1Thess #19

The positive Believer remains combat ready!

This week is Thanksgiving and I will only do one message this week. I will upload a message Wednesday afternoon that will be a Thanksgiving message that will end with the Lord’s Supper. It will be a message designed to uplift and perhaps share with your family on Thanksgiving Day.

It will not be related to our current study but a simple and straightforward message about the Gospel of Christ related to Thanksgiving.

This will also mean, that we will not do the Lord’s Supper on the first week of December.

As we left off last lesson highlighting the struggles and attacks that are very real in Christianity. I wanted to capitalize on this lesson by elaborating on some very important reminders and principles.

The reminders and principles revolve around the agenda of a fallen Angel we know by several titles…yet we do not really know his true name.

Lucifer or Satan, the devil, the evil one, the adversary, are a few we know him by.

Last lesson - We looked at how the cosmic system which is the playground of Satan and his army can become a distraction and roadblock for Bels.

Just keep in mind it is Satan and his agenda that is hard at work laying down the fire power designed to distract and destroy Christians.

/1Thes 2:1 For you yourselves know, brothers *and sisters,* that our reception among you **was not in vain**, 2 but after **we had already suffered and been treated abusively** in Philippi, as you know, we had the boldness in our God to speak to you the gospel of God amid **much opposition** (*agōn*).

Serious combat, struggle and legal as well as physical battles.\

ARE-GON, is a Greek term that was used for legal battles but it also was used for combat in the arena. During the Colosseum games, where there were physical struggles or combat it was used as well.

Notice the Gospel of God- meaning Jesus Christ is GOD.

The Apostle Paul and Silas were beaten with rods and thrown in jail unjustly.

There is more than enough proof in the Bible to teach us that all demonic forces and fallen angels are not just in opposition to God, they are at war with the righteousness of TLJC.

Every Bel is in union with Christ therefore we are the enemy!

/Satan is a military strategist, a genius, smarter than any human being or creature who ever lived. He is also attractive and said to have a beautiful voice. Isa 14:12-17, Ezk 28:11-19 gives us a total picture of Satan. His intellect and power are beyond what most humanity can fully grasp. One of his great victories is related to camouflage. The fact that Satan and his army are invisibly woven into daily lives and worldly agendas is an immense advantage.\

Turn to the gospel of John chapter 8 RF.

What is the old saying… *“The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he didn’t exist.”*

Bel’s need to keep growing and remain in a stance of strong faith.

Your relationship with God cannot become strong outside of a consistent intake of BD and habitually being filled with God the HS.

Bels need not fret or stress – we are on the winning team! Our GOD is the one true God with the power and majesty to wipe evil off the face of the earth.

The Bel who neglects spiritual growth will become distracted and confused by Satan, that is the problem I am emphasizing.

Yes, we win in the end…yes, God wipes all evil off the earth…yes, we are secure for all of eternity.

/In this temporal walk, this angelic battle we are called to fight, the majority of Christians are either AWOL, weak or ineffective. Many peel away into false doctrines and emotional waves. The reason is they are uneducated, unaware of the power and trickery of fallen angels along with Satan’s intellect and agenda. Most of these types of Bels, still believe within the cosmic system lays some answers and relief.\

The battle against the humanity of Christ was real, the adversity and attacks were consistent right up to the cross.

If you do not know your enemy you will lose the battle!

Satan is the original liar and father of the counterfeit.

He is also a murderer — He is the highest ruler of the atmosphere.

He is the one who continually influences mankind into independence from God.

/1Jhn 3:7 Little children, **make sure no one deceives you**; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; 8 **the one who practices sin is of the devil**; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

The person who is practicing (lifestyle) sin is representing the devil. Living in the OSN means you are a slave of Satan.\

Satan has manipulated the cosmic system in such a way that everything pushes us away from truth and away from God dependency.

This section of John chapter 8 points us to a public situation where the Scribes & Pharisees had called out the adulterous woman and TLJC defended her.

So, Jesus had a group of Jews who had stuck around and now HE is addressing them related to their stance on the bloodline of Abraham.

Jhn 8:38 “I speak of the things which I have seen with *My* Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from *your* father.”

/[Jhn 8:39](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/39/s_1005039) They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you are Abraham’s children, **do the deeds of Abraham.**

Abraham submitted to the authority of God. Abraham had faith in the one true God (Jesus Christ).\

The majority of the Jews wanted to stand on the righteousness of being in the bloodline of Abraham, yet it is always faith alone in Christ alone.

