

# Seminar 3

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# Winning Spiritual Battles

**By Prayer, Utilize Christ's Authority against the Enemy**

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Session 1

**HEAVEN:  
Where Spiritual  
War Began**

# **Theme:**

Overcome opposition to the gospel.

# Biblical Foundation:

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV™

# **The Purpose of This Session**

is to identify Satan as the source of evil,  
and to confront him and his forces with the  
power of God.

# Introduction:

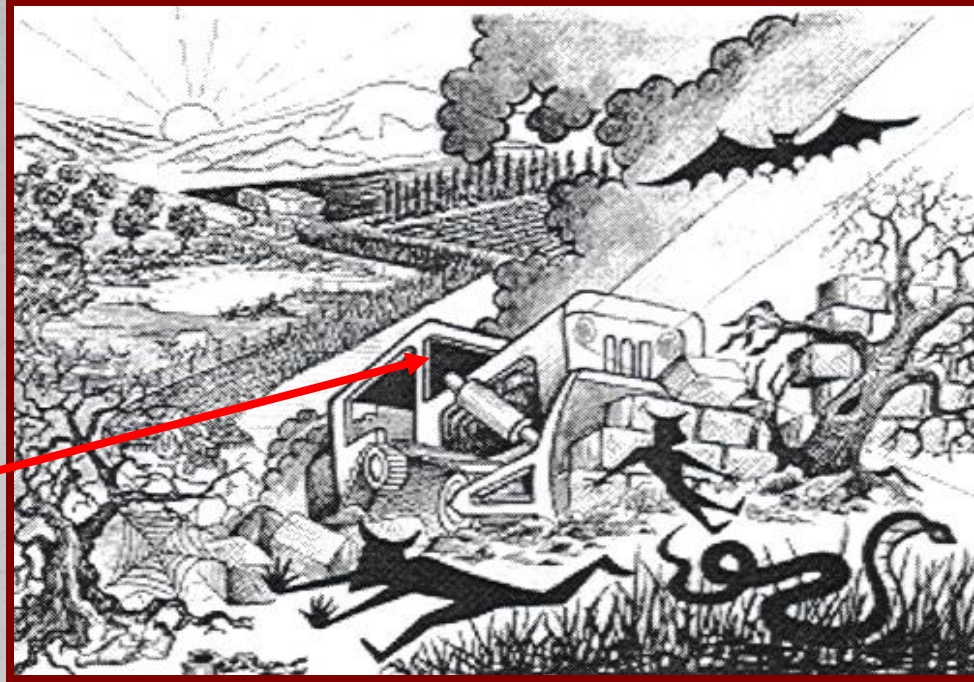
Spiritual battles for God are not fought with natural weapons against people. These battles against unseen evil forces involve praying people, using the power of Jesus Christ.

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

Ephesians 6:12 NKJV™



*By Tim Stuck, a missionary in South America*



The bulldozer represents praying Christians. Their prayers bring the power of God against evil strongholds. God produces four superhuman results through their praying:



1. Demons flee away from the scene.

“Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”

Luke 10:19 NKJV™



2. Barren landscapes become fertile fields for the seed of God's word.

“For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.”

1 Thessalonians 1:8 NKJV™

3. Workers follow to plant, cultivate, and multiply the gospel harvest.

“Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.’”

Matthew 9:37, 38 NKJV™

4. The sunshine of God's life-giving grace rises to multiply churches in the land. The gospel first entered Europe through a women's prayer group.

“Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day came to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there.”

Acts 16:11-13 NKJV™

**A. God created Satan originally  
as an exalted angel.**

“And He said to them, ‘I saw Satan  
fall like lightning from heaven.’”

cf., Luke 10:18 NKJV™

1. One of Satan's names, Lucifer, means "Light Bearer" or "Day Star" – majestic, powerful. He was the chief angel who may have once led heavenly choirs in praise to God.

“When the morning stars sang together,  
and all the sons of God shouted for joy.”

“You were the anointed cherub who  
covers; I established you; You were on the  
holy mountain of God; You walked back  
and forth in the midst of fiery stones.”

cf. Job 38:7; Ezekiel 28:14 NKJV™

## 2. Other names for Satan

- “The devil,” meaning “slanderer” or “false accuser”;
- “Tempter” (1 Thessalonians 3:5);
- “The ruler of this world” (John 12:31);
- “The god of this age” (2 Corinthians 4:4);
- “Prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2);
- “Dragon” (Revelation 12:4);
- “The accuser of our brethren (Revelation 12:10).

## **B. Satan fell through [pride].**

This passage has a dual reference: one is to the king of Babylon. The other reference is to Satan who energized and controlled him.

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation, on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.”

Isaiah 14:12-15 NKJV™

These passages describe the rebellion and destiny of Satan who energized these kings.

1. Satan led a revolt in heaven against God. He and one-third of the angels were cast out of heaven.

“And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.”

Revelation 12:3,4 NKJV™

“And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

Revelation 12:7-9 NKJV™

2. Satan uses these fallen angels/demons to exercise evil power.

“And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought...”

Revelation 12:7 NKJV™

“But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or else how can one enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.”

Matthew 12:28-29 NKJV™

3. Human pride is an imitation of Satan to seize God's position in our lives.

“And the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

## C. [Hell] was created for Satan.

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.’”

Matthew 25:41 NKJV™

1. A place was needed to which evil could be consigned.
2. Hell was created for the devil and his angels, not for people.
3. People who choose Satan's plan also choose his destiny for themselves.

## **D. Jesus [reversed] Satan's damage to mankind.**

1. A rebellious "I will" attitude caused Lucifer to become the Devil, and ravaged the world.

2. Jesus' praying ("not My will, but Yours, be done") and His costly [submission] to God the Father brought rescue to the world.

“Father, if it is Your will, remove this cup from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.’ Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. And His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

Luke 22:42-44 NKJV™

3. Our prayers are powerful when they, too, align with [God's will].

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.”

1 John 5:14,15 NKJV™

# Conclusion:

Evil is much bigger than we are. Our battles against evil, therefore, require supernatural resources.

## **Explanatory Note:**

Bad conditions do not all come directly from the devil or his demons. Terrible situations can also result from our personal sins or errors, or from the curse that is upon our world.

“The earth is also defiled under its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, and those who dwell in it are desolate. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men are left.”

Isaiah 24:5,6 NKJV™

Knowing this difference can help us to pray more accurately with “the mind of the Spirit” (Romans 8:27).

Several distinguishing characteristics can indicate the involvement of Satan or demons in bad circumstances. Among these characteristics are the following:

1. A hostile attitude toward the Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 12:3-5)
2. A deceptive opposition to the gospel of Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4)
3. A destructive spirit that exceeds normal human behavior (1 Peter 5:8,9)

# **End of Seminar 3**

## **Session 1**