Corinthians 7:5; James 1:13-14; 1 Tim.3:7;

Luke 13:12-16; Acts 10:38

Ephesians 4:26-27

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that the darts/arrows which satan fires at the children of God have names such as:

strife/division,

doubt/worry,

fear,

deception,

all manner of temptations of the flesh,

sickness/disease,

emotions such as anger and etc.

messengers of satan/fallen angels/oppressing spirits

Whereas demons/unclean spirits inhabit an open vessel (person/persons), the messengers of satan do their devilry, evil, diabolical deeds as thorns in the flesh, that is to say, from without

2 Corinthians 12:7, And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

This devilry from without and the believers counter-attack is seen in the Book of Nehemiah, chapters 2-6.

1. Nehemiah 2:19. attack

1 Samuel 15:24

1 Samuel 17:11,24

Nehemiah 2:20, counter-attack

1 Samuel 17:36,37

Romans 8:31

Mark 11:22,23

This devilry can be summed up as a panic-attack/fear attack. The counter-attack on the part of the believer is to express his faith/trust/confidence in God.

2. Nehemiah 4:1-3, attack

1 Samuel 17:42,43

Acts 2:13

Acts 17:32

Nehemiah 4:4-6, counter-attack

Psalms 123:3,4

Proverbs 3:34

1 Samuel 17:48,49

This attack can be summarized as an attack of mocking, scoffing, ridicule which if received will cause one to be self-conscious and to become self-conscious is to be defeated. The counter-attack is to pray for God to deal with these mockers and go forward into battle.

3. Nehemiah 4:8, [attack](#)

Nehemiah 4:9.17.20.23, [counter-attack](#)

This devilry/attack has the goal of causing physical hurt and problems for the believer. The counter-attack is to pray, be on guard/watchful/alert, be prepared day and night, call for help.

4. Nehemiah 5:1-5, [attack](#)

Nehemiah 5:7-13, [counter-attack](#),

The devilry here is to stir up discontent and strife with- in the family/Church; internal problems designed to cause division. The counter-attack is to identify the problem, admonish those causing the problem, correct the wrong.

5. Nehemiah 6:1-2, [attack](#)

Nehemiah 6:3-4, [counter-attack](#)

The devilry here is to side-track the believer; tricking/ deceiving him into doing something else, instead of what he should be doing. The counter-attack is to reiterate, that is to say, restate the importance of your work/vision and not leave it to do something else.

6. Nehemiah 6:6-1, [attack](#)

Nehemiah 6:8, counter-attack

The devilry here is to bring lying accusations against the believer or church. The counter-attack is to confront the lie with the truth and continue the work.

7. Nehemiah 6:10, [attack](#)

Nehemiah 6:12-13, [counter-attack](#)

1 John 4:1

Here the devilry is to have false prophecies/prophets speak against you to create confusion. The counter-attack is to discern the spirit/spirits behind the prophecy.

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

Knowing the devices/schemes of the devil we can be on guard when these attacks come and immediately respond with the correct counter-attack.

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XL. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON FORTY

... ABOUT DEMONS: THEIR NATURE AND ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION

In lessons 38 and 39, we talked about the WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE against satan and his kingdom as being spiritual and powerful weapons which promise invincibility to the obedient.

We, also, talked about satan's, the devil's, arsenal of weapons which includes fiery darts/arrows with which he continually bombards mankind, and especially believers, also in his arsenal weapons are the fallen angels whom he sends to devil believers.

In the next two lessons, we will look at the third of satan's three-fold arsenal of weapons which is demons/unclean spirits who can and do inhabit believers, and also, we will talk about what the believer needs to do, to get them out and keep them out.

THE NATURE AND ACTIVITIES OF DEMONS/UNCLEAN SPIRITS

The following Scriptures show the difference between unclean spirits/demons and the fallen angels.

ANGELS/EVIL ANGELS

Hebrews 1:14

Luke 24:39

Genesis 18:1-2,

Daniel 9:21

Ephesians 6:12; Revelation 12:7-8

Conclusions: From these Scriptures we see that angels are spirit beings having no need for a physical body, although at times they do take on physical bodies with physical functions and appear to be men; their normal habitation is the heavenlies, they are not earth bound. This applies to the angels of satan as well as the angels of God.

