

KINGDOM WARFARE

2/18/21

A few years ago one church denomination removed a song from their hymn books; Onward Christian Soldiers. How can a church be victorious when it does not even acknowledge that there is a war going on? It is a **spiritual conflict between two kingdoms, light and the other of darkness.** It is a **battle of ideas, for power and control, for riches and resources, for nations and for the souls of mankind.** Revelation 18 describes the lust for riches and power that the demonic powers feed to mankind. In a sports contest or a military battle, it is important to know the plans, strategies and tendencies of your opponent. Satan is God's enemy and ours too. If we know the devil's nature and past record of activity, we can determine which people and groups are under his evil influence.

Know Your Foe - Satan's Profile

Extremely proud.....he once sought to overthrow God's throne in heaven and still **lusts for power and to be worshiped.** Once a leading heavenly worship leader, he is a specialist at causing fear and carnal, depressing, evil **death** filled music, literature and films. He promotes rebellion and is a **liar.** He is extremely dangerous and has a vast network of evil spirits working for him. - Isaiah 14:12-16, Ezekiel 28:11-19, John 8:44.

Jesus disarmed him and crushed his head through his crucifixion and death at the cross, Colossians 2:15, Genesis 3:15. That knockout blow caused severe brain damage to the devil, which led to a **derangement syndrome of hate** towards God. Satan knows his time is short before he is tortured forever. He is filled with fury (Greek = inflammatory rage, exploding anger) Rev.12:12. Once beautiful, he is now ugly, but disguises himself as an attractive angel of light. - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15. He is a master pretender who seduces and manipulates. Do not be fooled by his counterfeit miracles and signs which glorify man not God. Satan seeks to sabotage the kingdom of God and discredit King Jesus. **He hates what God loves and loves what God hates.** - Proverbs 6:16-19. He promotes the short term pleasure of sin but hides the long term pain and destruction to come. He gives his best first and its downhill after that.

Satan's Main Roles

- * **Tempter.....**to get us to **sin**, which robs us of fruitfulness and brings shame, guilt and loss of the glory of God - Romans 3:23, James 1:12-16
- * **Deceiver.....** to get us to believe **lies** and **half-truths.** Lies blind us and bind us and rob us of liberty. 'Where the Spirit of God is, there is freedom and liberty'. 2 Corinth. 3:17 This freedom does not entitle us to do anything that is harmful, illegal or immoral.
- * **Accuser.....** After Satan tempts and deceives us to sin, he then takes on the role of accuser as he causes us to feel condemned, worthless and hopeless. He accuses us before God and causes people to accuse others of what they themselves are doing. In psychology it is called 'projection'. I know of a man who accused his wife of adultery but he was the guilty one with several 'affairs.' He even told his kids that I was responsible for the breakup of his marriage even though I was living overseas during that time.

- * **Liar** Jesus called Satan the “**father of lies**” - John 8:44. The devil is afraid of the truth and those who proclaim it. He seeks to suppress communication of God’s Word and to silence those who expose lies with God’s light and truth.
- * **Thief**.....who seeks to steal the inheritance that belongs to the true sons and daughters in the kingdom of God.
- * **Murderer**..... to kill things precious to God and others such as innocent lives, reputations, hopes and dreams, health, faith, finances, families, cultures, nations etc.
- * **Destroyer** Satan can not create anything except chaos, division and trouble. His goal is to pervert, twist, reverse anything God has created that is good and turn it into something far from its initial good purpose.
- * **Death** Satan’s kingdom is one of darkness and death. There has been a revival of the occult and the dark arts over the past few decades. The Bible describes Satan as the Prince of Darkness. The spirit of antichrist is rising up these days.

‘The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble.’ - Proverbs 4:19 NIV, John 11:10

‘.....all who hate me love death.’ - God / Proverbs 8:36

The Kingdom of Light

‘I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life’
- Jesus / John 5:24 NIV

‘The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter til the full light of day.’ - Proverbs 4:18 NIV

‘This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.’ - Jesus
- John 3:19-21 NIV

WAR ROOM

Soldiers of Christ do not fight a physical battle but a spiritual one. Our weapons are not swords nor guns manufactured by Smith and Wesson. They are spiritual ones created and perfected by God Almighty. As we mentioned in another message, it is an **information war**.

It is good to limit our exposure to mainstream news sources. If you decide to listen to top political leaders, you may want to make a sign to place on your TV while they are speaking.....

Warning: Lying in Progress

'No one who practices deceit will dwell in my house; no one who speaks falsely will stand in my presence. Every morning I will put to silence all the wicked in the land; I will cut off every evil doer from the city of the Lord.' - Psalms 101:7-8 NIV

This phrase comes to mind: **Glance** at the news

Gaze at God, His Word and His Faithful Ones

*'My eyes will be on **the faithful** in the land, that they may dwell with me; he whose walk is blameless will minister to me.'* - Psalms 101:6

PRAYER

- * God to continue to expose the darkness in all areas of society
- * Divine justice to reward the righteous and punish the guilty
- * God to revive or remove wicked leaders
- * Awakening in the church as the spiritual harvest is ripening