What they believed and the majority of religious, people believe, is they are close to GOD because of some works program. Some human quality, human power or human intellect will drive them closer to GOD.

[Jhn 8:40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/40/s_1005040) “But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do.

Jesus is calling them out as part of the devil’s world, their blood ties to Abraham cannot save them.

They are standing in and holding faith in the flesh.

In fact, their attitudes were nothing more than the attitude of Satan.

These men challenging Jesus were in agreement and fellowship with the Scribes & Pharisees – religion was their agenda.

/[Jhn 8:41](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/41/s_1005041) “You are doing the deeds of your father.” They said to Him, “**We were not born as a result of sexual immorality**; we have one Father: God.”

Once the challenge is too much for them they immediately attempt to discredit the life of Jesus.\

They attack the humanity of Christ concerning the divine conception of HIS birth. They knew nothing of Jesus’s mother Mary, other than rumors and speculation.

They try to insult and chop Jesus off at the knees. This is actually a heated exchange.

It is assumed Jesus had some righteous indignation, especially after this personal attack!

[/Jhn 8:42](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/42/s_1005042) Jesus said to them, “**If God were your Father**, you would love Me, for **I came forth from God** and am here; for I have not even come on My own, but **He sent Me**.

***IF*** is a 2nd class condition, it is not true! Jesus was telling them I am born of GOD because I am God.\

Jesus is making a strong statement that they have been enemies of the true God. While claiming they are the children of Abraham which they believe makes them children of God.

The Father ordained the humanity of CHRIST to come forth – Jesus is actually giving them a view to the doctrine of the Hypostatic Union.

In the ancient world when a wealthy young man or prince came forward and laid claim that he was the son of the king or a wealthy man.

That meant the people who were dealing with him are dealing with the king HIMSELF. The son and father were often viewed as one.

[/Jhn 8:43](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/43/s_1005043) “**Why do you not understand what I am saying**? *It is* because you cannot listen to My word.

*Ginōskō,* to understand, gain knowledge or have intellectual intercourse.\

GIN-NO-SKO, is a verb which means to intertwine yourself into something like intercourse. This verb is very serious it is not a quick surface overview but a deep, time-consuming process.

It was a term used for deeper perception and intimate knowledge.

The reason we have a confused world and Bels who are AWOL or weak is they have no intimacy with TLJC.

REPEAT

[Jhn 8:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/44/s_1005044) “You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he tells a lie, he speaks from his own *nature,* because he is a liar and the father of lies.

The Greek present tense tells us Jesus was clearly and strongly saying – *you have always been of your father the devil.*

You continue to be of your father the devil and yet I am the truth right in front of you!

/Jhn 8:44 - *He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand (histēmi) in the truth*

This means to not only stand but to stay, to become fixed in. Prepared and strong. Satan was created in purity and truth yet did not maintain it!\

HISS-TAY-ME, is a Greek verb which means much more than just stand.

To stay in a balanced state and a quality and safety that you remain in.

You create a life or family security in this place. A dwelling place.

[Jhn 8:45](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/45/s_1005045) “But because I say the truth, you do not believe Me.

Notice this began as a debate between religious people and our LORD. Now we see and even feel, the power and righteous indignation of Jesus as HE clearly calls them all out on the carpet.

[Jhn 8:46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/46/s_1005046) “Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?

[/Jhn 8:47](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/8/47/s_1005047) “**The one who is of God hears the words of God**; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God.

Whether it is a carnal, weak Bel or an Unbel, this is a definitive statement that always holds true; what you think about the WORD, is what you think about Jesus Christ.\

You can not separate the WORD from TLJC. HE is the WORD!

This is why it is dangerous ground to make your Christian walk reliant upon emotions and programs. The greatest strength and relationship you can have comes from the WORD.

Satan realized this very early in human history and this is why he gave birth to religion.

It is a very confusing counterfeit designed to keep weak Christians distracted and busy away from the truth of the mind of Jesus Christ.

Satan has a multi-layered plan for all of humanity;

/2Cor 4:3 And even if our gospel is veiled, **it is veiled to those who are perishing,** 4 in whose case **the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving** so that they will not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

The Apostles knew that Satan was given authority in the original garden and that is why he is called the god of this world!\

They knew the power and plans of the fallen angels that is what kept them so sharp and pressing forward against adversity and roadblocks.

