

YOU CAN KNOW HOW TO DEFEAT SATAN

A SPIRITUAL STRATEGY FOR VICTORY

BY MORRIS CERULLO

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MORRIS CERULLO

**Official Textbook of the
Morris Cerullo Schools of Ministry**

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MORRIS CERULLO WORLD EVANGELISM

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Dedication

This book is lovingly dedicated to the Partners of World Evangelism who have become members of God's Victorious Army and share the vision God has give me to reach the world for Jesus Christ in these endtimes.

My prayer is that each of you will rise up with the greatest new anointing of God's power and spiritual breakthrough that you have ever known...that very same anointing that opens blind eyes, causes the deaf to hear and the lame to walk. Remember..."greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (John 4:4) and if the enemy tries to come in like a flood, the spirit of the Lord God will raise up a standard against him (Isaiah 59:19).

All my love and prayers.

God's servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Morris".

Chapter One

The Revelation of the New Anointing

God's Word says, "*...ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*" (John 8:32).

One of the greatest truths that God has ever revealed to me for fighting...and for winning...*every time*...in the great spiritual warfare in which we are engaged...is the revelation of the New Anointing.

This revelation not only has revolutionized my life and ministry, but it has done so to the lives and ministries of countless ministers and Christian lay people around the world with whom I have shared this teaching.

I have testimony after testimony on file of people (literally hundreds) who have learned these truths and have applied them in their own lives to witness the most amazing answers to prayers that they have ever known. Using these truths, they literally have prayed out into the Spirit to lay hold on victories that had eluded them for years.

It was on the Island of Grenada in the West Indies in 1964 when God began to reveal the truth of the New Anointing to my heart.

At that time He was using me in a tremendous manner on the foreign fields of this world. Tens of thousands would journey for miles by every conceivable method, often on foot, to attend our crusades in Asia, South and Central America, Korea, Africa. Multiplied thousands would surrender their lives at the close of every service to accept Jesus as their Savior. Thousands more would be healed of terrible afflictions...goiters, tumors, deafness, lameness, blindness, arthritis. It was a common sight to see six totally deaf mutes healed in one service.

God had given me the key to reaching the heathen nations of this world for Jesus Christ.

When ministering, it has always been my custom to lock myself alone

with God in prayer...no calls, no visits, no sightseeing, every afternoon.

As I sought God for the great victories in the Grenada meeting, God spoke to me and said, "Son, I want you to return to North America."

Most of my ministry had been spent in the Third World countries, where I had seen the tremendous need of the masses. This new commission to return to North America became one of the biggest hurdles this ministry ever had to overcome.

Although I loved the people of North America, it seemed to me that the need on the foreign field was so much greater.

North America, where there is only six percent of the world's population, has 94 percent of the ministers. That leaves the nations with 94 percent of the world's teeming billions with only six percent of Christian ministers, including both Catholic and Protestant.

God had been blessing our ministry overseas with as great results as any ministry in the history of the Church. We had been preaching to tens and even hundreds of thousands of people night after night, up to 250,000 in a single service. As many as 50,000 people would pray the sinner's prayer and surrender their hearts to Christ in a single service.

Why should I leave such a ministry to come back to North America where there are churches on nearly every corner? Most ministers were describing North America as "burned over" with the Gospel. Many thought the time of revival for North America was past.

When God told me to get ready to go back to North America, I was shocked. I tried to bargain with God. I said to Him, "God, give me at least one reason why I should go back to North America."

Then God spoke again and told me, "Son, judgment is coming to North America."

That was only part of His message to me. Along with that statement about judgment, God continued to speak and He put into my hands and into my heart one of the greatest *positive* statements for meeting the crisis that you could possibly imagine.

He said, "**I am going to send a new anointing of my divine healing power to North America.**"

What a thrill came over my being with that statement!

I went into the next service in Grenada knowing beyond the shadow of a doubt that God had spoken. I also knew that there was more His Spirit would reveal to me. There was still a missing link, a *key* in God's



A. PUSAN, KOREA '71

B. SEOUL, KOREA '70

C. BRAZIL, LONDRINA '72

D. MANADO, INDONESIA '72

E. TAEJON, KOREA '69

As many as 250,000 people have attended a single service in the Morris Cerullo World Evangelism Crusades throughout the nations.
timing.

I kept the revelations and directions God gave me in Grenada hidden

in my heart as I continued to be led by Him on a daily basis. I always watched for the key I knew God would give me for using the New Anointing as I continued ministering in the nations of the world.

For years missionary evangelism in foreign lands was done under the assumption that those lands were different from the countries of North America. It was assumed that since clothing, food, shelter, language and customs were different, the needs also were different.

In my own ministry for many, many years I would use one method in the "civilized" cities of North America, while I would use an entirely different method in the overseas countries of South America, Africa and Asia.

It was as God brought a deep spiritual understanding and revelation of what was really happening behind the scenes in *every* country, that my ministry was revolutionized drastically.

For many years God sent Brother Cerullo to many of the nations of the world; but there was one place in my heart that when I prayed, I said, "God, don't You ever send me to this country."

That was before 1970.

I had been through this country many times. My plane would stop at the airport and sometimes I could not get a plane out for a day or sometimes two days.

I have been traveling for many years, since long before we had daily flights. Sometimes we would get in some of these countries and we would not even know if a plane was going out for two or three days. We had to keep going back to the airport every day to find out if our plane was going to be leaving.

I would be stuck in this particular country, sometimes for two days, when I could not get a plane out.

I would go to a restaurant to eat. I would have my food at my table and I could not eat it. I would look around and in the waiters' eyes I could sense the demon powers. I could see it in their spirit. I lost my appetite. I don't think in all of my life, in 20 years of passing through this particular country, that I have ever eaten a decent meal that I have enjoyed.

I said, "Lord, don't You ever send me here."

One day the inevitable happened and God said to me, "Morris, you have had invitations for years to this country. I want you to go."

I accepted an invitation around 1970 and I went to that country for my first crusade there.

That country was India!

When I arrived in India in 1970 for the Madras crusade, I was met at the plane by my son, David, who was then just out of high school and was traveling with my advance team.

David's face looked absolutely drained. He was so white he appeared to be ill.

"David, what is wrong?" I asked.

He said, "Dad, I don't know! There is something in the air, something about this place that is making me sick. I do not understand it."

I knew what it was immediately. Was it the food or water? No. It was **spiritual**.

I had been to India many times before and I knew of the countless false gods that are worshiped in that country. It is estimated that the 650 million people of India serve more than 330 million gods. The oppression of demon spirits in the air is so thick that you can feel it. It was this oppression that was making David sick.

Later in my hotel room as I travailed in prayer and fasting for the crusade, there came over me a feeling and a pressure such as I had never known. I felt as though I literally were being torn apart in my innermost being.

I cannot describe the warfare I experienced there in that room as, alone with God, I began to call out various evils by name and bind them in the Name of Jesus.

In prayer I planted myself. I began to bind the spirits of sin, the spirits of sickness, the spirits of religion, the spirits of false cults, the spirit of idol worship.

Something happened to me in that experience in my room. Now, I had known what it was before to pray, but I began to travail in prayer in such a way that I had never experienced before in my life. The only way I could describe it was as if...it did not happen, but I just illustrate it this way...it felt as if my spirit went out of my body and went into another world. I began to travail. I began to pray.

That is why I can understand some of the unutterable gushings that come forth from people.

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know



David Cerullo is shown at Madras, India, campaign in 1970. What happened to David in that heathen country of 330 million false gods gives emphasis to the revelation of the New Anointing which God gave to Morris Cerullo during that crusade...

"not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Romans 8:26).

I have experienced that. I found, instead of dealing with the things on the surface which were our problems, such as the fanatical Hindu priests, I was dealing with the root cause in another world...the spirit world.

The word was all over that the Hindu priests were going to kill me. Instead of dealing with the fanatical Hindu priests in prayer, I found myself going beyond the surface of the things.

If those Hindu priests literally were going to come, riot, try to kill and destroy the crusade, I found myself not dealing with them on the surface, but going down into another realm, into another world, and dealing with the *cause*...not the surface...not that which appears as the effect...but I found myself going beyond the surface and getting hold of the *cause*.

In this case, what would cause the Hindu priests to riot? Were they rioting on their own? Were they coming against me on their own? Was it just because they were religious, they had a different religion, and they did not like me?

Was there a force or was there a controlling spirit cause that was making those Hindu priests do something that was out of control?

I went on like this for almost two days in my room... interceding.. .travailing.. .groaning.. .moaning.. .battling.. .taking hold with a power, a force, an authority. Something was happening in the spirit world...not on the surface...not against the *thing*...but in the spirit world.

Hour after hour this binding of evil spirits continued. Finally victory came. I felt great release, great victory in my spirit.

When I walked out on that platform the first night, there were conservatively 70,000 people. There were Hindu priests all over the place.

Other missionary evangelists had been to India, but up until this time there had never been a successful, completed, full open-air Christian meeting in that country, to the best of our knowledge.

Billy Graham had one, but we are told it had been held in the compound of a ground owned by the Church of India. The church owned the land. He had a successful meeting there.

However, in the open air on natural ground up until this time, there had been several attempts but many platforms were torn down and were destroyed. Hindu priests rose up...mobs...several of my evangelist friends barely escaped with their lives. They were protected through the crowd, rushed into cars and taken right to the airport and flown out, or they would have been killed.

Those priests are fanatical! They think if they kill you as a Christian, they have done one of their 330 million gods a service.

I went up there that night and ministered.

You could have heard a pin drop on the ground, it was so quiet. The Holy Spirit captured every person. We went on like that day after day after day, until that crowd grew and you could not see the end of the people as they fanned out into the black night. We were in what you call the India Athletic Association grounds. It was the size of several football fields, and every inch of the ground was covered wall-to-wall with people...picture it...several football fields and then beyond.

The only disturbance we ever had during the **entire** crusade was unclean spirits and demon powers coming out of people as people were thrown to the ground under the power of the Holy Spirit. After they were delivered, we would stand them back up again and they would raise their hands and shout praises to Jesus. We went through our

whole campaign in India without one problem.

I have gone back again and again to India...we have seen a marvelous harvest.

We have seen the Holy Spirit come on fields of people...not one, but fields with so many people I do not know how you could count them. We have seen 500,000 Hindus in India give their lives to Jesus Christ in one service!

This has been because of the Revelation of the New Anointing which God gave to us.

Up until this time I had been on the foreign field for 17 years. My first overseas crusade was in 1955. Prior to this experience I was well aware of what the Church calls "demon powers." *These powers are real!*

The anguish I would go through in prayer in order to win victories in these countries was indescribable. I would travail intensely in prayer because I knew I was combating special demonic forces. I was coming to grips with the supernatural powers of the arch enemy, Satan. I knew that these powers had to be defeated in prayer before I ever left the prayer room.

Evan Roberts, the great Welsh revivalist, years before had said these powerful words:

"If missionaries to the heathen recognized the existence of evil spirits, and that the darkness in heathen lands was caused by the prince of the power of the air, and proclaimed to the heathen the message of deliverance from the evil hosts as well as the remission of sin and victory over sin through the atoning sacrifice of Calvary—a vast change would come over the mission field in a few brief years."

This is exactly what we had done for years on the great mission fields of the world with the result that thousands upon thousands came to Christ.

However, I had never applied this principle in North America (the United States and Canada). In North America we think of ourselves as "civilized" people. We are "educated" people. We are "sophisticated." Therefore I would use an entirely different approach at home in North America than I did on the foreign field.

As I travailed and prevailed in prayer in that hotel room in India, however, God spoke to my heart in a very unusual way.

*From *War on the Saints* by Jessie Penn Lewis with Evan Roberts.

He said to me, "Son, you must realize that in the United States of America, in North America, you are not dealing just with ideologies. You are not just dealing with rebellious youth who are disenchanted with the hypocrisy of their parents. You are not just dealing with kids who are trying to tear down the establishment. You are not just dealing with the drug culture or the gay movement.

If you will go deep to the root of the problem, you will find that you are in a spiritual battle."

He revealed to my heart that there were tremendous spirit forces working in North America to tear down the very structure of our society. I believe with all my heart that the devil has assigned special spirits to the task of destroying North America.

God showed me explicitly that the key used for such victories on the foreign field...the spiritual binding and defeating of satanic power in the arena of prayer...was the key for victories in North America just as it was in the other countries of the world. The warfare was the same.

Since that time I have preached and taught with all my heart that the pornography, the loose morals, the dope problem, the illicit sex, the homosexuality, the rioting in the streets, the drug addicts, the hippies, the revolutionaries, the terrorists are more than just the changing times we live in. The trouble is deeper than young people disenchanted with the hypocrisy of the older generation. It is deeper than just a new set of morals coming upon the world.

People need to know that there is a war being waged in the unseen world, and its commander in chief is Satan.

We are in a spiritual warfare. Evil spirits are at the root and base of all these problems. Satan is Enemy Number One.

He was the first enemy of mankind and he still acts with treacherous cunning today, even more so. He is the unseen enemy who sows destruction, death and suffering. He is the author of all evil. In him is no goodness, no merit, no help at all. He is the destroyer, the wrecker.

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..." (John 10:10).

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" (I Peter 5:8).

On the other side of the coin is the great news that *we know how to deal victoriously with Satan and we are going to do it.*

The Bible, God's voice to us, is our real training manual.

We can rely upon the Word of God and the Spirit of God to defeat Satan every time, not only in our own lives but in the lives of our loved ones.

No war is pleasant. No warfare is pretty, spiritual warfare less so than all others.

We must stop playing patty-cake with the devil. "Pretty" prayers will never do the job. We must see past our "civilization," our "education," our "sophistication." We must see the terrors of this warfare and realize what it is we need to combat it.

We must learn to press our way out in the Spirit into the very stronghold of Satan and tear from his grasp the victories of which he has robbed us all these years.

We not only must *learn* it, we must *do* it.

We must press the battle until every skirmish is over, every victory is ours, until we are more than conquerors in every situation as God has promised we will be, *"...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us"* (Romans 8:37).

We can do it. We *will* do it as we understand the battle plan and as we move out into the arena of conflict under God's provision and leadership.

We *must* do it...for if *something* doesn't happen, and soon, the world is on a collision course of spiritual annihilation.

The time has come for God to give you a New Anointing.

Questions on Chapter One—(Circle True or False)

1. In God's revelation of the New Anointing to Morris Cerullo on the Island of Grenada, what "*negative*" thing did God say would happen in North America?
-

2. What was God's *positive* promise for North America at this time?
-

3. For years ministry in North America was conducted differently than overseas because North America was considered
a _____ country.

