**Topic: Overcoming Controlling Powers?**

Introduction:

Many are held captive in sin because there are controlling powers that won't let them go. But the good news is that you can be free from them. There is a way out of sin and you can walk in the newness of life. In the last days, the wicked shall do more wickedly, because, the forces of hell have been let loose, to hold and keep the sons of God in bondage.

**Romans 8:2**

**2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.**

There is law of sin, a force that remotely controls, subject and brings innocent sons of men into captivity.

**Romans 7:18-23(NLT)**

**18 And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can’t.19 I want to do what is good, but I don’t. I don’t want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. 20 But if I do what I don’t want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.**

**21 I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. 22 I love God’s law with all my heart. 23 But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.**

The law of sin is a force; it is a control. Controlling force in the air that wants to take advantage of your ignorance of the real battle.

**Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)**

**12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

 Your victory over these forces is knowing from the onset that our battles are essentially spiritual. It will, therefore, require a spiritual approach to have our desired victory.

There are forces called "rulers of the darkness of this world" They are behind all the works of darkness. they are spirits, and they are sent to destroy men's destinies.

For instance, those wild anger, depressive moods, demonic habits are organized by hell, to disconnect you from your source, the work of controlling powers. Let's look at some of the ways they operate:

**1. The Spirit Of The World:**

**1 Corinthians 2:12 (KJV)**

**12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.**

**1 John 2:15-17 (KJV)**

**15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

**16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.**

**17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.**

**What is the Lust of the Flesh?**

The lust of the flesh is that temptation to feel physical pleasure from some sinful activity—to do something to make the flesh feel satisfied. It can involve any type of sinful activity that will bring pleasure to the body. Examples of the “**lust of the flesh**” include the following:

* Sexual Sins
* Gossip
* Physical violence
* Drug use (marijuana, pills, cocaine, alcohol, etc.)

**“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (**Galatians 5:19-21**).**

**What is the Lust of the Eyes?**

The lust of the eyes is that temptation to look upon things we shouldn’t look upon or have things that we shouldn’t have.

The sin of coveting is a prime example of the result of succumbing to the lust of the eyes. We rarely hear of the sin of coveting in today’s time, but “thou shalt not covet” was the 10th commandment that God gave to the Israelites.

To covet means to have a yearning or a strong desire to have something that rightfully belongs to someone else. “That’s not fair that he has such a beautiful wife. I want her as my wife,” is a prime example. Other examples of the lust of the eyes include looking at pornography, desiring others’ material possessions, status, appearance, etc. It’s the recognition that something sinful has visual appeal, and then wanting it for the sake of its visual appeal.

Consider this passage in Second Samuel with regards to King David and Bathsheba.

**“And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king’s house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon” (2 Samuel 11:2).**

**What is** the Pride of Life?

The pride of life is that sinful temptation for excess greatness or power that we all feel the temptation to attain. Pride itself is one of the sins that God hates most. It is the sin that made Lucifer (the beautiful angel) turn into Satan (the adversary). Some examples of this sin include the following:

* Desiring to get credit or glory for things that others (or God) did
* Desiring for others to worship us or hold us in excess esteem, “to make a name for ourselves”
* Desiring to feel valued or more important than others around us
* Desiring to have positions of power over others in a way that puffs up our own ego for the sake of bragging rights (Jesus said that those who desire to be great should be the greatest servant)

**2. Lying Spirit:**

**1 Kings 22:22 (KJV)**

**22 And the Lord said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so.**

There is a spirit of lying, and you may look anointed under its influence. Lying is one of those demonic influences over people's lives, to make them come under God's wrath.

**Revelation 21:8 (NLT)**

**8 “But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”**

**3. The Spirit Of Bondage**

**Romans 8:15 (KJV)**

**15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.**

The spirit of bondage gets people tied down, locked up, and chained. This spirit is responsible for all manner of afflictions that people suffer.

**Luke 13:16 (KJV)**

**16 And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?**

It is a spirit of captivity. The spirit that causes addiction to evil.

But the essence of what I want to share with you is that Jesus died to set you **free**from bondage.

**4. The Spirit Of Whoredoms:**

**Hosea 5:4 (KJV)**

**4 They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them, and they have not known the Lord.**

There is a spirit of whoredoms. It constantly craves filthiness, sexual immorality, making motions in the body. It is a control by an unclean spirit. We are in the age of sexual liberation were sin is now considered acceptable by some as long as you are an adult and your sin does not hurt anyone.

**Matthew 10:1 (KJV)**

**10 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.**

**5. The Spirit of Disobedience:**

**Ephesians 2:1-2 (KJV)**

**2 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;**

**2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:**

There is also a spirit of disobedience, and its ministry is to fulfil the desires of the flesh and the mind. This spirit works disobedience in people, going through the flesh and the mind to take people away from God's presence. So, they can be afflicted and tormented.

Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? Paul lamented. Whereas habits may be handled by the will (determination), vow or choice, spiritual controls require much more.

**2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (KJV)**

**3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:**

**4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)**

**6. The Spirit of Life:**

**Romans 8:2 (KJV)**

**2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.**

There is a law of the Spirit in Christ Jesus; it sets free from the law of sin and death.

**2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 (KJV)**

**7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.**

**8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:**

The law of the Spirit is God's provision for the destruction of the mystery of iniquity that is at work in people's lives.

The Holy Spirit living inside of you is the cheapest way of destroying the controlling powers set to destroy you. you operate the of the spirit by engaging the help of the Holy Spirit in intercessions when those motions in your mind and body begin to torment you.

**Luke 11:21-22 (KJV)**

**21 When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace:**

**22 But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.**

The Holy Spirit is the force that guarantees your victory and security in the conflicts of life, so be filled with Him always (Eph.5:18).

Engage the help of the Holy Spirit by getting into cloud-forming prayers in the spirit. Every time you explode in tongues against the works of the flesh, you are you confirming the judgment of the Holy Spirit against the devil.

This is how to mortify the deeds of the flesh and destroy the destroyer sent to destroy you.