DEMONS/UNCLEAN SPIRITS

These scriptures show the possible origin of demons.

Genesis 6:2,4

NOTE: The phrase sons of God is a reference to those who are/were created directly by God as evidenced by the next 3 Scriptures references; giants (vs 4) of the above passage means fallen ones.

Luke 3:38

John 1:12 (Romans 8:14; 2 Cor. 5:17)

Job 1:6

Jude 6.7

Genesis 7:21

Matthew 12:43-46

Mark 5:11-13

Conclusions: Some of the angels left their habitation in the heavenlies, took on human form (bodies) sired off-spring by women on earth; these off-spring were spirit beings, having physical bodies through which to function; at the time of the flood their physical bodies drowned, leaving them in need of a body (vessel) through which to gratify their carnal, evil desires; and they are earth bound.

NOTE: Another possible origin. Demons being disembodied spirits from a pre-adamic society which was destroyed by God. This society would have existed in a time period between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. Refer to Jer.4:23-27

Demons are persons without bodies (disembodied persons) having all the normal marks of human personality as seen in the following Scriptures.

Matthew 12:44; Mark 5:11-13

James 2:19, Luke 8:28

Mark 1:23-24; Acts 19:15

Mark 5:9

1 Timothy 4:2

Mark 1:24; 5:7-12; Acts 19:15

Conclusions: The human personality traits of demons are: will(strong), emotions, knowledge, self-awareness, a conscience (it is too seared to respond) and the ability to speak.

There are three different expressions in the Bible which are normally used to describe demonic influence.

Matthew 11:18; Mark 7:25; 9:17; Luke 4:33; 8:27; 13:11; John 7:20; 8:48-49,52; 10:20-21

Mark 1:23; 5:2

Note: In both of these Scriptures the phrase "with an unclean spirit" is literally "in an unclean spirit" which idiomatically means to be "under the influence of" or to be demonized, that is to say, to be in some way or another under the influence of, controlled by, tormented by, under the attack of or by a demon/unclean spirit.

Matthew 4:24; 8:16,28,33; 9:32; 12:22; 15:22; Mark 1:32; 5:15,16,18; Luke 8:36

Note: This expression in the KJV is very misleading; there is nothing in the Greek word translated to support the translation possessed; it would be better rendered "demonized". Possessed means to own completely - to have total control over.

Conclusions: Believers can't be possessed by a demon - BUT they can have a demon, or be under the influence of a demon, or be demonized.

The Activities of demons/unclean spirits can be discerned by names given them in the Bible.

From the following Scriptures discern from the name, given the activity in and through the person/vessel inhabited.

Romans 8:15

2 Timothy 1:7, 1 John 4:18, Luke 21:2

Romans 11:8

1 Corinthians 2:12, 1 John 2:16, Luke 6:22

Ephesians 4:23

1 John 4:3

1 John 3:6

Isaiah 28:7

Matthew 22:29

2 Peter 3:17

Isaiah 29:24, Hebrews 3:10

Isaiah 61:3

Luke 13:11

Mark 9:25-26

Luke 8:29-30

Isaiah 19:14

Conclusions: There are Spirits of:

1. Bondage - spiritual, mental, physical (addictions)
2. Fear - fear brings torment, heart-failure

3. Slumber - lowering of standards, compromise, comfortable
4. the World - lust, anger, hatred, division, striving
5. the Mind - religious spirits, high loft reasonings
6. Anti-Christ - mockery, blasphemy, quenches spiritual hunger
7. Error - straying from the truth
 1. error of vision - ruins ones ministry in local body
 2. error in doctrine - spoils ones message
 3. error of living - causes one to miss the mark
 4. error of spirit - will make one miss the Spirit's moving/leading/directing by a highly centralized organization or a certain way of thinking/doing (God must do it my way) or an independent "air" attitude.
8. of heaviness -depression, mental weariness, poor little me
9. of Infirmity - all types of sickness, disease, weaknesses
10. Deaf & Dumb - spiritual and physical
11. Legion - groupings of unclean spirits. mental illness
12. perverse spirits

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XLI. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON FORTY-ONE

...ABOUT DEMONS: HOW TO GET THEM OUT AND KEEP THEM OUT

INTRODUCTION

In the previous lesson (Lesson 40) concerning demons we looked at the nature and activities of demons and identified demons groupings. In this lesson (Lesson 41) we want to see:

- how demons get in,
- how to get them out, and
- how to keep them out.