4. Sometimes the oppression of demon spirits is so thick that you can feel it. True False

5. Where do we get the authority to bind evil spirits?
-

6. The false gods worshiped in India number in the
 millions hundreds thousands

7. North America is too civilized and educated to have demon powers at work in this country. True False

8. Drugs are what is tearing down the structure of North America's society. True False

9. Pornography, drug problems, terrorists, rioting are only products of our changing times. True False

10. The root cause of all these problems is because of _____ in the unseen world.

11. Who is the commander in chief of these forces?
-

12. What is our real training manual?
-

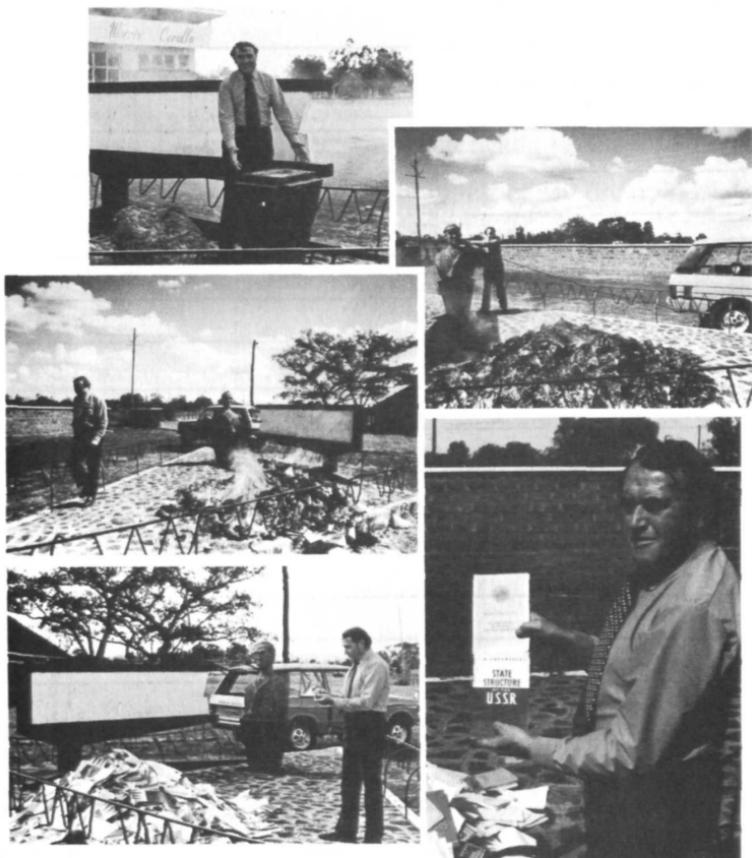
13. How can we be more than conquerors? (*Romans 8:37*)
-

14. Where must we press our way to win this spiritual warfare?
-

Answers to Chapter One

1. "Judgment is coming to North America."
2. "I am going to send a New Anointing of My divine healing power to North America."
3. Civilized.
4. True.
5. The Word of God (*Matthew 18:18*.).
6. Millions.
7. False.
8. False.
9. False.
10. Evil spirits.
11. Satan.
12. The Bible.
13. By understanding the battle plan and moving out into the arena of conflict.
14. Into the spirit world.

NOTES:



When Morris Cerullo World Evangelism obtained title to the former communist Lumumba University in Nairobi, Africa, in 1976, huge quantities of communist revolutionary literature were found.

The Soviet Union spends billions of dollars annually on communist literature, many times the amount of money spent by Christians on printing and distributing the Bibles...

Chapter Two

An Appraisal of the Battlefield

- Terrorism continues to run rampant on a worldwide basis as confirmed by the daily news broadcasts.
- More babies have been killed in America during the past 15 years than people murdered in all of history's wars! An average of 4,257 babies are aborted daily here in the United States.
- At least 20,000 to 50,000 children are abducted each year in the United States and are never seen again.
- More than one and one half million young people are sexually molested, filmed or photographed each year for child abusers or for the thriving "kiddie porn" trade. Over half of all child sexual abuse occurs within the family.
- Between 1970 and 1990 the number of unwed mothers jumped 374 percent. Illegitimate births among teenagers jumped from 199,900 in 1970 to 279,000 in 1990.
- Over three million high school students smoke pot. The average beginning age of children drinking alcohol is 12 and a half years of age.
- Today nearly half of all marriages end in divorce. One fifth of all U.S. families are single-parent families.
- Terrorism continues to run rampant in much of the world almost on a weekly basis.

These are just a few of the terrible conditions of which we are aware. Every day our newspapers carry similar or worse information.

Optimists claim that "things" are going to get better...but are they?

Listen to what the Word of God says: "*evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived*" (II Timothy 3:13).

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy. Without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God" (II Timothy 3:14).

It is also a sad fact that under the status quo of the past several years, heathenism has far outstripped the church world.

During the first 200 years after the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, the disciples had reached the whole known world with the influence of Christianity. Almost the whole world was Christian by some definition.

Contrast that with the statistics of our day. Although the World Almanac lists 23 percent of the world's population as Christian, their figure includes every denomination, Catholic and Protestant, as well as many cults who use the Name of Christ but deny His power and His teachings.

It is estimated by many Christian organizations that less than six percent of the world has been truly discipled for Jesus.

With the population continuing to explode in heathen countries, we have reached almost a zero population growth in North America due to birth control, "living together" arrangements, increasing homosexual liaisons, and legalized abortions.

It is estimated that every year over 80 million people are added to the world's population...unsaved, unreached people.

When we look at the rise of lawlessness in North America and the mushrooming population of non-Christian and Christian nations, the task before the real Church of Jesus Christ is formidable.

Must we withdraw from the arena of life, overwhelmed at what the forces of evil are doing? Paralyzed by the weight of population statistics and the desperate needs we see in people's lives?

Not at all. There is an answer.

We as God's children, as His called, chosen and anointed, are that answer.

Jesus said, "*Ye are the light of the world..." (Matthew 5:14).*

God's Word also tells us, "*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4).*

God also tells us, "...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." (*Romans 8:37*).

God means for us to have victory...total victory.

He means for us to take the world for Jesus Christ.

It can be done. It must be done. We can do it!

However, in order for us to do it, **something must happen**. It must happen in us.

The Church and the individual Christian has a greater challenge today than at any time in history. In God's dealing with Israel and in the history of the Church, the point of greatest crisis brought forth the greatest manifestations of the power of God.

Man had to seek God for it. It did not come automatically! When Israel began to pray and to seek the face of God, a revelation came that restored the power, that restored the vitality to the spiritual life of the individual and the nation—but man had to seek it. Man must sincerely desire to know and possess this power in order to receive it.

God's answers are not always easy to accept. Sometimes they demand tremendous dedication of our lives. One of the greatest secrets I have learned through times of great trial and decision is to *always* trust the Holy Spirit. What may at the moment appear difficult, may be the very doorway into the most beautiful experience and blessing of your life.

You are approaching such a doorway right now. Do not be afraid to step through it.

Victory and power in every area of your life awaits you on the other side.

We have made a spiritual breakthrough which is the revelation of our time.

When God gave me the revelation of the New Anointing in Madras, India, in 1970, I looked back at the power of the early Church and I began to understand.

The early Church, which took almost the entire known world for Christ, had this outlook:

1. They recognized the existence of evil spirits.
2. They knew that evil spirits deceived and possessed men.
3. They understood that the devil was out to hurt, kill, and destroy mankind.
4. **And they knew that Christ gave His followers authority over**

them through His Name!

5. They recognized their enemy (not things, not surface results).
6. They located their enemy.

The Church of Jesus Christ today, as in the days of its beginning, must lay hold on the spiritual equipment of the apostolic period for dealing with the influx of the evil if it is to take our world for Jesus Christ.

This is what the revelation of the New Anointing is all about.

Questions on Chapter Two—(Circle True or False)

1. Forces of evil are rampant in the world today. True False
2. Twice as much money is spent worldwide on Christian literature as on communist propaganda. True False
3. More than four times as much money was spent on comic book advertising in North America in 1977 than on all the Bibles produced and distributed in the entire world. True False
4. God's Word teaches that the moral climate of our world will gradually improve. True False
5. List two Scripture references to support the above answer.
_____ and _____.
6. How far had Christian influence spread 200 years after Christ?

7. How many unsaved is it estimated are added to the roll of the unsaved every year?

8. What is the light of the world? (*Matthew 5:14*)

9. Who is greater than "*he that is in the world*"? (*I John 4:4*)

10. *Romans 8:37* tells us that in Christ we are: (check)
 losers always winners sometimes winners
 more than conquerors
11. The greatest crises bring forth the greatest manifestation of the _____ . COMPLETE THE SENTENCE

12. In order to have the power and revelation of God to meet the _____ what must we do?

13. God's answers are always easy. True False
14. The difficult may often be a doorway to a beautiful experience. True False
15. List the six-fold outlook that the early Church had on evil spirits:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____
- F. _____
- G. _____

Answers on Chapter Two

1. True.
2. False.
3. True.
4. False.
5. *II Timothy 3:13; II Timothy 3:1-4.*
6. The whole known world.
7. 73 million.
8. God's children.
9. He that is in us.
10. More than conquerors.
11. Power of God.
12. Desire to know and possess this power.
13. False.
14. True.
15.
 - A. Recognized the existence of evil spirits.
 - B. Knew that evil spirits deceived and possessed men.
 - C. Understood the devil was out to hurt, kill and destroy mankind.
 - D. Knew Christ gave His followers authority over them through His Name.
 - E. Recognized their enemy.
 - F. Located their enemy.

NOTES

Chapter Three

The World's Great Needs... Can They be Met?

Matthew 9:36 says of Jesus, "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, us sheep having no shepherd."

I have stood before great crowds containing some of the most heartbreakng sights of human need imaginable, and I have met privately with kings, queens, and other very high-ranking leaders. Yet I can truthfully say I have never met a person who did not have some kind of need.

You have never met a person who does not have needs, whether or not you are aware of them.

It is not enough, however, just to realize that people have needs. Neither is it enough to be moved with compassion for them. *We must provide the answer and the help if we are to work the works of God in our generation.*

Is there an answer for them? What can you tell them? Where can they find real help?

God has greatly blessed the World Evangelism ministry.

One of the greatest things I have to offer is the strength of my prayers, not only in meetings but alone with God in the power of intercession.

Every month thousands of letters arrive at my office. Many of them contain glowing descriptions of God's blessing and graces...but many, many, *many* of them reflect the bitterness, heartache and poverty of a world under attack. Much of my time is spent in intercessory prayer for the desperate requests that come in by mail and by telephone.

I cannot share with you the names of the people, for they are confidential, but I do want to share with you some of the requests such as pour into my office daily. It is heart-rending.

As I share them with you, perhaps some might say, "Why, I could have written that letter myself. That is the same problem I have." Or perhaps you know others who are entangled in the same situation as the writers of these letters.

The mother of a teenage daughter writes: "Reverend Cerullo, we are members of a traditional church, and have always taken our children to Sunday school. Our daughter was a good girl and was always active in the various church activities, until about a year ago when her attitude started to change. She became very disrespectful of both her father and me, and was very evasive when we would ask her where she was going at night.

"I found out last night that she has obtained birth control pills from a public health agency. I know now that she is using drugs with increasing frequency. Both her father and I have tried to reason with her. I have prayed for her, but she only seems to be getting further and further away from us. I fear at any moment she will leave home and we will never see her again. What can I do?"

A young wife sent in this heart cry for help: "Brother Cerullo, I met my husband in church; we were both Spirit-filled believers and very active in church work. This continued after we were married, and through the birth of our two wonderful children. We were happy and very much in love; but about six months ago, something strange came over him and he just wasn't the same man that I married. He came home last night and said that he is in love with someone else and wants a divorce. I cried all night long; it seems my world has come to an end. Is there any answer?"

A man under bondage to the tobacco habit writes: "Reverend Cerullo, I have been a Christian for three years. It has been the most glorious period of my life. I have seen many wonderful prayer victories, but I am bound by the cigarette habit and I have done everything I know how, but I cannot get free. When I go to buy cigarettes, I feel so embarrassed and so bad that I actually cry—but I cannot help myself. Can you help me?"

Lack of thought control, such as that revealed in this letter, is probably the most common cause of a defeated Christian life: "Brother Cerullo, I am really ashamed to reveal what I am about to write; and

unless you can give me some answers, I feel that my Christian life is in jeopardy. I have a wonderful wife and three lovely children. I attend church regularly and even teach Sunday school—but no one, not even my family, knows the turmoil inside of me. I cannot get control of—thought life. The most evil imaginations come into my mind. I fight them, but feel powerless to cast them out. I will wake up in the middle of the night with visions of the most immoral things. I have done everything I know. I have prayed. I have fasted, but it is only getting worse. What can I do?"

Even ministers are not immune from Satan's attacks. There are more pastors leaving the ministry than ever before. Here is a typical reason: "Brother Cerullo, I have been a successful pastor for the past 15 years, and at the moment we have a lovely church and everything on the outside appears to be just beautiful. On the inside it is a different story. I am at the end of my rope. I don't see anything happening in the spiritual lives of my people. I preach about dedication and holiness and most of our congregation has received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The trouble is that I cannot find any fruit of the Spirit. For a midweek dinner we can have a crowd, but for a prayer meeting there is only a handful. Brother Cerullo, I am tired of "playing church" and unless something happens, I am going to seek a secular position. Money is not my motive, but I cannot take the frustration any longer of preaching my heart out and seeing nothing happen. What would you advise me to do?"

Another writes of an uncontrollable spirit: "Reverend Cerullo, I don't know if you can help me, but there is something that is keeping me from the victory that Christ has for my life. I have an uncontrollable temper. What I can't understand is that I will absolutely blow up over the silliest things and afterward I can't really believe that I could allow such little things to bother me. Just when I seem to be gaining ground in my Christian life, some little irritant will cause me to say the most cutting, destructive things to those I love. Each time it seems to be getting worse and it is to the point now that I am actually afraid that I will do some violent thing that even time will not repair. I am desperate."

Sometimes the need is mental anguish: "Please pray for my unsaved sister. Evil spirits have taken over her mind and tell her that people are coming into her apartment and poisoning her food. She becomes very ill and cannot eat for many days. She will not accept Jesus in this Satanic condition and the devil is turning her against me."

"I had an incurable mental illness. I was labeled paranoid, schizophrenic, manic depressive, suicidal, homicidal..."

The incidence of marital violence is shocking: "I hope this will be the last time my husband will beat me up. Nothing I have done to deserve this beating."

Sometimes suicide seems the answer: "My husband and I had family arguments about his drinking that would lead to a fight and I would always get hurt. I tried to commit suicide and didn't care about cleaning house or being a wife to my husband. Now our four girls are taken away from us until we can become a family."

Concern about loved ones is heart-rending. "Please pray for my unsaved brother in this newspaper clipping that tells about the arrest of two men who allegedly went on a five-robbery crime spree. Their car crashed into a chain-link fence. My brother tried to jump into a passing car. He was shot in the shoulder and is in the hospital jail ward."

"Satan is trying to destroy my daughter. She has left her husband and has taken their two small children. She is mixed up in a lot of bad things. Her husband is frightened for the little children."

Personal safety is threatened: "I am so shocked I can hardly restrain myself. My dear husband of 45 years was kidnapped by two men and forced to drive them around. They took him to the credit union, forced his signature, took all his life savings and mine and left us with only \$10.08."

Many feel they have no reason for living at all: "I don't want to be lonely and lost and insecure and full of fears. I am so disoriented and lost without God's love and compassion. Sometimes I feel that nothing good is happening in my life. It is just a total wreck. I don't have anything to live for."

These letters are all very real. They represent just a few of the thousands that I receive every month from people with every conceivable kind of problem.

The letters show many negatives...trials, defeats, depressions and frustrations that come into people's lives, even God's people.

Why?

Just within a very short period of time, a sample of the mail revealed tremendous pressures on God's people: "My husband is staying with a woman who is using witchcraft. We have five children who have lost all respect for their father."

"I am 'gay' and probably the loneliest person in town. I don't know what it is to feel honest love...all I know is lust."

"Satan destroyed my home four years ago. My former wife is in deep sin. My daughter is living with a man. My son is disillusioned and rebellious."

"A neighbor boy is afflicted with a rare bone disease. He can break a bone merely by coughing or sneezing. He is 17 and confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life unless our Father intervenes."

"My marriage is about over and I can't accept it. I am not saved, nor is my husband. I believe he will die and go to hell, just like me and my children."

"My beloved wife is possessed by devils and lies untreated in a hospital while our retirement resources are being destroyed."

"I lost my baby at birth and my heart is broken. We don't understand why."

"I believe it is too late for my salvation. I have a sin on my heart which I don't believe the Precious Lord will forgive me."