/Eph 2:1 And **you were dead** in your offenses and sins, 2 in which you previously walked **according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air**, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

Every Unbel is dead to true spirituality no matter how many programs and self help books they engage in! They are pawns of a satanic system.\

The sad part is many Christians are dead to the spiritual power given to them at salvation. They have never nurtured it and developed a relationship with TLJC!

Most Christians think the filling power of the HS is an emotional wave that overcomes them when the spirit enters a room.

Let us close today in Luke chapter four.

We will be doing a Thanksgiving holiday message Wednesday and then coming back next Sunday to continue this study. This study is very important, it is a study that does call out weak Bels, false doctrine and denominational nonsense.

It may make some folks uncomfortable but it is in dire need for our world today!

/The fact is that ALL Bels need to digest and never forget that the devil is the ruler of this world — this is not a call to live in fear, that opposes spiritual growth. It is a call to get off the fence and remain vigilant as staying in the WORD for all your answers and solutions.

Luke 4:5-7; John 12:31; Jhn 14:30; Jhn 16:11; 2 Cor 4:4; Eph 2:2.\

Do you really know your enemy and what your enemy wants to do to you?

Luk 4:1 Now Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led *around* by the Spirit in the wilderness

The humanity of Christ was always filled with the HS – and Jesus was never an emotional wreck.

Jesus was a very intelligent and composed man. Emotions cannot think.

[Luk 4:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/4/2/s_977002) for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He was hungry.

Jesus was doing a cleansing fast of all distractions so HE could be prepared for HIS ministry.

Fasting, is often misinterpreted concerning food and getting closer to GOD. Yet it is more about removing distractions to focus on where God wants you to go.

I taught a solid message on fasting about 4 years ago. Very early in the Matthew series if you are interested?

/[Luk 4:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/4/3/s_977003) And the devil said to Him, “**If You are the Son** of God, **tell this stone to become bread**.”

***IF*** is a Greek 1st class condition – meaning Satan knew exactly who Christ was! The first two things we note is temptation and independence from God.\

Satan knows exactly how to tempt and entice humanity; do not assume you are strong enough on your own to ignore him!

Satan will wait until you are hungry, tired, depressed or frustrated to circle back around and tempt you with something.

The other avenue you can clearly see is Satan wants us to go independent from the plan of GOD!

[Luk 4:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/4/4/s_977004) And Jesus answered him, “It is written: ‘MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.’”

Jesus was not dependent upon the materialism of the world. Jesus was dependent upon the power of God the HS, the plan of God the Father and the WORD!

Every Bel needs to take note of that defense and stance against evil and temptation.

[Luk 4:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/4/5/s_977005) And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

Satan has the ability to bring us to places of great power and authority. Satan can lead us to many pinnacles in the cosmic system.

If Satan can do this to TLJC - think what he can do with the help of his fallen army to the average Bel.

/[Luk 4:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/4/6/s_977006) And the devil said to Him, “**I will give You all this domain** and its glory, **for it has been handed over to me**, and I give it to whomever I want.

Other then a group of fallen angels held in the Abyss, all fallen angels and Satan have a full run and authority in many realms of the world.\

The fallen angels of Genesis six who had intercourse with women (Nephilim), are on lock down until the Tribulation.

All other fallen angels and especially Satan have free run of everything under this atmosphere.

Satan can bless people with many blessings that may appear spiritual or godly yet they are being blessed by Satan. In other words, Satan can give authority, power and wealth to human beings.

/Luk 4:7 “Therefore **if You worship before me,** it shall all be Yours.”

The contract is to neglect the truth, reject God’s plan and Satan will give you that which you desire or lust after.\

*Proskyneō-* (PROS-CO-NAY-O) is where we get the word worship from. It was an ancient act of not only bowing down in front of someone or something. Prostrating yourself physically and mentally.

It points to a mentality of obedience as well physical obedience.

[Luk 4:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/4/8/s_977008) Jesus replied to him, “It is written: ‘YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.’”

The only truth is the mind of Christ – the only plan mankind is called to follow is that of God the Father.

Only one deserves our worship –

Jesus Christ.

You cannot stand against evil and wage spiritual war any other way.