HOW DEMONS GET IN

From the following Scriptures we see the entrance which permits demons to inhabit a believer.

Isaiah 7:6

Isaiah 30:12-15

Ezekiel 26:2,10

Amos 6:1-6,11

Conclusions: The enemy looks for breaches in our spiritual armor to put his "kings" upon the throne (rulership) in ones soul and body. When a believer's life is out of order or if he is backslidden, demons can and may move in and set up housekeeping.

HOW YOU DETERMINE THE NEED FOR DELIVERANCE

The presence and the nature of the inhabiting demon can be determined by two methods.

1. Corinthians 12:10

2. An example of the second method of determining the presence and nature of a demon/demons is seen in Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30, where the woman brings her daughter to Jesus to cast out an unclean Spirit.

Matthew 15:21-28

Mark 7:24-30

Conclusions:

1. Discernment is the first method of determining the presence and nature of a demon/unclean spirit and comes through the supernatural gift of "discerning of spirits."
2. Detection is the second method of determining the presence and nature of demons/evil spirits. Detection is simply observing what the demons are doing to ones self or another person. The woman knew her daughter had a demon, by what the demon was doing to her, she says to Jesus, "My daughter is grievously vexed with a devil". She knew this by the symptoms.

HOW YOU GET DEMONS OUT AND KEEP THEM OUT

The following Scriptures gives 7 steps for deliverance.

1. Psalm 32:5
2. James 4:6.7
3. 2 Timothy 2:25-26
4. Ezekiel 20:43. Psalm 139:21-22
5. Matthew 6:14-15
6. Joel 2:32
7. Mark 16:17a

Conclusions: For deliverance to take place:

1. one needs to confess/acknowledge his sin/sins,
2. in an attitude of humility, submit to God,
3. repent of those sins,
4. renounce all evil in his life,
5. forgive all who have wronged him,
6. call upon God in the Name of The Lord Jesus Christ,
7. then command the unclean spirit/spirits to go - cast out the demon/demons.

The following Scriptures gives 7 steps for keeping demons out.

1. Psalm 37:5
2. Ephesians 5:18, Galatians 5:16
3. Matthew 4:4, Psalm 119:105
4. Ephesians 6:10-18
5. Isaiah 61:3, Jude 20, 1 Thessalonians 5:17,
6. Psalm 1:1-3
7. Matthew 6:33

Conclusions: For one to keep his deliverance, he needs to:

1. commit himself totally to Jesus,

2. to be continuously filled with the Spirit,
3. live by the Word of God,
4. put on the whole armor of God,
5. develop a life of continuous praise and prayer,
6. cultivate right relationships, and
7. let Jesus and His ways (righteousness) rule and reign in his life.

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

We have seen that satan has an arsenal of weapons which he has turned loose on mankind and especially directed toward Believers. Satan's forces is not something that we can ignore. To ignore him is to permit him to work undetected and unchallenged. For a believer to fail, to become actively involved in Spiritual warfare is to suggest that he does not care what becomes of himself, his loved ones, his Church, his community, or his nation.

We have the authority in The Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the weapons and the absolute guarantee of victory. Therefore, "be strong and of a good courage" and go forth in battle to victory. Amen. Thank you Jesus.

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XLII. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON FORTY-TWO

...ABOUT SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE

INTRODUCTION

In this lesson we will look at another aspect of Spiritual Warfare, which is, SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE.

These captives which are to be set free are prisoners of the devil/satan. They are in satan's labor camp, being forced, as slaves to do his bidding. They are in chains of bondage, and there is nothing they can do about it.

II Corinthians 4:3-4 reveals the nature, purpose and results of this bondage and also, identifies the chains which hold them in bondage.