"My daughter has had a sex change operation and is now a man. It has just about broken my heart."

"Our grandsons have been on dope and alcohol. One has almost ruined his mind and has beaten up and injured his father twice."

Others tell of fathers abusing their little girls (and boys) and unspeakable degradation of all sorts that I cannot even share in these pages. There are many, many more in the world out there where you live, work or minister.

To provide those answers is precisely the reason for the preparation of this book. It puts into your hands a manual on spiritual warfare. It reveals the basic force, power, cause that is behind all human suffering and tells what you, as a child of God, a member of God's Army, can do about it. Victory is yours!

This study is based on the revelation of the New Anointing which God began to pour into my soul in 1964. I first shared it in a 44-page booklet published in 1972, and then in an enlarged 150-page book entitled *The New Anointing* in 1975.

The message has continued to grow and to develop (resulting in this comprehensive textbook prepared especially as a teaching tool for our Schools of Ministry).

Ministers and laymen alike who have been touched through the previous books have found their lives completely revolutionized. Thousands of letters in our files testify to how God used these truths to change lives and ministries. Here are excerpts from a few of the letters.

A chaplain from Arcadia, California, wrote: "I have to make a decision for ministry that will probably be the greatest challenge to my life as a minister and Christian. I have been praying for divine guidance and I feel that God has spoken to me through your book."

A pastor from Midland, Georgia, wrote: "Coming back to the church I pastor, there was such a great anointing the people wondered what had happened to their pastor."

A Methodist minister from Illinois wrote: "I praise God that I received a copy of your book, *The New Anointing*. It was sent from God. Revival has broken out in our church and what this book describes is happening here. Pray for me...I want all that God wants to give."

After reading *The New Anointing*, a minister from South Carolina wrote: "In my ministry, I come in contact with a lot of young people who are on drugs and God has been good to us in helping some of them find deliverance in Christ. With this new anointing, we could be an even greater blessing to many others."

An Assembly of God minister from Illinois received the teaching and wrote: "Coming back to my home church, I allowed the Holy Spirit to use me as never before and I began to see outstanding miracles such as I witnessed in Reverend Cerullo's ministry. This power, as Brother Cerullo said, is available for any person who will allow the Holy Spirit to use him."

An Arizona minister concurred: "As a pastor, I shall never be the same. I have a new vision and a new anointing that has set my ministry afire for God."

Pastor of a Christian Center in Ohio reported: "Every day from Monday the revelation became stronger and stronger until now the church I pastor has become alive to this new dimension and we are so excited."

The letters on file reflect many different denominations... Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Catholic, Church of Christ...as the New Anointing teaching cuts across denominational barriers to bring fresh new dimensions to ministries.

I pray that these truths will touch your life with the fire and power of

God to meet the desperate needs of those in your area of influence.

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also"(II Timothy 2:2).

Questions on Chapter Three (Circle True or False)

1. What characteristic caused Jesus to be "moved" or touched when He saw the multitude? (*Matthew 9:36*)
-

2. Give two reasons why He was so moved.
-

3. What is one of the greatest things Morris Cerullo has to offer?
-

4. Once you have achieved a worldwide ministry, a ministry of intercessory prayer is no longer needful. True False

5. Name at least ten urgent areas in which many people have desperate needs.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

F. _____

G. _____

H. _____

I. _____

J. _____

6. Even when He was with multitudes, Jesus saw each person as _____ with _____.

7. Many people you will meet will have no particular need. True
False

8. The needs of many people are so severe there is no answer for them.
True False

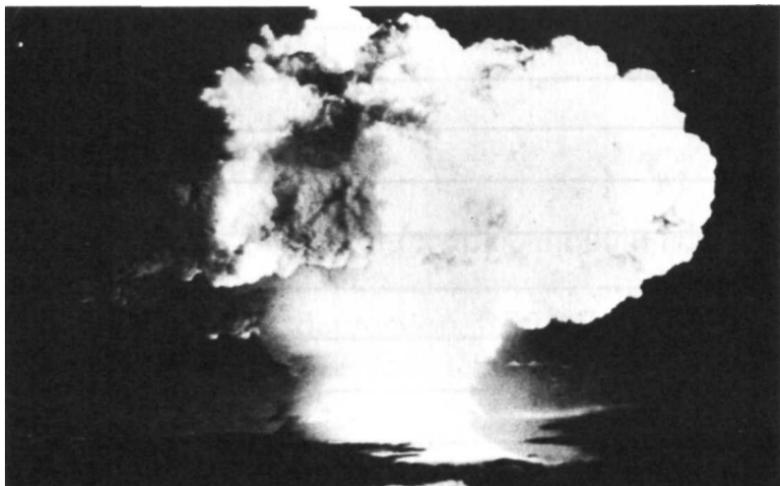
9. Only certain Christian denominations are entitled to use the keys of New Anointing. True False

10. Why?
-

Answers on Chapter Three

1. Compassion.
2. They fainted and they were scattered.
3. The strength of his prayers.
4. False.
5. Home and family, drugs and habits, thought control, uncontrollable spirits, spiritual emptiness, mental illness, violence, loneliness, depression, finances, homosexuality, salvation, deliverance, fear, illness, etc.
6. An individual with needs.
7. False.
8. False.
9. False.
10. Cuts across denominational lines.

NOTES:



When the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay dropped its atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945, it detonated at a force equivalent to 17,000 tons of TNT, left more than 70,000 people dead or missing and more than 68,000 injured.

As horrible as the results of this devastating end to the second World War, it is nothing compared to the devastation being wreaked upon mankind today in continuing warfare that is tormenting and enslaving millions of people around the world.

What kind of war is this and what can we do about it?

Chapter Four

The Greatest Warfare Ever Known

What is the most horrible war or atrocity that your mind can visualize?

Is it the Civil War when hundreds of thousands of mere teenagers were pressed into service and forced to serve under famine conditions with unspeakable sanitary conditions and scant medical attention, with thousands killed, maimed or scarred for life?

Was it the great conflict known as World War I where more advanced technology resulted in the ability to kill more people in a shorter period of time and again left thousands dead or mutilated?

Was it World War II that not only left dead, dying and maimed scattered on the battlefields of Europe but saw six million Jews perish in the concentration camps of Hitler?

What about the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki with the deadly radiation that wiped out thousands of Japanese and left others with horrible lifetime afflictions?

Perhaps you think of the senseless and bloody political purgings such as Vietnam, Uganda or other dictatorial countries.

Your mind may picture with terror some war yet to come, perhaps a nuclear exchange which will wipe out man completely and devastate the earth as depicted in science fiction literature and films.

Bible scholars may think immediately of the record in the book of Revelation when blood will flow as high as the horses' bridles, or the 39th chapter of Ezekiel which prophesies of those who will be killed and left to be eaten by ravenous birds and beasts of the field.

All war is terrible beyond description...short ones as well as long and bloody ones...but none mentioned, nor indeed any war which ever has been or ever will be, can equal in scope, violence or catastrophic results

the war which has been going on for thousands of years and has claimed millions upon millions of victims...men and women, boys and girls...

...A war which has destroyed lives, homes, fortunes, health, minds...which has hurt, killed, tormented and enslaved...which has spared neither infant nor elderly ...which has seen no quarter given but has been and will continue to be a war to the very end of time.

The war of which I am speaking is not a war of swords or of guns. It is not a war of armed might or nuclear potential. It is a war that embraces all mankind, that does not spare a single person, small or great. It literally, personally and vitally involves every soul that is ever born into this world without a single exception.

This warfare has existed from the beginning of time and can be documented back to the Garden of Eden. It lies at the base of all wars which have ever been fought, all conflicts, all strife, all disasters, whether involving mighty nations or individuals.

It is the war between the only two opposing forces that there are or ever have been in the existence of the world...God and Satan...Good and Evil.

While this warfare has resulted in the very real material damage and physical carnage, its roots are neither in the material nor the physical realm.

It is a spiritual battle.

It is a battle which pits men one against another, husband against wife, daughter against mother, brother against brother, sister against sister...but the real warfare is and always has been Satan against God, God against Satan.

Many men through the ages, including theologians of great renown, have denied the existence of a real devil, yet the proof of his existence is everywhere. The results of his work are indisputable. Hiding the reality of his existence is one of the cruellest hoaxes he has ever perpetrated on men.

But not all are deceived. Many great men of God have seen his work and testify to his reality.

Billy Graham had this to say: "All of us engaged in Christian work are constantly aware of the fact that we have to do battle with supernatural forces and powers. The devil follows me every day. He tempts me. He is a very real presence to me."

He also declared: "There is a connection between the devil and the increase of drugs, pornography, sexual license, and the occult in the U.S. We see people who are committing all kinds of violence, mass murders, and we have learned they have been involved with the occult. The very word 'witchcraft' stems from the same Greek word as the word 'drugs.' "

Pope Paul VI of the Roman Catholic Church declared: "The smoke of Satan has entered the temple of God through a fissure in the church.

"Evil is not merely a lack of something—but an effective agent—a living, spiritual being—a terrible reality, mysterious and frightening."

Evan Roberts, the great Welsh revivalist, said: "The devil's great purpose, for which he fights, is to keep the world in ignorance of himself, his ways, and his colleagues; and the Church is taking sides with him when siding with ignorance about him."

The Bible itself clearly teaches that Satan is an entity, a being, a real personage:

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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" (Ephesians 6:11-12).

"The thief [Satan] cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..." (John 10:10).

"Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:27).

"And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will" (II Timothy 2:26).

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years" (Revelation 20:1-2).

Even men who are not known for their religious bent have taken note of the reasons behind the great struggle manifested in the world between nations and ideologies.

They see that the real battle of this world is not between countries or ideologies, that it is not between people per se.

An acclaimed Russian dissident named Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn gave an address entitled "A World Split Apart" at Harvard University several

years ago.

Since his expulsion from Russia and his reception of political asylum in the United States was a "cause celebre" one might suppose his address dealt chiefly with the struggle between communism and democracy. His thoughts, however, were much more profound and insightful than that.

"Any of our contemporaries readily identifies two world powers, each of them already capable of entirely destroying the other," he declared. He pointed out, however, that understanding of the split often is limited to a political conception and to the illusion that danger could be abolished through successful diplomatic negotiations or a balance of armed might.

The famed novelist defined the split of which he spoke as a fight between the forces of Good and Evil. He declared, "The fight for our planet, physical and spiritual, a fight of cosmic proportions, is not a vague matter of the future; it has already started. The forces of Evil have begun their decisive offensive, you can feel their pressure..."

Winston Churchill, the great English statesman, realized that warfare was more than man's weapons when he wrote in 1951: "Not only do we march and strive shoulder to shoulder at this moment, under the fire of the enemy on the fields of war or in the air, but also in those realms of thought which are consecrated to the rights and the dignity of man."

So warlike a man as Field Marshal Montgomery wrote in 1968: "A nation must stand for something of spiritual and not only material value, and the key to the true life of the spirit is in religion."

Spokesmen from every walk of life realize that something is going on behind the scenes of nations that far outweighs what can be seen with the natural eye. They can only conjecture what may lie ahead.

We are geared to think of many different forces at work in the world...the United States and Russia, Israel and the Arab countries, communism and democracy, battles for key governments, conflicts caused by powerful money or oil interests, the cry for "human rights" coming from many factions and groups.

The world is a battleground for many conflicts.

The entire picture, however, boils down to the fact that there are only two forces at work in the world.

When we realize that, and when we realize what these two forces are...what they stem from, what their thrust is, what is at stake...we will

understand that *unless something happens*, this world is on a collision course that not only will destroy the world but will plunge countless millions of men and women, boys and girls into the hopeless torture of an eternal hell.

Some years ago, there was a famous science fiction book entitled *When Worlds Collide* in which scientists discovered another planet on a collision course with the earth. Their solution was to build space ships or "arks" to transport 500 selected people to another planet for the salvation of the race.

The world today very definitely is on a collision course, not with other worlds but within itself, and no man-made ark can offer the solution.

A far from cheerful picture is set forth in these early chapters, but it is a necessary picture. Unless we get the true focus of what is really going on behind the scenes, we never will know *what* we are combating, much less *how* to combat it.

The scene is set...

God against Satan...

Good against Evil...

Righteousness against sin...

World on a collision course...and millions of people will be affected from their homes (families) to their jobs...physically. .. mentally... spiritually...

Does this affect me?

Yes...**no one** escapes.

And what can we, as children of God, do about it?

Questions on Chapter Four
Circle True or False / Check correct box(es)

1. 1. The type of war most destructive of human lives is:
 The Civil War
 First World War
 Second World War
 Spiritual Warfare
 Political Warfare
2. Spiritual warfare has_opposing forces.
 only two two major
 untold millions of a triangle of at least twelve
3. What are they? _____
4. Spiritual warfare can be documented as far back as:
 the dark ages. the death of Christ.
 before the Garden of Eden.
 cannot be documented.
 the Crusades known as the Holy Wars.
5. Since spiritual warfare is in the spirit, it does not pit men against one another. True False
6. Check which of these do or did not believe the devil is real:
 Billy Graham Evan Roberts
 Pope Paul VI Morris Cerullo
 Paul the apostle
7. Name four things Billy Graham said have a connection with the devil.
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____
8. Many world leaders realize there is more to the world's problems than conflicts between nations. True False
9. Who does this spiritual warfare affect?

10. Why does Satan spare the infants and the elderly?

11. The world is on a _____ course.

12. What is Satan's purpose according to *John 10:10*?

Answers on Chapter Four

1. Spiritual warfare.
2. Only two.
3. God and Satan.
4. Before the Garden of Eden.
5. False.
6. All believe the devil is real.
7. Drugs, pornography, sexual license, occult.
8. True.
9. All mankind.
10. He spares no one.
11. Collision.
12. To steal, to kill and to destroy.



The first rule of warfare whether it is earthly or spiritual, is that you must locate your enemy. Otherwise your strategy is dissipated and ineffective...

Chapter Five

Locating the Enemy

All truth is parallel. That means that whatever is happening over here in the natural world is also happening in a similar manner in the spiritual world.

The first rule of warfare, whether it is earthly or spiritual, is that you must locate your enemy.

One of the main reasons that the Church has failed to press in and take this world for Jesus Christ is because it has made converts—not disciples. It has begotten sons...but it has not made them soldiers who know how to wage effective warfare.

God has called for a trained and motivated army, and we have failed to mobilize for the battle He has called us to.

The purpose of this study is that we may be trained, equipped and mobilized to wage effective warfare with our adversary (Satan) for dominion over this world, to enable God's people to turn the stance of Christianity from a defensive, holding position to an all-out offensive to conquer in God's Name.

One of the very first rules of successful warfare is that we must know our enemy. We must locate him and concentrate our firepower upon him, otherwise our efforts will be dissipated and ineffective.

The world today is in a cup of trembling. People are afraid. They know there are powerful enemies at work but they do not know who or what these enemies are, where to look for them, or how to overcome them.

Many of our politicians, sociologists, and psychologists have a very pessimistic outlook on the future. One Prominent scientist said, "We give the world ten years."

Many leaders agree that "things" cannot go on in the same vein in which they are now progressing.

Our nation is afraid. The world is afraid. People possess a fearful

"looking after" concerning the things that are to come upon the face of the earth such as Jesus prophesied in *Luke 21*.

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Luke 21:26).

People are afraid we will not have enough clean air to breathe in the next five or ten years.

They are afraid all our water systems will be so polluted that we will not have fresh, clear water to drink anymore.

There are already many shortages of food throughout the world and predictions of famine are ominous.

The bleakest part of the picture on top of all this is that sin is completely rampant. Evil is with us on an unprecedented scale, rising crime rates, increased violence, murders, mayhem, robbery, sex crimes, drug addiction...all are on the upswing.

God told me: "There are spirits loosed that have been assigned the devilish task of tearing down the structure and the society of this nation, and the sooner you realize you are not dealing with men or with political ideologies, the sooner you will have the victory."

There are spirits that are loose in the world.

Somebody said to me, "Brother Cerullo, we don't mention that word 'spirits' in our church anymore because my minister says we are not to scare the people."

Let me ask you a question:

How can you fight an enemy you have not located?

How can you fight an enemy when you close your eyes and pretend that he does not exist?

A man came to me and said, "Aren't you afraid, Brother Cerullo, that if you talk about spirits, people are going to begin to see things in the air?"

I said to him, "If those things are there, we had better see them!"

There are spirits loose in the world, spirits that have been given the diabolical assignment of tearing down the structure, the foundation of this nation and the nations of the world...the Constitution, the Bible, prayer and everything that is holy.

If every minister, lay person, mother, and father had known the truth

about spirits being visited upon our world, they would have saved themselves the chaos and the agony they went through with their children.

One of the cardinal rules of success in any field is that you must deal with people and things as they are, not as you wish them to be.

In the face of all the problems and perplexities that come upon us, we must never fail to realize that we are not really dealing with men. We are not dealing with political ideologies. We are not dealing with things! I have no axe to grind with communism because, to me, communism is a defeated enemy. That is not the real problem, the real issue.

Our warfare is not with men. It is not with the social system of our day. It is not with political ideologies.

We are not in a natural battle; we are in a spiritual conflict. The scripture tell us:

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Ephesians 6:12).

In addition to fear, there is also great confusion over our nation. Hardly any political leader will stand up and agree with another on any subject, whether it is economics, sociological problems, foreign policy or any other field. There is great perplexity among our leaders.

Confusion is a spirit. There is a spirit of confusion in the religious world as well as in the political. It exists in denominations as well as in the lives of individual believers. It is a spirit.

Fear is a spirit. There is a spirit of fear pervading the very atmosphere on an unprecedented scale. People are afraid of so many things. Some of the ills they fear are imaginary but many are very, very real. People's hearts actually are failing them from fear of circumstances.

Frustration is a spirit. There is a total frustration on every hand. I was told by a leading person in the financial world that presidents of the banks of this country are afraid of what is going to come economically. They are trying to sell their holdings to European and foreign interests.

I do not say that to scare you but so that you will know the total, hopeless frustration that exists at the highest levels of our intelligentsia.

Promiscuousness is a spirit. Promiscuousness exists in the very air. The lowering of moral and spiritual standards has reached the point that it no longer is considered immoral to sell the worst kind of

literature openly on the streets of this nation and most nations of the world.

Two boys can walk into a courtroom in this country and demand a marriage license to be married as husband and wife. The "gay liberation" of homosexuality receives mass television and press exposure to propagate this code of conduct on our nation. Many people are now convinced that we must uphold, protect, and even standardize the "rights" of homosexuals...

There are an estimated 14 million homosexuals in North America. It is estimated that one-sixth of the total population of San Francisco, one of our largest cities, is homosexual. In that city, the public school curriculum includes a course which presents homosexuality as an "alternate life style."

It is a spirit of promiscuousness.

These are just a few of the evil spirits loose in the so-called civilized countries of North America which God revealed to me in my hotel room in India.

Victory

God made me know that when we realize, as servants of God and as the Church of Jesus Christ, that we are not dealing with men or ideologies, but with the unseen spirit world, we will have the greatest victory this world has ever seen in the Name of Jesus.

We are not in a natural conflict, we are in a spiritual conflict.

It cannot be solved by Washington, D.C.; Ottawa, Canada; or 10 Downing Street, Great Britain. It cannot be resolved by religious or political gimmicks, or by any natural means that man can contrive.

It can be met only by men and women who have power with God and by men and women who can prevail over the unseen forces of this world.

When you really absorb this revelation, you will have solid understanding beneath your feet for the power to march forward, knowing in Whom you have believed.

Your life will never be the same again.

You will know how to deal with the spirits of rebellion, confusion, frustration, turmoil, lust, promiscuousness, sin, dope, unconcern, selfishness, criticism, fear, anxiety and many thousands of others which have been loosed upon our world.

Because of this, many modern-day Christians are so confused that they no longer know the will of God. They do not know where to go, what to do, or where to turn. They do not know what decisions to make or in which direction to go.

Many denominations...even strong evangelicals...choose to take the easy road out. They choose either to ignore these conditions or to place them in the hands of the psychologists. They explain that the unusual power of the Holy Spirit present in the lives of the early Church ceased and therefore we no longer are required to deal from a standpoint of a supernatural demonstration of God's power.

The Apostle Paul knew nothing of that frustration and confusion when he confessed: "*And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God*" (*I Corinthians 2:4-5*)

He also declared: "...*I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day*" (*II Timothy 1:12*).

There was no confusion in his mind when he wrote: "*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.* (*Romans 8:35,37*).

All truth is parallel.

As *evil* is a spirit, *good* is also a spirit.

As *hate* is a spirit which has infiltrated and ruled the nations of this world, so *love* is a spirit.

As *frustration* and *confusion* are spirits, so is *steadfastness*.

Sickness is a spirit. It is a result of the curse. God never intended for man's eyes to become dim, his ears to become weak or even for him to lose his hair.

God intended for man to live forever. He never intended for man to die. Man was created in the image of God.

There are three things God never intended for man to ever possess:

1. Sin
2. Sickness
3. Death

The Bible says we are created in the image of God.... ' Through disobedience the spirit of sin came into the world and as a result of sin, the spirit of sickness and death.

Salvation is a spirit.

There are many pastors who will testify that they have preached a message that had nothing to do with salvation, but suddenly they would give an altar call and people would receive Christ as Savior. For three, four, or five weeks in a row people would be saved in the congregation. There seemed to be a spirit of salvation loosed upon the congregation!

There have been times in a church when there would be two or three services in a row with a special anointing for divine healing. The preacher did not bring it. He did not create it or even especially teach on it. It just seemed to come.

That is because healing is a spirit.

God is a Spirit!

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water as related in *John 4*, the woman asked Him a question. "Tell me this if You are a prophet," she said. "You say that we ought to worship God at the Temple in the city of Jerusalem. We Samaritans say that we should worship God in this mountain. Where do You say I am supposed to worship?"

Jesus had the answer. He declared:

"...the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (*John 4:23-24*).

God is not confined to a stained glass window, a robed choir, the stone architecture of a cathedral, or to any historic spot. He is not bound to our traditions, forms, formalities of worship.

God is not limited to:

1. Time.
2. Space.

That is why we can pray in North America and God can answer

prayer in India or Africa. There is no limit of time or space because God is a Spirit. He is everywhere present at the same time!

Man is also a spirit. Man is created in the image of God:

"...God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..." (*Genesis 1:26*).

This image of God, however, is not in the physical features of man. It is in the spirit. God gave him (man) a free moral will with the ability to rule his spirit...

The image of God is within us.

Because man was created in God's *spiritual* image, God gave him the right of choice the same as God has. God put him here with divine authority to rule the earth.

In this respect, men are like angels. God also created the angels with the right of choice. Satan, who formerly was one of the highest-ranking angels, exercised this choice to rebel against God. One-third of the angels exercised their choice to follow Satan and so were cast out of heaven with him.

Tragically, man used this spiritual image, this right of choice, to make a wrong choice, to disobey God!

God had told Adam, "*In the day that thou eatest thereof (of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil) thou shalt surely die*" (*Genesis 2:17*). When Adam disobeyed God and sinned, he opened the door for mankind to reap three things that God did not intend for man to possess...sin, sickness, and death.

Adam did not die *physically* on that very day, but he died spiritually. *I Corinthians 15:22* says that "in Adam all die." It also says that "in Christ shall all be made alive."^{*}

As in Adam mankind experienced spiritual death, Christ offers the opportunity to be reborn *spiritually*.

It is the spiritual part of man that is in God's image.

Man is not his physical body. The body returns to dust from whence it came. It is the *spirit*, God's image, that is the real you, that will live on through eternity.

That is why the poet could pen these words:

* Morris Cerullo's book entitled *Two Men* From Eden draws a graphic parallel between the "Two Adams," Adam and Jesus Christ. If you do not have this anointed book, order it today. Send any gift amount to Morris Cerullo World Evangelism, P.O. Box 85277, San Diego, CA 92186.

"Dust thou art to dust returneth was not spoken of the soul".

Man is spirit.

God is Spirit.

Satan also is spirit.

Ephesians 6:12 says:

"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."

To know this truth is to have located our enemy, to have pinpointed the crux of every conflict.

We are not in a natural battle in our problems, in our sicknesses, anxieties, fears, and frustrations.

We are in a spiritual warfare **in the spirit world**. This is the root cause of every problem, every battle, every fear, every frustration we ever have.

Often when I tell people that the problems they are having in their lives are the result of the spirits of Satan, their reaction usually is, "Brother Cerullo, are you going off the deep end, and saying that every problem is a demon, or the result of the activities of demons?"

If you walk by a pond and see a fowl with a beak, swimming on it, and the sound that fowl makes is "quack, quack, quack," common sense tells you that fowl is a duck.

You call it a duck because it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, acts like a duck and sounds like a duck.

When things come upon mankind today that look and act like demon power, that fulfill the scriptural description, we do not need to be afraid to call them exactly what they are!

Many people are afraid to identify the work of demon power because they do not have any idea how to deal with it. They do not know how to go in, press the battle against the enemy, and defeat him in the spirit world!

If we can rationalize, if we can use our psychology and sociology to call insanity, criminality and perversity an "emotional distress resulting from a maladjusted childhood," if we can use some other theory to explain and justify the problems which plague our generation, then it can be dealt with in the natural mind. This approach, however, will

never find a permanent cure because the problem is a *spirit* problem.

If we define the problem as it really is, a spiritual power (that of Satan) which has gotten into lives through the original entrance of sin into the nature of man that provides the ground for all these results of the disobedience of the first Adam, we can deal with it as a sinister spiritual power at the root cause, not the surface. We can go in with the supernatural power of God, the anointing of the Holy Spirit and defeat the enemy in the Name of Jesus.

The Church today is at a critical junction in history. A junction is where two roads cross. The road the Church follows is running into attack by the devil as never before. The road that crosses our road is the devil's power.

Because Satan knows that he has but a short season, the Church is facing a challenge of the devil's power it has never faced before.

However, I know beyond a shadow of a doubt how to meet that challenge.

God said: "*...upon this rock (Jesus) I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*" (*Matthew 16:18*).

We are not just in a holding war, the "hold the fort" kind that some churches sing about, hanging on by the skin of our teeth...

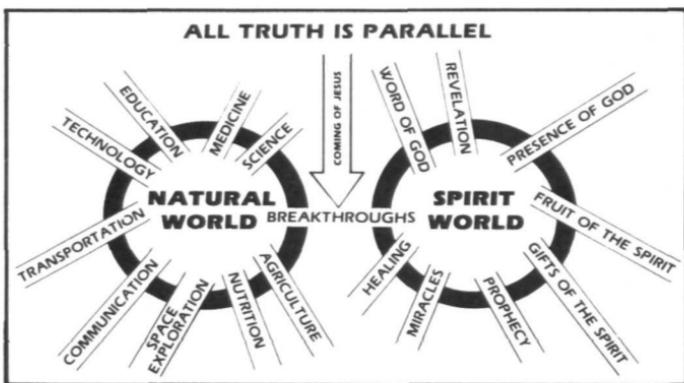
Ours is an aggressive war, an offensive strategy. We must take the initiative to invade Satan's own territory, carry the battle to his field, overcome him on every hand and come out of the battle with the spoils of victory held aloft in the hands of a triumphant Church—in the Name and power of Jesus Christ.

There is something that you possess in your life as a Christian of which the devil is deathly afraid. He is no match for it.

It is your *ultimate assurance of total victory*. As God opens to you the revelation of the New Anointing, you are going to have prayer victories such as you have never before experienced. You will experience victories in your life and see them in the lives of your loved ones as never before.

We know who the enemy is...and God has given us the tools of victory. By His power we will take the battleground for God.

Total victory is yours...



Morris Cerullo demonstrates the two worlds in which man lives...natural and spiritual. We are in a spiritual warfare in the spirit world.

As mankind is making tremendous breakthroughs in the natural world, the Church of Jesus Christ will make spiritual breakthroughs in the spirit world as we exercise these keys of defeating Satan.

For information on how you can attend a Morris Cerullo School of Ministry and be trained in spiritual warfare...write to:

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Questions on Chapter Five

1. What is the first rule of warfare?

2. The Church has made converts, not

3. Name three things that must be done to the Army of God for it to wage effective warfare?

4. What is the outlook of the world today concerning the future?

5. List at least three of the world's fears.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

6. What is behind the evil that is rampant in the world?

7. Check which of these are our real enemy:

communism other political ideologies
 wicked men satanic spiritual powers

8. Give Scripture to support above answer.

9. List ten spirits which are loose upon the world today.

10. What law should our legislators enact to overcome these evils?

11. Give Scripture to show that Paul had no spirit of confusion.

12. List the good spirits that are the opposite of these:

A. sickness _____

- B. evil _____
- C. hatred _____
- D. confusion _____
13. Jesus told the Samaritan woman that those who worship God should do so in what manner?

14. Why?

15. What three things did man reap from Adam's disobedience which God did not mean for man to possess?
A. _____
B. _____
C. _____
16. Why are many people afraid to identify demon power?

17. If wickedness is identified as illness, how is it dealt with?

18. How will this solve the problem?

19. Why is Satan's challenge to the Church especially fierce today?

20. What will bring about the downfall of the Church? *Give Scripture*

21. What do we possess as Christians for which Satan is no match?

Answers on Chapter Five

1. You must locate your enemy.
2. Disciples.
3. It must be trained. It must be equipped. It must be mobilized.
4. The world is afraid.
5. A. Not enough clean air. B. Polluted water. C. Famine.
6. Evil spirits.
7. Satanic spiritual powers.
8. *Ephesians 6:12.*
9. Rebellion, confusion, frustration, turmoil, lust, promiscuousness, sin, dope, unconcern, selfishness, criticism, fear, anxiety.
10. It cannot be resolved by legislation.
11. *II Timothy 1:12.*
12. A. healing. B. love. C. good. D. steadfast.
13. In spirit and in truth.
14. God is a Spirit.
15. Sin, sickness, death.
16. They do not know how to deal with it.
17. In the natural mind.
18. It will never find a permanent cure because the problem is a spirit problem.
19. Satan knows that he has but a short season.
20. Not invading Satan's territory—in the Name of Jesus Christ.
21. Our assurance of ultimate total victory.

NOTES:

Chapter Six

Satan's Origin and Motivation

As violent as the warfare between good and evil has been, and as long as it has been going on, it is not eternal.

God has no beginning of days nor ending. He is from everlasting to everlasting. That is not true of Satan. God is eternal. Satan is not.

God is the great **I am**...ever existent. Not only was He in the beginning, He *was* before the beginning. He made the beginning. He *is* the beginning, and He will continue to exist eternally without end!

Satan did have a beginning, and there will come a time when he will meet his just end. His beginning was as a heavenly being created by God, not as the bearded caricature we often see pictured by artists but as a glorious creature of much magnificence in the heavenlies. His name at that time was Lucifer, which literally means "light-bearer." Isaiah refers to him as Lucifer, son of the morning (*Isaiah 14:12*).

Ezekiel carries this description of Lucifer's former glory:

"Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold; the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou was created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee (Ezekiel 28:12-15).