"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

From the above Scripture answer these questions.

What is the nature of this bondage?

What is the identity of the chains?

What is the purpose of the bondage?

What is the results of being in bondage?

Conclusions: From the above Scripture we understand the minds of the captives have been blinded by satan, the prince of this world. This means their minds are closed/shutoff to receiving the gospel which is able to set them free. The chain that holds them fast is unbelief, that is to say, their minds have been preconditioned by satan - brainwashed to reject as foolishness, fantasy, improbable, impossible, or an outright lie, the gospel of Jesus Christ. This unbelief is so strong that the message of the gospel cannot penetrate/shine unto them. They are lost and there is NOTHING they can do about their condition.

Spiritual Warfare for purpose of setting the captives/lost free, involves using the Keys of the Kingdom (Matthew 16:19) to:

1. bind the strong-man of the house;

2. loose the chains of bondage;
3. preach the gospel to the saving of the lost; and
4. disciple (teach).

SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE

THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

In-order to set the captives free our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the Keys of the Kingdom.

Matthew 16:19, "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven..."

These Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven are seen in operation in the Book of Acts, chapter 4, verses 23-31 (29-31). They are:

verse 29

verse 30

verse 31

verse 31

Conclusions: These four keys are linked together in operation IN PRAYER. As we PRAY the WORD in the NAME OF JESUS, the HOLY SPIRIT ANOINTS the WORD with POWER which will then unlock the minds of the captives/lost, so that, the saving gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ might set them free.

BINDING AND LOOSENING

The first step in the process of setting the captives free is seen in these Scriptures. What is that first step?

Matthew 12:29

Psalms 149:8

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that before the captives can be set free; before you can take the strong man's property he (the strong man) must be bound.

The authority for Binding the strong man of the house and Loosening the captives/lost is seen in the following Scriptures.

Matthew 16:19

Matthew 10:7-8

Mark 13:34

Mark 16:17-18.

Luke 10:19

John 14:12

Matthew 4:23-24

Luke 13:11-16

Philippians 2:9-10

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that part of the total ministry of Jesus before His ascension was that of loosening those whom Satan had bound. Jesus, in-order to continue setting the captives/lost free while He is away, gave His followers instructions to continue doing the things He was doing (setting the captives free) and gave them the authority to use His Name to carry out those instructions.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

The purpose of binding the strong men, in-order to loose the captives from bondage/chains of unbelief is for the light of the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ to shine unto them, since it is the Gospel that saves/delivers.

Romans 10:17

Romans 1:15-16

1 Corinthians 1:18,21

Acts 8:25,35

Conclusions: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is the power of God for the saving/delivering/setting free of those who are imprisoned with chains of unbelief.

What is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ?

2 Corinthians 5:19

Isaiah 53:6-7

John 1:29,36

1 John 2:2

Romans 4:25

Isaiah 53:11

John 3:16

Acts 16:30-31

Romans 6:23

Ephesians 2:8-9

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that the Gospel is the message/good news that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. This reconciliation was accomplished through the sacrificial death of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, as the Lamb of God. Jesus was/is the propitiation (appeasement, expiation) of the sins of the whole world. Then God raised Him (Jesus) from the grave as a testimony that the wages of sin had been paid and therefore, whosoever by faith receives Jesus Christ as their Savior would receive the GIFT of eternal life.

MAKING DISCIPLES OF THOSE SET FREE

A very important part of Spiritual Warfare is making disciples of those whom God in Christ, through the Gospel has set free, so that, they might stay free. This aspect of Spiritual Warfare is seen in the Great Commission and in other Scriptures.

Matthew 28:20

Luke 24:47-49

2 Timothy 2:25-26

Hebrews 5:11-6:2

Colossians 2:7

Matthew 7:24-27

Luke 6:46-49

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that those who have been set free from the chains of bondage, in-order to stay free, need to be taught/grounded in the principles of God, so that, they will have the ability to:

discern between good and evil,

deliver themselves from the trap of satan through repentance, and

have the ability through the Holy Spirit to order the course their lives according to the ways of God.