Because of Lucifer's pride, self-exaltation and rebellion, he came under God's judgment and was cast out of heaven. These events also

were described by Ezekiel: "*By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness...*" (Ezekiel 28:16-17).



This event was also recorded by Isaiah who gave further details of Lucifer's transgression: "*How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the*

clouds; I will be like the most High (Isaiah 14:12-14).

Impressed with his own beauty and high rank as the "cherub that covereth," Lucifer became obsessed with the desire to usurp God's throne, take over heaven and himself become the object of worship.

He was severely judged by God for this rebellion with the assurance of far greater punishment to come. *However, Lucifer never lost his burning desire to be worshiped.* From that desire and Satan's hatred of God stems all the havoc which has taken its ugly toll in the lives of people down through the ages.

Lucifer (now known as "Satan," "the devil," "adversary," etc.), in seeking to achieve dominion in heaven, led a rebellion among the angels, recruiting vast numbers of them for his own purposes. This rebellion was put down by God and Satan was cast out of heaven.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Everyone has seen the caricatures which depict Satan with pointed ears and tail, dressed in a red suit, with a wicked gleam in his eye and a pitchfork in his hand.

"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" (Ephesians 6:12).

We confront not only Satan but the hordes of principalities and powers, spirits which come against us to seek our destruction to cause us to disobey God, His commandments and walk in the flesh and rob the Spirit.

Many people wrongfully suppose that when God cast Lucifer out of heaven, He gave Satan the world for his domain. That is not so, for we read in Genesis that God gave dominion of this earth to man who was His crowning creation.

In the six days of creation described in *Genesis 1 and 2*, God brought forth a perfect creation on this earth through His creative Word.

On the first day, He said, "Let there be light" and there was light. On the second day, He made the firmaments of the heavens.

The third day, God said: "...Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so (*Genesis 1:9*).

When God looked over what His Word had performed to that point,

we read: "...God saw that it was good" (*Genesis 1:10*).

God continued with further work on that third day, and it was again noted that "it was good" (*verse 12*).

On the fourth day when God created the luminaries (sun, moon, and stars) and on the fifth day when He created the fowls of the air, fish of the sea and the beast and cattle of this earth, each time it is noted: "...God saw that it was good" (*Verses 18,21*).

Then came the creation of man. "*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness... So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them*" (*Genesis 1:26-27*).

This act took place on the sixth day. When God looked back over what he had done on that particular day, it was not just "good" as other days had been, but we read that: "...behold it was very good" (*Genesis 1:31*).

The creation of the sixth day was viewed with a great deal more satisfaction than the preceding five days had been, not just because of the creation of man, but because God announced His great plan for blessing mankind.

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so. And God saw every thing that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day" (*Genesis 1:26-31*).

Besides man himself, God included something else very important in that day's satisfactory creation. He included His *plan for man*.

God blessed man. *That* was part of His plan.

He told man to be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth. *That was part of His plan.*

God gave man dominion over everything He had made on earth—over the fish of the sea, the fowl of the air, over every living thing that moved on the earth. He also gave him the bounty of the plentiful food supply brought forth by the vegetation.

God gave man *dominion*. That was His plan for man.

This dominion is a very integral, very vital, part of that day's creation and is the very crux of the study we have undertaken on spiritual warfare.

God gave man dominion.

This creation over which God gave man dominion is more fully described in Chapter Two of Genesis which describes the Garden of Eden which God planted and gave to man as his natural habitat.

You can see how this chapter repudiates the theory held by many Christians that when God cast Satan out of heaven, He sent Satan down to earth and made him the prince or god of this world.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

God gave **man** dominion over this world and everything that is in it. He gave into Adam's hands the keys of dominion of this earth.

One has only to read today's headlines, listen to the heartaches of people, or just see the condition of people on the streets to know that this is not the situation as it exists today.

It is easy to see that, instead of *having* dominion, man is *under* dominion.

You can see from the open wickedness of the land, from the cruel tragedies which are a daily occurrence, that man is not in control. He is under bondage, in slavery to forces outside himself.

You can see from people's lives and from hearing their heartaches that Satan has taken the dominion away from man and is usurping the great blessings that God intended for man to have.

Why? What has happened? Why isn't man using the keys of dominion he was given?

Because *he gave them away*.

Adam took the keys of dominion that God gave to him and he handed them over to Satan.

Along with the blessings that God gave man in the Garden of Eden,

along with the duty of dressing and keeping the garden, along with dominion over every living thing, God gave man one more very important thing. He gave him *responsibility*.

"And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:9, 16-17).

In Chapter Four, we discussed the fact that when God made man in His own image, this was not a physical image but this likeness of God is in man's spirit. This image included the right of a free will, the right of choice.

This right of choice was given to the angels also, for it was Lucifer's choice to exalt his throne as the throne of God.

Man was given a free will, the right of choice, but he also was given the responsibility to exercise that choice in obedience to God's revealed will. The simple test that God set for that obedience was to forbid Adam and Eve to eat of one tree out of all the trees He had provided, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

This brings us to the setting for the most cataclysmic event ever to take place on the face of this earth.

Adam and Eve, created in innocence and perfection with no sin in their spirits, no sickness in their bodies, were placed in a beautiful garden paradise with all its lovely creations at their fingertips...and they had dominion.

Into this idyllic scene came Lucifer, now become Satan, the adversary. Homeless, stripped of the splendor and prestige he once knew, Satan was in a rage at God. He wanted revenge. He wanted to strike back.

How could he do it? God is invulnerable. He is invincible. There was no way Satan could strike directly at Him.

As Satan saw the sweet communion between God and man, the love God had for man, Satan formulated his diabolical plan.

Having failed to gain dominion in heaven from God, he would take dominion on earth from man. In so doing, he not only would have the worship and adoration he always wanted, he would get back at God by striking at man, the apple of God's eye, His crowning creation.

"For thus saith the LORD of hosts...he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye" (Zechariah 2:8).

Everyone has seen the caricatures which depict Satan with pointed ears and tail, dressed in a red suit, with a wicked gleam in his eye and a pitchfork in his hand.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

In the first place, Satan is a spirit, although he can manifest himself in other forms. Secondly, he does not usually advertise his wickedness. Most often he comes in disguise as an angel of light.

"...Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (II Corinthians 11:14).

To make his entrance into the Garden of Eden for his attack upon God's perfect creation, Satan chose to come in the person of the serpent, not only the most subtle, most cunning of all the creatures but one of the most beautiful. The serpent at that time was not a snake as we know it today, crawling in the dust, but an upright creation that glittered with beauty.

He came in beauty, and he came as an angel of light, to set Adam and Eve "straight" about what God had told them:

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:1-5).

There have been many cartoons and advertisements which depict a lighthearted Eve biting into an apple. The episode of her disobedience to God has been made to look like a "fun" thing. Even more serious-minded individuals and many ministers of God often fail to see the agonizing destruction to mankind inherent in this one seemingly simple act.

We read:

"And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and

that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat" (Genesis 3:6).

Let me stress to you the importance of what transpired here. This was more than a man and a woman eating a piece of fruit out of curiosity or to satisfy their appetites.

This is one of the most chilling acts that ever took place: Here was a man, Adam, holding the keys of dominion of this world as given to him by God, and in willful disobedience to God's revealed will, in willful obedience to the influence of Satan, he ate of the fruit which God had forbidden to him.

In doing so, man handed to Satan, God's arch enemy, the keys to the dominion of the world. He bowed to Satan. He gave into Satan's hands what God had put in the hands of man.

With this one act of disobedience, Adam abdicated as the ruler of this world and helped Satan onto the throne of dominion. What Satan had failed to accomplish in heaven with the help of rebellious angels, he accomplished in one fell swoop upon earth with the willful cooperation of man.

That is why Satan is described as "god of this world" in *II Corinthians 4:4*, "*In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."*"

The coup which gave Satan dominion over fallen mankind opened the door in God's perfect creation for imperfection.

It not only marked the entrance of sin into this world, but it paved the way for the entrance of two other great evils God never intended for man to have: sickness and death.

This one act of disobedience on man's part and the transfer of the keys of dominion from man to Satan is what set in motion the great spiritual warfare which exists to this very day and is the root and basis for all the sin, sorrow and sickness in the world.

Every battle man has ever had or will ever have is because of this fact. That is why it is so important for us to know how to deal with it as we face the battles of this life and reclaim the dominion God meant for man to have.

Questions on Chapter Six

1. When did God begin?

2. What was Satan's beginning?

3. What was Satan's name when he was in heaven?

4. What did his name mean?

5. Give a Scripture reference that describes Satan's former glory.

6. What prompted Satan's rebellion?

7. Who else was involved in that rebellion?

GIVE SCRIPTURAL EVIDENCE

8. What was it that Satan desired and still desires?

9. What was his judgment?

GIVE SCRIPTURAL EVIDENCE

10. How did God evaluate His work of creation before He made man?

11. How did God evaluate His work of creation after He made man?

12. Name three points of God's plan for man given in *Genesis 1*.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

13. Why did God make Satan ruler over the earth?

14. Who had the keys of dominion?

15. What Happened to them?

16. Why did Satan attack man?

17. What vehicle did he choose for his initial assault on man?

18. Adam's failure opened the door for the entrance into the world for three things God never intended for man to have. What were they?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

19. What is the purpose in our spiritual warfare?

Answers on Chapter Six

1. God had no beginning. He always was, always is and always will be.
2. He was a heavenly being created by God.
3. Lucifer.
4. Light-bearer.
5. *Ezekiel 28:12-15.*
6. Pride.
7. One-third of the angels (*Revelation 12:4*).
8. To be worshiped.
9. Cast out of heaven (*Revelation 12:9*).
10. He saw that it was good.
11. He saw that it was very good.
12. Man to be blessed, man to be fruitful and multiply, man to have all dominion over earth.
13. God did not make Satan rule over earth.
14. Adam (man).
15. Adam gave them to Satan.
16. To get at God.
17. Serpent.
18. Sin, sickness, death.
19. To reclaim the dominion God gave man.



SATAN ACCUSES GOD'S WORD



SATAN ACCUSES GOD'S PEOPLE →



TERRY
WILLIAMS

Satan has access to God's Presence where he accuses God, accuses God's Word and accuses God's people...to constantly try to discredit God.

Chapter Seven

Satan's Domain and Sphere of Activity

If God did not cast Satan down to have dominion over this earth, where did he cast him and where is his seat of authority?

The book of Job gives a remarkable picture of the wide sphere of activity which Satan enjoys.

"Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it" (Job 1:6-7).

It is immediately apparent that Satan has access both to God's Presence and to the whole range of the earth. Though his activities differ in those two places, his aim is always the same: *Attack!*

What he does before God's Presence is to accuse God, to accuse God's Word and to accuse God's people.

"...which accused them before our God day and night" (Revelation 12:10).

That is what he was doing to Job at the instance quoted above and which we will explore more fully in the following chapter.

Now...what is Satan doing on earth? He is creating the situations that enable him to accuse God by tempting, harassing, tormenting, and attacking man in any way he can.

Peter tells us that Satan's travels up and down this world are those of a roaring lion.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (I Peter

5:8).

Paul tells us he exercises great cunning: "...*Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light*" (*II Corinthians 11:14*). The motivation is still the same.

From this picture we get of Satan's widespread evil activities, it would be easy to draw the conclusion that, like God, Satan is omnipresent.

This is not so. To know and understand that fact will help us to understand how much greater God is than Satan and how much greater our power against him.

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (*I John 4:4*).

We have already seen that Satan is not eternal and now we see that he is not present everywhere at once.

How can we then explain the wide scope of evil which is experienced in all the world at the same time?

It is because Satan has a large following of fallen angels or demon spirits to help him carry out his activities.

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (*Ephesians 6:12*).

This scripture clearly shows a multiplicity of evil beings, principalities, powers and rulers all being plural words.

A principality is the state and authority of a prince. Therefore it is apparent that Satan has set up governments and divisions of territory among various rulers.

If there are rulers, there must also be those who are ruled, and so it is difficult to even estimate how many evil beings Satan has in his service.

A faint insight is given in the story of the madman of Gadara whom Jesus delivered from demon possession (*Mark 5:1-5, Luke 8:26-35*).

When Jesus asked the madman his name, he said it was Legion, because many devils had entered into him (**Luke 8:30**).

Legion is a military term. At the time of this Scripture the term was used by the Roman military to designate a military unit of 3,000 to 6,000 trained and armed men.

Use of the term here would indicate not only a large number of

demons, but that they were in military ranks of varying authority.

We do not know exactly how many demons possessed the man of Gadara, but certainly enough to possess an entire herd of 2,000 swine and cause them to violently destroy themselves (*Mark 5:13*).

Despite the number and strength of Satan's legions, however, we need not fear the outcome of the battle.

"...his tail (the dragon's) drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth..." (Revelation 12:4).

From *Revelation 12:4* and ensuing verses we get the figure that Satan took a third of heaven's angels with him when he rebelled. That means two-thirds remained faithful to God—twice as many as Satan has.

There are other great pluses to these figures: God is omnipresent and since He is Creator, He could easily create all the angels needed for any service...even without angels, God Himself is Almighty and just His Word is able to meet every need.

Though this study is not the study of good angels, let us mention briefly their use by God.

When Jesus underwent His temptation at the hands of Satan which we will cover in Chapter 10, immediately afterward we read:

"Then the devil leaveth Him and, behold, angels came and ministered unto Him" (Matthew 4:12).

God's promise to Him, even as Satan knew and quoted *Matthew 4:6* was that angels would protect Him.

"...He shall give His angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands [they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone."

Likewise the angels of God minister to us and protect us:

"The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them" (Psalm 34:7). y "And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire" (Hebrews 1:7).

God administers His angels from heaven where His throne is above all.

Satan's hordes are described as the "*rulers of the darkness of this world*" (*Ephesians 6:12*).

This term as well as description in the book of Revelation reveals that his headquarters are in the depths of the earth.

Revelation 9:1 tells of the star that fell from heaven to earth and was given the key of the bottomless pit. From this pit, he let forth unspeakable creatures during the tribulation period to torment men.

Revelation 9:11 says:

"And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon."

Also, *Revelation 11:7b* tells us that the beast as the Antichrist will come out of the bottomless pit. *"And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them."*

It seems certain, therefore, that in the darkness of the earth's depths is where the throne room of Satan is located.

Some have held that his throne is in the "heavenlies"—not God's place of abode, heaven, but earth's atmosphere. They use as their authority for this the Scripture that speaks of "*spiritual wickedness in high places.*"

Without a doubt Satan is operating in a lively way in the atmosphere as well as in the "high places" of men's affairs—governmental, religious, financial, etc. However, it is safe to assume that his throne is in the depths of darkness.

As he, Satan, engaged in spiritual warfare to God's heaven and as he brought it against man's domain, there came a time when One arose Who thundered in victory into the very stronghold of Satan's empire to claim the souls of the righteous dead from their place of rest and transport them to the Presence of God.

"... When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive..." (Ephesians 4:8).

As He did so, He left His footprint on Satan's face as a seal and promise that one day He will bring the wicked one under complete dominion and wipe out his influence forever.

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15).

"From henceforth expecting till His enemies be made his

footstool" (Hebrews 10:13).

That time has not yet come, however, and so Satan's evil workings continue in the affairs of men and nations today.

How he operates even in the lives of righteous people is an area of great misunderstanding which we will address in the following chapter.

Questions on Chapter Seven

1. Give a Scripture which shows Satan continued to have access to God's Presence after he was cast out of heaven.

2. In that Scripture, where did Satan tell God he had been?

3. What does Satan do in the Presence of God that is explained to us in Revelation?

4. In what manner does Satan go to and fro in the land according to Peter?

GIVE TEXT

5. What other way does Ephesians say Satan manifests himself?

6. Is Satan omnipresent?

7. How can we explain his wide scope of evil activities?

8. Give a scriptural example that shows a multiplicity of evil beings.

9. What else is shown about Satan's ranks by this Scripture?

10. How many evil spirits are under Satan's command?

GIVE TEXT

11. What military term was used by the demons in the madman of Gadara?

12. What did the term represent to Rome?

13. How many swine did the legion of spirits destroy?

14. Give three Scriptures dealing with the ministry of good angels. *Write them out.*

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

15. Where is Satan's headquarters?

GIVE REFERENCES

16. Where is his main sphere of activity?

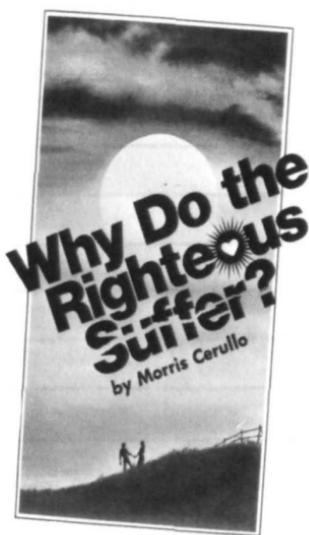
17. How long will that activity continue?

Answers on Chapter Seven

1. *Job 1:6-7.*
2. To and fro in the earth.
3. Accuses the brethren.
4. As a roaring lion (*I Peter 5:8*).
5. As an angel of light (*II Corinthians 11:14*).
6. No.
7. Evil spirits or demons who obey Him.
8. Madman of Gadara (*Luke 8:30*).
9. They are organized in ranks.
10. No one knows. One third of the angels (*Revelation 12:4*).
11. Legion.
12. A force of 3,000 to 6,000 soldiers.
13. About 2,000 (*Mark 5:13*).
14. *Matthew 4:11, Matthew 4:6, Psalm 34:7, Hebrews 1:7.*
15. In the depths of the earth (*Revelation 9:11 and 11:7*).
16. Earth's atmosphere.
17. Until everything is set under Jesus' feet (*Hebrews 10:13*).

NOTES:

"And God wrought special miracles by
the hands of Paul:
So that from his body were brought
unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons,
and the diseases departed from them.
and the evil spirits went out of them."
Acts 19:11,12



Why Do the Righteous Suffer? is perhaps the most perplexing question that any Christian ever has to face...my book by that title answers that question which must be part of our spiritual strategy.

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The Bible says,

"If two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in

heaven"(Matthew 18:19).

As you receive this anointed prayer cloth that I have personally prayed over, receive God's blessings for any needs you may have...physical, financial, family problems. Remember there is no distance with God in prayer...as we agree together.

You will find it works!

Chapter Eight

Satan's Claim on the Righteous

One of the most important questions with which we deal in conducting effective spiritual warfare is this:

*Why do the righteous suffer?

This question is not why sinners suffer, why the ungodly suffer, but why...when men and women are living for God with all of their hearts and are doing everything they know to please God...why do they suffer from sickness, from accidents, from lost loved ones, from their children getting involved in drugs, from financial failures, from all kinds of tragedies and afflictions?

"Why" is perhaps the most perplexing question that any Christian ever has to face in his entire spiritual life.

My mail every week is full of "why" letters. People write for prayer; they want help, and they are seeking answers.

"Reverend Cerullo, I've lived for God all of my life. I've raised my children in the church and taught them about God, but look at them. They have run away from home and become hippies. They're into drugs. They're in jail. They're alcoholics. Brother Cerullo, why?"

"Reverend Cerullo, I'm serving God with all my heart. I pay my tithes, but I keep having unforeseen expenses. I just can't seem to get ahead. I am always in a financial bind. Why?" "I have been prayed for over and over, Brother Cerullo. I see people all around me getting healed, but I don't get my healing. Why? What is wrong with me?"

"Brother Cerullo, I tried to keep my family in church. We read the Bible and prayed together. But now my wife (or husband) has run off with someone else and left me to raise our little children alone. Why did

* See Morris Cerullo's complete book on this subject: *Why Do the Righteous Suffer?*, Copyright 1978, World Evangelism.

this happen to me?"

These are just a few of the types of questions that continually pour into my office from the hearts of troubled people.

Let me share with you a heart-rending letter received from an elderly lady.

A Letter of Tears...

Reverend Cerullo,

I believe in the power of prayer. But in 73 years I have suffered so much, to a point where I had not a bed to sleep in or a hole to call home. Reverend Cerullo, I'm alone, though I have three children. I have not seen two of them for 20 years. One I see, but his wife holds him around her wrist. I only saw him one year ago at a funeral, but it was not a mother and son meeting.

I never did drink or smoke or ever do anything to hurt myself or to make the Lord angry at me. But I cannot suffer anymore. I am too old to go on. But your *Deeper Life* seems to say there is hope. I love the Lord; why do I suffer so? I love my children very much. I would die for them.

My body is broken, tired from trying to work a bit for the roof over my head. I've asked the Lord to help me 100 times a day, a prayer from my inner being. Why do I suffer? Why do my dear children forget me? Thank you for reading my *letter of tears*.

Yours in Spirit,

Mrs. C.C.

There is no age or generation gap in suffering. This lady from a Florida city is only 21 years old, yet listen to her letter:

Reverend Cerullo,

My prayer request is I am lonely, pray that I may find a husband. I have very bad bones in both of my legs. It takes four operations to correct it. My muscles are very weak so that I sometimes tremble when I walk. I tried exercise, but nothing happened. I have been mistreated ever since I was 12 years old

by my teacher and the children in my school. I also was operated on when I was 12. They made my leg look unstraight and everybody picks at me. I guess that is why I am so lonely, I quit school when I was 16 years old because I couldn't stand it any longer.

Now I am 21 years old and nothing has changed. I am lonesome, unhappy, still being picked at and my legs are getting worse. I don't know how much more I can take. I am at the end of my rope.

Reverend Cerullo, I hope I am not taking up too much of your time, but I had to talk to someone and I feel that it should be you. I read your paper and I believe in you and pray. I pray a lot but my prayers don't seem to help. I tried to kill myself once. My mother won't ever listen to me. I can't eat at times. I lose weight and the doctors seem as if they can't help me. I took vitamins but they didn't help.

The only place I go is to church and I sing in the choir. I am not a bad person and don't do evil things. That's why I can't understand why I am suffering so long. I don't do anything. I can't stand it anymore. I would rather die than suffer any longer. Please, please help me. Pray for me also. I am nervous too, that is why my writing is bad. Oh please, pray and help me.

Yours in God's Name,

H.G.

A man wrote:

I'm tired of living in poverty. Why can't I get a financial miracle, funds for a home, furniture, a car? Why can't I get a healing for my leg? In due time? When? Twenty-five months in a cast, can't work. I'm just helpless.

God can. Did He forsake me? Did He leave me out? Am I not a child of God? Sinners get blessed financially, healing, prosperity. Where do I stand? Doesn't God hear my petition?

My files are full of such desperate pleas—or more so, yet not all the questions come in letters to this office. Such questions are everywhere, in the church as well as in the home.

It is easy to understand why the *unrighteous* suffer, why the alcoholic's home breaks up, why the drug addict gets put in jail or why the sexually promiscuous ends in the hospital. They have broken laws, many times both the laws of man and the laws of God. Both earthly and spiritual laws carry penalties if they are broken.

When Saul of Tarsus (who became Paul the Apostle) was on the road to Damascus to further persecute the Christians of that day, the Lord overtook him in a dramatic vision and visitation. One of the things Jesus said to him was: "...it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks" (*Acts 9:5*).

Proverbs 13:15 tells us:

"...the way of transgressors is hard."

The Living Bible says:

"The rebel walks a thorny, treacherous road..." (*Proverbs 22:5*).

But what about the man or woman who is not kicking against the pricks and yet is suffering untold agony of heart and mind? What about the *non-transgressor* who finds himself helpless on a bed of affliction? What about the *non-rebel* who finds his pathway full of thorny problems?

Is there an answer? If so, *what* is the answer?

God's relationship with man always has been a relationship of love and complete caring. His intention for man was total health, total provision, total happiness, total prosperity, total well-being in all things...salvation, "to be made a totally whole person."

The sin, sickness, death, sorrow, pain, war and hurt that is in the world today did not come out of God's relationship with man. No unhappiness or sorrow springs from the blessing of God's relationship with man.

Every unhappiness, every sorrow that has ever come upon this world or upon mankind was caused by man's disobedience to God. Man's relationship to God is that *man is under the curse of his own disobedience to God*.

However, sin and disobedience did not bring a change in God's vital relationship to man.

That relationship had been one of love, caring, provision. It is still the same relationship of love today.

If God's relationship to man is one of love, and if our relationship to

God is one of obedience and trust, yet trials, tests, pain, suffering and tragedy come into our lives...then we must look behind the scenes for a hidden reason, something we are not able to see with our natural eye.

The Bible account of the multifaceted trials of Job not only gives a dramatic answer to our questions, but furnishes us with a parallel that makes that answer relevant to the ordeals we go through in our own lives.

Job is the perfect example of why the righteous suffer. A look at him as our parallel of truth will unlock one of the greatest mysteries of the world to us.

In the first place, Job was no ordinary man. He was a highly honored individual. He had wealth, prosperity, many possessions, a fine family.

The biggest item on the credit ledger of Job's life was that he was a godly man. He feared the Lord.

"And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?" (Job 1:8).

Job was not perfect in the sense of being sinless, but in the sense that he was whole, that he was perfect before God. He was an extraordinary individual and the trials in his life were absolutely extraordinary as well.

He was tried through the circumstances of his own life...the circumstances peculiarly his, the trials peculiarly his.

Every trial that you and I have is the same. Everyone's is. **We are tried through the circumstances of our lives.**

Behind every circumstance of our lives, every situation, every trial, there is a definite, meaningful reason. Often we are not able to see that reason or comprehend it through our natural senses.

Man is not just a simple, single-cell being. He is a highly complex creature. He is a unique three-dimensional being made up of body, soul and spirit.

Man does not live in one world at a time; he lives simultaneously in two worlds.

He lives in a *natural world*...a materialistic, human, flesh, bones and blood world. It is very real.

Man also lives in a *spirit* or *spiritual* world. This is just as real...in a sense, more so...than the natural world.

Job's trials in the circumstances of his life took place in *both of his worlds*.

He was tried in the *natural* world, in his physical body, in the material realm, but his greatest test was his trial in the *spiritual* world, the world of his faith.

Job lost his wealth. He lost his property. He lost his children. He lost his physical health. He even lost the help and the sympathy of an understanding wife.

Job's trials came so fast and furiously that they arrived one on top of the other. Before he could recover from one blow, another was delivered. While one messenger would be giving him a report of some loss, another would arrive with the story of an even greater loss. It was staggering. In the natural, the events would have been completely shattering.

But in the midst of it all, there was one thing that Job never lost. He never lost his faith in God!

"In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly" (Job 1:22).

Job knew that this life consists of more than what we see or what we possess. He had confidence in God. He knew God well enough that he was willing to place this seen life, these natural circumstances, completely in the hands of his heavenly Father.

Job knew that even if *his* eye never saw the truth, that *God's* eye did.

"I cannot see God," he confessed at one point. "I cannot feel Him, but it is all right, because:

"...he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10).

Job was a waymaker for us. At the time, he did not see the reasons behind his harassment by Satan, but it has pleased God to lift the veil through the scriptures and let us see what was going on in the heavenlies behind the scenes in the trials of this righteous man.

Job was having his battles in the natural, but it was really a spiritual battle. What was going on behind the scenes was a direct confrontation between God and Satan, with Job as the battleground.

It is very important for us to understand that *God did not send Job's trials or Job's sufferings.*

God does not send afflictions upon the righteous because He cannot go contrary to His Word or His will. He has said:

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

God did not send Job's afflictions. There was a spiritual reason behind what people were able to see on the surface.

Yes, God permitted these afflictions...for a reason. Permissively, God delivered Job into the hands of Satan.

Completely unknown to Job, God was holding him up before Satan as an example of a good and just man.

"And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considering my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?" (Job 1:8).

God loved Job. It was His plan and His desire to bless Job, to keep him, to prosper him.

However, in order to prove what was in Job's heart, God *permitted* trials, tests and reverses to come into Job's life at the hand of Satan.

God permitted Satan to test Job in the circumstances of his life, certain that Job would pass the test!

In the first two chapters of Job, read all the adverse conditions and circumstances that had come into Job's life. Yet in every one of them, it was Satan who brought the problem, the sickness, the pain, the suffering, not God.

Behind every earthly trial there is a spiritual reason that man can never see with the natural eye. It takes the revelation of God to tear the veil away so that we can see the real root, the real cause, the real answer.

Even *without seeing* the battle in the heavenlies, Job had the key to victory...his faith in God.

When Job won the battle, it was not so important what the results were in the natural world, but *it was important that he won his victory in the spirit world.*

When he did, then the circumstances of his natural world were tremendously blessed. Everything fell into place.

Being *able to see by the spirit* what is behind our trials is the key to our victory in every situation and circumstance.

Having thus located the real enemy, we can rise up in all the spiritual

firepower God has provided for us and tear the victories that belong to God right out of the very hands of Satan.

Questions on Chapter Eight

1. What is one of the most perplexing questions Christians ever face?

2. List at least four areas in which the righteous sometimes suffer.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

3. Give two Scriptures that explain why the unrighteous suffer.

A. _____

B. _____

4. What is unsaved man's relationship to God?

5. Name three attributes of God's relationship to man.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

6. Who is the classic example of why the righteous suffer?

7. What was the biggest item on the credit ledger of Job's life?

8. In what two worlds does man live?

A. _____

B. _____

9. In which of these worlds do our trials really take place?

10. Why did God send suffering on Job?

Explain answer.

11. In what did God permit Satan to test Job?

12. What was the key to Job's victory?

13. In what world did he win that victory?

14. When he won, what happened to his circumstances in the natural world?

Answers on Chapter Eight

1. Why do the righteous suffer?
2. Sickness, accidents, lost loved ones, financial failures.
3. *Acts 9:5; Proverbs 13:15.*
4. Man is under the curse of his own disobedience to God.
5. Love, caring, provision.
6. Job.
7. He was a godly man.
8. Natural, spiritual.
9. Spiritual.
10. God did not send the suffering on Job. He *allowed* Satan to send the suffering in order to prove Job.
11. In the circumstances of his life.
12. His faith in God.
13. The spirit world.
14. They fell into place.



Satan is at work among the nations today, stirring hatreds and passions. His special hatred for Israel is still clearly discernible...

Chapter Nine

Satan in the Affairs of Nations

It is important and necessary to impress upon the spiritual warrior the very personal nature of spiritual warfare, Satan's hatred for every single soul on earth.

It is also important to know that it is this same Satan who is behind the struggle between ideologies and nations today.

It has always been that way as he has sought to influence nations and leaders down through the ages.

Nowhere is Satan's hand more clearly seen than in the affairs of the nation of Israel, not only because of God's unique blessing on the Jew but because this nation is the vehicle used to bring forth Jesus Who will finally conquer Satan completely.

Satan also is at work among nations today, stirring hatreds and passions. His special hatred for Israel still is clearly discernible.

Satan's hatred for Israel has been aimed at the nation as a whole, and also aimed at the messianic line through which God prophesied the Messiah would come.

When Adam and Eve sinned, they received judgment and punishment from God as did Satan himself.

Satan's punishment carried Adam's forgiveness (and all mankind's) with the first promise of the Deliverer to come:

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15).

Scarcely had God's judgment been pronounced upon man, woman, Satan, serpent and earth as a result of the first sin before Satan was at work in the affairs of the first family once again.