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XLIII. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON FORTY-THREE

... HEALING/HEALTH

INTRODUCTION

In this lesson, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we want to develop a Scriptural foundation and understanding concerning HEALING/HEALTH. In this area there is much confusion, unbelief, and lack of Biblical truth and understanding. As a result of this confusion, unbelief, and lack of Biblical knowledge many of God's children are in the throes of sickness. They are prisoners of satan and need to be set free/delivered from the chains of sickness, disease, and infirmity.

The confusion/misunderstanding concerning the Biblical concept of health ranges from one extreme to the other.

Some teach/believe that a believer should be able to walk in perfect health and never experience any sickness. On the other extreme it is taught/believed that sickness glorifies God.

The KEY which opens the door to a Biblical understanding of healing is 3 John, verse 2. This passage clearly expresses God's heart concerning health and at the same time puts conditions on His hearts desires for His children being unconditionally blessed with health.

3 John 2, "Beloved, I wish above all things (it is my earnest desire) that thou mayest prosper and be in HEALTH, even as thy soul prospereth."

From the above Scripture:

What is God's heart in this matter of health FOR His children?

What is the condition for God's heart desire to be done?

This expressed desire of God's heart is, also, seen in Psalm 81:8-16. This Scripture, also, gives us insight/understanding/discernment as to what it means for our soul to be prospering.

Psalm 81:8-16 and other Scriptures answers the question: When is the believer's soul prospering?

Psalm 81:8-16

Deuteronomy 28:1-2

John 2:5

Conclusions: From the above Scriptures we may conclude/ discern that,

1. the Heart of our Father God is to bless His children with health and to prosper them with His best;
2. we may discern that this blessing will become a reality in the believer's life in direct proportion to the prospering of his soul;
3. we discern/understand the degree to which our soul is prospering is evidenced by how carefully we are listening to God's Word, and likewise then, how carefully we are doing what God in His Word tells us to do.

Therefore, the more carefully we are listening to the voice of God through His Word and the more carefully we are observing to do everything that He tells us to do the more He will bless us with health.

DIVINE HEALING/HEALTH

BIBLE PRINCIPLES/TRUTHS CONCERNING HEALING

What is the Bible principle concerning Healing/Health from the following Scriptures?

Genesis 20:17

Exodus 15:26

Psalms 30:2

Psalms 103:3

Psalms 107:20

Malachi 4:2

Conclusions: The Bible principle is: We pray...God heals.

The following Scriptures establish another Bible principle concerning healing: What is it?

Psalms 129:3

Isaiah 50:5-6

Isaiah 53:6

Matthew 8:17

Galatians 3:13

1 Peter 2:24

Isaiah 12:3

Conclusions: The Bible principle is: Provision for Healing and Health was made at Calvary in the Sacrificial death of Jesus, the Lamb of God.

A third Bible principle which relates to healing is seen in these Scriptures. What is it?

Matthew 4:24

Matthew 8:17

Matthew 9:35

Mark 6:65-56

Matthew 28:20

Hebrews 13:8

Malachi 3:6

Acts 10:34

Conclusions: The Bible principle is: Since Healing was an important part of Jesus' ministry before Calvary, Healing is still an important part of His ministry today.

A fourth Bible principle concerning Healing is seen in these Bible Passages. What is it?

Matthew 8:10

Matthew 9:2

Matthew 9:22

Matthew 9:29

Matthew 15:28

Mark 10:52

Luke 17:19

Acts 3:16

Romans 12:3

Mark 9:23-24

Conclusions: The Bible principle is: Healing is through faith in the name of Jesus on the part of the one who needs healing or through the faith of one who stands in for him.

COVENANTS OF HEALING

There are FIVE covenants of healing in the New Testament. From these Scriptures identify them.

1. Matthew 15:26
2. Mark 16:15-18
3. 1 Corinthians 12:9
4. James 5:14-15
5. James 5:16

Conclusions: We would note from the above Scriptures that the covenants of healing are:

1. healing is the daily bread of the believer;
2. laying hands on the sick is included in the Great Commission;
3. super-natural gifts of healing;
4. the prayer of faith by the Elders of the Church; and
5. praying for one another brings healing to ones self.