With the lesson of Eden strong upon him, Adam without a doubt instilled in his sons a knowledge of God and His requirements. Yet look at what happened in the worship of these two men:

"...Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door" (Genesis 4:2-7).

Misunderstanding could not be the plea, for God clearly gave Cain another opportunity to do right. Nor can "thoughtlessness" or "convenience" be the excuse.

The reason behind Cain's disobedience is revealed in its true light by the Holy Spirit in the New Testament:

"Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother..." (I John 3:12).

He was going through the motions of a form of worship to God—but he was really a servant of Satan.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Romans 6:16).

Others of the human race who came along after Cain entered into more open forms of Satan worship, embracing activities actually involving demon personalities.

God's first commandment was that He alone was to be worshiped, but men continued to follow wickedness and God found it necessary to stress laws prohibiting Satan worship.

The reality of the existence of evil spirits by which Satan, their prince, carries out his evil work is clearly attested to by the witness of Moses. In the law of Moses, which he wrote from the words which Jehovah God spoke to him on Mount Sinai, there is a clear definition of the activity of demons in human life. God calls this involvement "an abomination"; which is a sin of the lowest degree.

"When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times [astrologer], or an enchanter [psychic medium], or witch. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God" (Deuteronomy 18:9-13).

God commanded that anyone who was polluted with these spirits of abomination should receive the death penalty.

Christ took the death penalty for these as well as any other sins on the cross. If a person dealing with these things today will repent, God will forgive this sin and the person will be saved. Christ has paid the penalty for all sin for all those who believe in Him.

The words of Moses prove the existence of evil spirits, their activity of influence and deception among men, their ability to communicate with and control human beings, and God's absolute hatred of these things.

Would God give us laws to warn us against dangers which are imaginary, as some people say evil spirits are? Would God command the death penalty for dealing with "imaginary" forces?

When Moses and Joshua led the children of Israel, they strictly enforced the strong measures decreed by God against the activity of wicked spirits. Violators were put to death.

After the deaths of Moses and Joshua, much of Israel fell into darkness brought about by the working of evil spirits as the leaders of the people yielded to temptation.

They began to commit the sins of idolatry, witchcraft and other sins of the people around them.

The finger of Satan at work in the affairs of Israel can be traced throughout the Old Testament.

A prime example is to be found in the book of Numbers.

God had mightily blessed Israel, so much so that His sign was unmistakably upon them before all the nations. They were so blessed in fact that the other nations feared them.

To offset this fear, Balak, the king of Moab, sent for Balaam to come and curse the children of Israel.

"He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam...saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt: behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me: Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me..." (Numbers 22:5-6).

Though he was offered riches and prestige, Balaam over and over declared that he was powerless to curse those whom God had blessed.

"And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do less or more" (Numbers 22:18).

A very real truth is contained in this: No one can put a curse where God has placed blessing. However, man still has the power of choice. When he chooses to leave the place of God's blessing, he makes himself completely vulnerable to Satan.

Though Balaam could not open his mouth and pronounce an effective curse on Israel, he did show Balak how to draw Israel away from the place of blessing by getting them to disobey God.

What he did is revealed in the book of Revelation:

"But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication" (Revelation 2:14).

By causing Israel to disobey God, Balaam in effect caused them to bring a curse upon themselves.

There is a story in the Old Testament of a man who was singularly blessed by God who turned from God to the extent of actively seeking Satan's power.

That man is King Saul who had been chosen the first king of Israel. We can read this story in *I Samuel*.

There was a time Saul was anointed by God:

"And the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those tidings. . ." (I Samuel 11:6).

By presumption and rebellion against God, Saul later became prey for demonic spirits.

"But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him" (I Samuel 16:14).

When Saul persisted in his rebellious ways, he lost contact with heaven completely. Though one of his acts as king had been to outlaw witches (*I Samuel 28:9*), he sought out a witch for help.

"And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets" (I Samuel 28:6).

"Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor" (I Samuel 28:7).

Saul's path led continually downward and he died a suicide on the field of military defeat.

This is a great parallel to what is going on in spiritual realms today.

A great hunger in the hearts of people for the supernatural is causing many who have no spiritual relation to God to turn to the occult.

Though David was described as a man after God's own heart (*Acts 13:22*), he had lapses in which he yielded to Satan's influence. The best known occasion is his adultery with Bathsheba and the murder of her husband (*II Samuel 11*).

On another occasion, it is recorded: *"And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel" (I Chronicles 21:1).*

Upon each failure, however, David repented and found forgiveness and cleansing from God. (See *Psalm 51*)

In *I Kings 24*, we have God permitting an evil spirit to operate as a lying spirit in the mouths of King Ahab's prophets to lead the wicked king to his death on the battlefield.

This story strongly points out that despite the extent of satanic activity, God is always in ultimate control and will bring His own purposes to pass despite anything Satan can devise.

That is why the nation of Israel has been so miraculously preserved. Nothing else but the concerted efforts of Satan can account for the terrible hatred for and attacks upon Jews down through the years.

During the time of Queen Esther, Satan worked through the hatred of Haman to cause King Ahasuerus to enact a law that would have wiped

out the Jews.

"And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day..." (Esther 3:13).

It was a time of great trial and perplexity, yet the godly Mordecai, Queen Esther's cousin, never lost sight of the fact that God would protect the race.

He beseeched Esther to intervene for her people at the risk of her life. When she demurred, Mordecai asked her, "Who knows whether you are come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

But, he assured her:

"...If thou altogether boldest thy peace at this time, then shall there be enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place..." (Esther 4:14).

It was a time of great spiritual warfare. Esther called a fast and God moved miraculously to preserve the nation.

The Jew remains a hated target of Satan. Though the Messiah already has come, the Jew plays such a prominent part in last-day prophecy that he is still a prime target for Satan-inspired forces.

Only Satan could have moved through Adolph Hitler to produce the kind of madness that caused him to try to annihilate the entire Jewish population of the world.

With six million Jews consigned to the ovens of the Nazis, no one on the face of the earth would have given much chance for the nation of Israel at the end of the second World War. Yet God not only preserved a remnant, He moved in such a mighty way that within a few short years they reclaimed their historic land and established a new nation which figuratively shook its fist in the face of a disbelieving world.

The battle that is still going on against Israel today, the hatred by the Arabs, the prejudice of other nations, is inspired by Satan. Satan knows that this is still a chosen people with a unique place in God's endtime plan.

Yet God has never deserted the Jews, and He never will. As He preserved them in the time of Esther and in the time of Hitler, so He will continue His watchful care. In fact, God will use that very hatred to draw Israel's enemies to the great battle described in the 38th chapter of Ezekiel in much the same way that the lying spirit brought about the

defeat of Ahab as discussed in this chapter. Surely God "*maketh even the wrath of man to praise Him*" (*Psalm* 76.10).

Another way in which God's watchfulness and care for Israel is clearly seen is this: In every other case where there has been little or no intermarriage with other races, that race has diminished or died out completely. The Eskimo is such a case.

Yet Israel has retained its purity as a race and continues to propagate and prosper in a miraculous manner.

As the prophecies concerning the first coming of the Messiah have all been fulfilled, just so has God preserved the race so that each promise of the second coming and fulfillment of all things will be carried out just as He has said.

The Christian actively engaged in spiritual warfare needs to know the truth behind the nations and governments of this world. They are just as involved in spiritual warfare as individuals.

That is why we are enjoined to pray for governments and leaders.

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, he made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority..." (*I Timothy* 2:1-2).

Praying Christians can move the hand of God in the affairs of nations and often have. God has used this ministry in a marvelous way in that respect in North America and in other countries as well.

Because Israel is such a targeted area for satanic activity we need especially to hold this nation up in prayer.

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem..." (*Psalm* 122:6).

We thank God for the vital role He has given us in the prophetic last-day outreach to the Jew in which He has commissioned us to reach every Jew with the message of the Messiah.

Today when there is a new crisis every day somewhere in the world...many of them concerning Israel...the need is greater than ever before for God-fearing people who will pray out into the spirit and do battle with the forces of evil for men and governments.

The need for consecrated men and women who will heed the call to holiness and go out in the Name of Christ to defeat Satan and all he stands for is greater today than ever before.

Because Satan is so active in nations today, we need to pray more

than ever...to see God's people take authority in the spirit world and turn their nations around for God.

That is the purpose for which God has given us the School of Ministry, to raise up the Army of God to take the world for Jesus Christ in our generation.

When Christ appeared in Israel, He recognized that the spiritual problems of the Jewish people were caused by satanic powers, and He began to wage war against them uncompromisingly.

Moses in the Old Testament was a parallel to Christ in the New Testament: Moses, the only man who knew God face to face; Christ, the only begotten Son of the Father, Who always stood face to face with God in heaven. Each recognized the existence of Satan.

Moses and Christ both knew the devil's power, but they did not let that stop their walk with God, or that of their disciples. They waged war against it.

One of the main reasons we are seeing such a flood tide of evil today is because with the passing of many of the saints who held a high standard against Satan in the past years has come a lower standard with each succeeding generation. The world constantly is subjected to the efforts of Satan to lower spiritual and moral standards.

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" (I Timothy 4:1).

For years, the forces of Bible-believing people stood out in their communities as bright and shining lights, a restraint to the evil that always threatened to take over. Now, "modern thought" has usurped power over lives to the extent that there is a permissive attitude toward these evil works at every level of education and government.

God is demanding a renewed standard of holiness among His Church today before the Second Coming of our Lord.

No Christian who walks in the way of the world shall ever see God.

"Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8).

This New Anointing message not only is a message of power, it is a message of holiness and purification. "...purify your hearts..." (James 4:8).

If we want to be vessels of God's power, the Bible says we must live up to His standards of purity:

"...be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD" (Isaiah 52:11).

That exhortation in the Old Testament is just as real in our day, for evil is even more rampant in the age in which we live.

Questions on Chapter Nine

1. Who is behind the struggle between ideologies and nations?

2. What nation historically has received Satan's most diabolical attention?

3. Why did Satan give special emphasis to a certain lineage in Israel?

4. Give Scripture to show that Cain's rebellion was Satan-inspired.

5. Give Old Testament Scriptures which show God's displeasure with evil spirits.

6. What was the Old Testament penalty for those who sought to follow evil spirits?

7. Why was Balaam unable to curse the children of Israel?

8. How did Balaam cause Israel to bring judgment on herself?

9. Why did King Saul seek the advice of a witch?

10. Why do people try the occult today?

11. In his hatred of Israel, what did Satan put in the heart of King David to do according to *I Chronicles 21:1*?

12. What kind of spirit operated in the mouths of the prophets consulted by King Ahab?

13. Name two times in history when Satan sought to annihilate Israel altogether.
 - A. _____
 - B. _____

14. What is behind the Arab hatred of Israel today?

15. Who establishes rulers today?

16. What is our responsibility to nations and governments?

17. What standard is needed in the lives of God's people in their countries today?

Answers on Chapter Nine

1. Satan.
2. Israel.
3. To prevent the Messiah from coming.
4. *I John 3:12.*
5. *Deuteronomy 18:9-13.*
6. Death.
7. God had blessed them.
8. By causing them to disobey God.
9. He could no longer hear from God.
10. Because of belief in and reaching after the supernatural.
11. To number the children of Israel.
12. A lying spirit.
13. A. time of Esther. B. during the holocaust.
14. Satan.
15. God.
16. Pray for them.
17. Holiness.

CHAPTER 11

AND there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord:

3 And his eyes shall be open; I shall see him, but not now: shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

18 And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for his enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly.

2 But thou, Beth-lehem Ephrā-tâh, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travailleth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

And he shall

19 So Abraham returned unto his young men, and they rose up and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beer-sheba. And it came to pass after these things, that it was told to Abraham, saying, Behold, Milcah, she hath also born children unto thy brother Nâ-hor; 21 Huz his firstborn, an

Assed, and I cannot reverse it. 21 He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perver-seness in Israel: the LORD his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them.

22 God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn.

23 Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel: according to this time it shall be said of Jacob and of Israel,

24 Behold, what God wrought!

up as a

fire. 6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

8 I will not a word into

shall rouse him up. 10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

12 His eyes shall be

13 And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

15 Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

For before

There are hundreds of definite prophecies in the Old Testament that clearly point to the Messiah. If even one of these prophecies failed it would negate every one of them.

Chapter Ten

Satan's Attack on Christ, Part I

One of Satan's chief reasons for attacking Israel was to try to prevent his Archenemy, Jesus, from ever being born.

God's Holy Word contains infallible proof that Jesus Christ is Who He said He is. The Scriptures prophesy continually of the Messiah, when He would come, where He would come, the line from which He would come, etc. There are 333 definite prophecies in the Old Testament that clearly point to the Messiah.

If even one of these prophecies failed, it would negate every one of them.

Satan knows these prophecies. He has known since the judgment at the Garden of Eden that One was coming Who would defeat him and bruise his head. He has had knowledge of the Word of God down through the ages.

The enmity that God pronounced between Satan and the seed of woman dates from Eden and has never diminished. It will continue until all spiritual warfare is ended and Satan meets his final end.

Since that first prophecy of a promised Redeemer in *Genesis 3:15*, there have been many more prophecies of the Messiah...and there have been many attacks on the Word of God seeking to negate those prophecies. Satan sought to kill the Messiah before He was ever born by preventing His coming in the way and manner prophesied.

Satan launched one of his most determined attacks upon the lineage of the Messiah which God prophesied, attacking the prophecies which prove beyond a doubt that Jesus is the promised Messiah.

If only Satan could make *one word* of God to fail, he would win.

But he could not!

This attack on the line of Christ was launched in the very beginning with the sons of Adam as the targets when one son, Cain, killed the

other, Abel, as we discussed in the previous chapter.

The reasons why Abel's sacrifice was accepted and Cain's was rejected are detailed in my book, *Two Men From Eden*.^{*} For the purpose of this study, however, we are going right to the basic, root reason.

You easily can see in that comparison the conflict between good and evil. Abel was righteous (*Hebrews 11:4*). Cain was of the "wicked one" or the devil (*I John 3:12*). The result was Satan's attempt, through Cain, to wipe out the godly line to eliminate the Seed of woman which had been promised.

"And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him" (Genesis 4:8).

Satan could have eliminated the progeny of Adam altogether, the battle would have been over right then and there. However, God raised up additional seed of the first family. With the birth of Seth came the reestablishment of the godly line.

The events surrounding the murder of Abel vividly depict the continuing attack of Satan on the godly line through whom the Messiah was promised. If Satan could wipe out the line at any period in history, the victory would be his.

On several occasions he seemed for a time to have succeeded, yet God never lost control. He moved in marvelous, amazing ways to show His Word true and to preserve the godly seed from extinction.

That the Messiah would come from the line of Judah was prophesied in *Genesis 49:10* and that He would come from a kingly line was prophesied when as yet the nation of Israel had no king:

"The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be" (Genesis 49:10).

"He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the LORD his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them" (Numbers 23:21).

After the kingly line was established, God used Nathan to utter this prophecy to David regarding his seed:

"He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the

throne of his kingdom for ever" (II Samuel 7:13).

The history of the kings can be traced through the books of Kings and Chronicles. Though there was a division of the people into the children of Israel and the children of Judah, Judah remained the promised line.

In these great books are the stories of many battles, much bloodshed and great intrigue which might be regarded as mere human history, but far from it. Spiritual warfare was continually at work.

At one point in history Satan caused the entire promised kingly line of the Messiah to be completely annihilated *except for one small boy*. God miraculously hid this child away, preserving the promised Seed.