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

As we have seen God desires above all things that we, His own dear children prosper and be in HEALTH, even as our soul prospers. Therefore lets take to heart the Words of God as recorded in Deuteronomy 28:1-2, so that God's desire may become a reality in our lives.

Deuteronomy 28:1-2, "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth; and all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God."

Also hear and receive by faith the Word of God as recorded in 2 Corinthians 1:20.

"For all the promise of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us."

Amen!! Thank you Jesus!!

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XLIV. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON FORTY-FOUR

... ABOUT PROSPERING/PROSPERITY

INTRODUCTION

In this lesson, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we want to develop a Scriptural foundation and understanding concerning PROSPERING/PROSPERITY. In this areas, like in healing/health, there is much confusion, unbelief, and lack of Biblical truth/understanding. As a result of this confusion, unbelief, and lack of Biblical knowledge, many of God's children are in the throes of financial frustration and ruin, which should not be. They are prisoners of satan and need to be set free/delivered from the chains of poverty.

The confusion/misunderstanding concerning the Biblical concept of prospering ranges from one extreme to the other.

There are those that teach/believe that the higher or more perfect Christian walk is a walk of poverty. While there are others who teach/believe that financial prosperity/ riches are the order of the day for children of the King (name it and claim it).

The KEY which opens the door to a Biblical understanding of prospering, like with healing, is 3 John, verse 2. This passage clearly expresses the heart of God concerning prospering and at the same time puts conditions on His hearts desires for His children being unconditionally blessed with prosperity.

3 John 2, "Beloved, I wish above all things (it is my earnest desire) that thou mayest PROSPER and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

From the above Scripture:

What is God's heart in this matter prospering?

What is the condition for God's heart desire to be done?

This expressed desire of God's heart concerning His children prospering is, also, seen in Psalm 81:8-16. This Scripture, in addition too expressing God's desire to bless His children with the very best, also, gives us insight/understanding/discernment as to what it means for our to be prospering. (Refer to notes on page 150 concerning, what it means for our soul to be prospering.)

PROSPERING/PROSPERITY

BIBLE PRINCIPLES/TRUTHS CONCERNING PROSPERING/PROSPERITY

The first Bible principle which has to do with our prospering is seen in the following Scriptures. What is it?

Genesis 22:14

Haggai 2:8

2 Chronicles 26:5

Job 38:41

Isaiah 25:6

Matthew 6:33

Matthew 7:11

Romans 8:32

Philippians 4:19

Conclusions: The Bible principle is: God is the Source of and the Provider of our every need.

The second principle concerning prospering/prosperity is seen in these Scriptures. What is it?

Psalms 103:4a

Isaiah 53:5

Romans 8:32

2 Corinthians 8:9

Galatians 3:13

Isaiah 12:3

Conclusions: The Bible principle/truth is: Provision was made at Calvary in the Sacrificial death of Jesus, the Lamb of God, for the prospering of God's children.

The third principle concerning prospering/prosperity is seen in these Scriptures. What is it?

Luke 6:38

Malachi 3:10-11

Philippians 4:15-19

1 Corinthians 16:1-3

2 Corinthians 8:14-15

2 Corinthians 9:5-7

2 Corinthians 8:8

Romans 13:8-10

Conclusions: The Bible principle is: Giving liberally out of what you have from a heart of love/compassion, opens the windows of heaven for God to prosper you.

THE MARK OF PROSPERITY

What is the mark of prospering/prosperity? The answer is seen in these Scriptures. What is it?

Hebrews 13:5

Philippians 4:19

1 Timothy 6:8

Matthew 6:24-34

Hebrews 4:10

Philippians 4:11-12

2 Corinthians 8:1-4

Conclusions: The mark of Prospering/Prosperity in the life of a believer is being content, resting, and trusting in the promise that God will supply all his needs and giving liberally out of his prosperity. In other words, prosperity is having all of your needs met with some left over to give to others.

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

As we have seen God desires above all things that we. His own dear children PROSPER, even as our soul prospers Therefore lets take to heart the Words of God as recorded in Deuteronomy 28:1-2, so that God's desire may become a reality in our lives.

Deuteronomy 28:1-2, "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth; and all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God."

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