*"And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal" (II Kings 11:1).
(See also II Chronicles 22:10)*

If she had been successful, Satan would have succeeded in breaking the Word of God. Yet look at the ever-present protection of God:

*"But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the kings' sons which were slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bedchamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain. And he was with her hid in the house of the LORD six years" (II Kings 11:2-3a).
(See also II Chronicles 22:11-12a.)*

The line was preserved. Joash was put on the throne and reigned for 40 good years. Afterwards the line was continued through Amaziah, Uzziah, Jotham, etc., through Jehoiachin. Zedekiah was reigning at the time that Judah went into captivity in 586 B.C., and we read of him that his sons were slain before his eyes (*II Kings 25:7*).

However, Zedekiah had a brother, Jeconiah, whose children included Salathiel. Salathiel and his son, Zerubbabel, were common links in the genealogies of both Joseph and Mary as outlined in *Matthew 1* and *Luke 3* respectively.

During the years of captivity, many records and genealogies were lost so that many of the priests were unable to trace that lineage to establish their right to the priesthood.

However, God preserved the records of the Messiah's line and so we have it presented to us today, a line that Satan could not eradicate.

Unsuccessful in his attempts to annihilate the Jewish race or to interrupt the promised line of the Messiah, Satan never gave up.

The birth of Jesus found him with another plan to thwart God's purpose, to kill the newborn Christ child by putting it in Herod's heart to murder all the babies in Bethlehem.

This activity was prophesied in the Old Testament:

"Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not" (Jeremiah 31:15).

"Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, In Ramah was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children..." (Matthew 2:17-18).

(Rachel was buried in Bethlehem. See Genesis 35:19-20, 48:7.)

The second chapter of the book of Matthew tells the story.

When the wise men from the east inquired of Herod about the Child Whose birth was signaled by the great star they followed, Herod was troubled. He encouraged the men to find the Child and to bring him word again *"that I may come and worship Him also"* (Matthew 2:8).

His true purpose was revealed by God through a dream and the men returned home by another route. Herod then ordered the death of all children in Bethlehem under the age of two years.

His wicked plan to kill the Christ at the cradle level failed when Joseph also was warned of God in a dream.

"...the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt" (Matthew 2:13-14).

The intense efforts of Satan to destroy the Child both before and after His birth were fruitless, of course.

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man" (Luke 2:52).

We know very little of Jesus' early years but we do know that Satan continued to attack Him for the full course of His life on earth.

After He was grown and His earthly ministry under way, we read

such records as this:

"And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up and thrust him (Jesus) out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong" (Luke 4:28-29).

Each time God preserved Him until the appointed time:

"But he passing through the midst of them went his way" (Luke 4:3).

Even though Jesus was a prime target for Satan's attacks, never once was He at Satan's mercy...and never once did He lose a battle...

Questions on Chapter Ten

1. When did God pronounce enmity between Satan and Jesus?

2. When will this enmity end?

3. What is the first prophecy of a Redeemer?

4. What percentage of Old Testament prophecies would Jesus have had to fulfill in order for Him to be the real Messiah?

5. How many prophecies did Satan cause to be broken? Why?

6. Name a point where the promised kingly line was annihilated except for a small boy.

7. Why can the lineage of Jesus be traced today?

8. Who posed a threat to the life of Jesus when He was a baby? How?

9. Give a Scripture that briefly describes Jesus' childhood and youth.

10. Were there other efforts to kill Jesus before the cross? Name one.

11. Why did these efforts fail?

Answers on Chapter Ten

1. *Genesis 3:15.*
2. When Satan receives his final judgment.
3. *Genesis 3:15.*
4. 100 percent.
5. None—he cannot break God's Word.
6. When Athaliah killed all the king's children except Joash.
7. God preserved it.
8. Herod. By ordering the death of all infants in Bethlehem.
9. Luke 2:52
10. Yes—*Luke 4:28-29.*
11. It was not God's appointed time.

NOTES:

Chapter Eleven

Satan's Attack on Christ, Part II

As rampaging as his attacks against Israel and the messianic line were, the main satanic attack against Jesus as He began His earthly ministry was not one of overt violence but of temptation. It is an example of utmost importance to us today from several perspectives.

If Satan fails to destroy from outside, with violence, he seeks to overthrow from inside, by temptation to disobedience to God.

The Gospel of Mark has a very short account of the threefold temptation of Jesus Christ in the wilderness:

*"And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.
And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and
was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him" (Mark
1:12-13).*

Two other Gospels, however, give a much fuller account of the specific temptations which Jesus endured and overcame. These accounts are contained in the fourth chapters each of Matthew and Luke.

During this time, Satan came at Jesus in three separate and distinct ways.

One: Satan sought to get Jesus to turn stones into bread to satisfy His hunger following His 40-day fast.

Two: Satan showed Jesus the glories of the world which he offered to Him in exchange for his worship. (This was the • second temptation in Luke's account, third in Matthew's.)

Three: Satan took Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple and urged Him to jump in order to show His supernatural ability. (This is the second temptation in Matthew's account.)

Luke's account of these three temptations ends with this statement:

"And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season" (Luke 4:13).

Matthew's account contains added information of great comfort:

"Then the devil leaveth him, and behold, angels came and ministered unto him (Matthew 4:11).

All truth is parallel.

If you have not already done so, read the full account of this spiritual warfare between Satan and Christ in these two Gospels. How Jesus fought and prevailed is our example in overcoming Satan when we are tempted, for temptation to evil is one of the strongest devices Satan has.

The temptations of Jesus show several methods Satan uses in attacking the people of God. It also shows how we may win the battle of temptation and put Satan to flight every time.

No one is beyond temptation. No one is beyond attack by the enemy. We can be beyond *defeat* as Jesus was, but we are not beyond attack. As we learned in our study of Job, an attack by Satan is not a sign of sin or failure. It is a sign of the continuing warfare that assails every person who walks on this earth.

Although Jesus is divine, although He is God Incarnate, while here on earth He was also 100 percent *man*.

In combating the temptations of Satan He did not call upon any supernatural or divine power to which we do not have access. We have the same resources, the same strength, for fighting Satan and overcoming him that Jesus used when He won the victory.

Jesus was tempted in the three identical points in which Adam was tempted. These also are the same points which incorporate every type of temptation that comes to mankind.

These three types of temptation outlined in the Bible are:

lust of the flesh,

lust of the eyes,

and the pride of life.

"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" (I John 2:16).

No attack of Satan, no temptation, comes upon a child of God without the "foreknowledge" and the permission of God Himself, nor

does it ever come without complete provision for victory.

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape that ye may be able to bear it" (I Corinthians 10:13).

During the temptation of Jesus as in the case of Job, God knew exactly what was going on at all times. He was always completely in control. He is the One Who made the rules and set the limitations. All of Satan's power is only *allowed* him by God and it is always *subject* to God.

The temptation of Jesus differed somewhat from the trials of Job in that Satan initiated the attack on Job while God deliberately led Jesus into the wilderness where His temptation came.

"Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil" (Matthew 4:1).

Mark used an even stronger word for the leading of Jesus into the wilderness arena. The wording in that Gospel is that the Spirit *driveth* Him into the wilderness (*Mark 4:1*).

It was a very necessary part of God's plan that Jesus endure the same kind of temptation which had overthrown the Edenic paradise. It was only as Jesus was victorious where Adam had failed that it could be written:

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive" (I Corinthians 15:22).

It was only as Jesus suffered the same temptations that we suffer and yet was without sin that it could be written: *"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).*

The warfare in all these points is still very real and very intense. If we follow the example of Jesus Christ, however, the outcome is never once in doubt.

The temptations of Adam and of Jesus are full of parallels as well as contrasts. Satan seeks to come in unexpected ways in order to catch his victims off guard.

It was in the midst of plenty, with delicious fruit of every variety available to them, that Adam and Eve were tempted by Satan to eat the forbidden fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil (*Genesis 3:1-6*). It was following a 40-day fast when Jesus was hungry that Satan

tempted Him with a plan for satisfying that hunger (*Matthew 4:2-4*).

Satan comes against us with no pre-announced plan or pattern.

He comes in times of blessing and in times of drought. He comes against the strong and the weak. He makes no allowances for physical condition, work load, home pressures, etc., but will rather use such situations to his own ends.

Satan is never kind. He attacks young as well as old, strong as well as sick and infirm. His purpose always is to kill and to destroy.

Let us consider the temptations of Jesus one by one.

LUST OF THE FLESH

[Jesus] "Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread" (Luke 4:2-3).

This temptation to the "*lust of the flesh*" (see *I John 2:16*) coincides with the serpent's temptation of Eve in which she "*saw that the tree was good for food*" (*Genesis 3:6*).

Though Jesus was experiencing earthly hunger, He resisted all influence and direction from Satan.

If Jesus called upon His innate deity to meet the test, He could not qualify as our High Priest "*tempted in all points like as we are*" (*Hebrews 4:15*).

It certainly was not wrong for Jesus to perform miracles, nor was it wrong for Him to eat food. It was wrong, however, for Him to move in any instance at the suggestion of Satan.

He was led of the Spirit into the wilderness, and He continued to be led of the Spirit in every aspect of His life. Never once did Satan gain the slightest influence or control over Him Whose life was without sin.

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin..." (II Corinthians 5:21).

God had not told Jesus to make bread of the stones. It was the Word of God in which He placed His reliance. That is why He could answer so unequivocally. Though Jesus Himself is the Living Word of God, He set the great example of overcoming temptation through the written Word of God.

"And Jesus answered him, saying, it is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God" (Luke 4:4).

In this as in other two phases of the temptation, Jesus used the Word of God as His weapon. (For the effectiveness of this weapon see Chapter 15 entitled *Weapons of Offensive Warfare, Part II—Speak the Word*)

Adam and Eve could have stood fast upon the Word of God in the Garden. God's instruction to Adam had been very explicit:

"...Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:16-17).

God's Word is very specific today regarding the lust of the flesh, yet man's wickedness is becoming greater and greater. The man or woman of God must combat the thought of lust at the very point of its "inception." God's Word as our defense and God's Spirit as our Guide should be the order of the day.

We know from *I Timothy 4:1* that Satan is a seducing spirit. To yield to him one iota is to give him opening for greater inroads.

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" (I Timothy 4:1).

Our weapon, as Christ's, must be this victory cry:

SATAN, IT IS WRITTEN...

The second phase of Jesus' temptation was this:

"And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall he thine" (Luke 4:5-7).

In coming to this earth as a babe and growing up as a Man, Christ willingly had left the glories of heaven which are far greater than the glories of all the kingdoms of the world. These glories were to be His again as well as all the glories of this earth, but not through an avenue that Satan could offer.

It is true that Satan has been permitted some power here on this earth, but at no time has he ever been given the dominion and power over this

earth by God.

As we studied in Chapter Six, Satan was given the dominion he has in the world by Adam who, in his disobedience to God, yielded himself to Satan. God had given the keys of dominion to Adam; Adam became the servant of Satan.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Romans 6:16).

However, God is still in absolute control. He alone has the power over nations and governments.

This reveals to us another great truth of satanic warfare as we study the temptation of Jesus: *Satan does not have the power that he claims to have.*

While it is true that he moves in and through people, including rulers, he is never the final authority. The promotion or fall of all men everywhere is only at the prerogative of God Himself. He alone is able to set up or pull down potentates.

"For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one and setteth up another" (Psalm 75:6-7).

"...For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God" (Romans 13:1).

Therefore in the first place, the glories of this world were not Satan's to give but God's.

Secondly, while the devil was offering Jesus something that would be His in the future anyhow, he was suggesting that Jesus could bypass the pathway set out for Him by God and receive the rewards without the obedience.

Here again Jesus was our example of exact obedience to God's Word. The glory He received went far beyond any glory this world could offer.

"And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the

glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:8-11).

Satan used lust of the eyes to weaken Eve in the Garden, by showing her not the glories of the world but the pleasantness of the forbidden fruit.

LUST OF THE EYES

"And when the woman saw that the tree...was pleasant to the eyes..." (Genesis 3:6).

Seeing the forbidden fruit, the first couple coveted it and took it...their disobedience bringing the death that only Jesus' obedience under similar temptation could remedy:

"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous" (Romans 5:19).

Lust of the eyes is a favorite tool of Satan today. If he can cause the eye to look with longing upon the forbidden, covetousness enters the heart and leads eventually to all manner of gross sin: murder, theft, adultery, etc.

Lust of the eyes is an area in which Satan is running rampant today, using every conceivable means to cause people to desire that which is not theirs and go to great illegal and immoral lengths to acquire it.

Satan could not deliver what he did not possess to Jesus and neither could he fulfill his promises to Eve. Neither can he deliver what he promises to man today. The things gained through lust and covetousness never satisfy no matter what Satan promises. Lust is insatiable.

"...There are [seven] things that are never satisfied...the fire that saith not, It is enough" (Proverbs 30:15-16).

"...the eye is not satisfied with seeing..." (Ecclesiastes 1:8).

The time to quench the fire is at its very inception...and the way to quench it is the same method Jesus used for His victory: "...Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (Matthew 4:10).

God is the only One Who can deliver what He has promised. As we love and worship Him we find that "...godliness with contentment is great gain" (I Timothy 6:6).

The third temptation with which Satan confronted Jesus was this: "And [Satan] brought [Jesus] to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone" (Luke 4:9-11).

In each of the three temptations, Satan used the word "if." In two of them the phrase was "If thou be the Son of God..."

PRIDE OF LIFE

The third temptation paralleled the third temptation of Eve and the third of the things John warned us as being among "*all that is in the world*"...the pride of life.

Eve's temptation to pride of life was Satan's promise: "Ye shall be as gods." Jesus' temptation was to here and now prove His deity to the world.

This was neither God's time nor God's method to show Christ's deity to the world at large. This was done through His resurrection and followed His painful death on the

"So also Christ glorified not himself...Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him;" (Hebrews 5:5,8-9).

The temptation to man today is to prove himself, his power, his superiority, his merit. It becomes the deflection of spiritual goals in a materialistic age.

Satan today uses the "if" in God's relationship to man to challenge acts *presuming* upon that relationship. However, our right relationship to God is based on our obedience to Him, not presumptuous insertion of our own wills.

In this temptation as in the others Jesus used the Word of God as His authority and weapon: "...It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God" (Luke 4:12).

Though the entire incident is recorded in just a few short verses, there is no indication of how long the period of temptation lasted. We do know it followed a 40-day fast which without a doubt had left the physical body weak but during which, also without a doubt, the spiritual Man was strengthened.

Two things happened here. **One:** Effectively resisted by the bold use of God's Word, Satan fled. **Two:** God then sent His angels to minister to His Beloved Son.

The use of God's Word in waging spiritual warfare will be explored further in Chapter 16 and the need and use of fasting will be emphasized in Chapter 18.

Use of both of these spiritual weapons contributes to the victory that is ours when we follow Christ's example. Because He overcame, we can also by the same means which He used.

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you " (James 4:7).

As Jesus submitted to God and resisted the enemy, Satan had no power over Him.

Jesus was not here for a holding mission. God sent Him here for far more than to withstand the devil. His warfare was far greater than that.

Jesus' purpose for coming to earth was simply this: "...*For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil*" (I John 3:8).

Jesus' purpose was...attack and destroy the enemy. Our purpose...the same!

"...as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21).

To fulfill that purpose let us analyze Satan's power and what, if any, effect or influence it can have over us.

Do we have power that can disengage, defuse Satan's power over our lives and this world in which we live?

If all God's people lived in the Spirit and used the God-given power of the Holy Spirit to arrest the evil of Satan in their communities, it would not be long before an entire nation came under the influence of God...from every top government leader to housewives, laborers, attorneys, doctors.

Such a spirit of conviction of evil, wrongdoing, deceiving, misleading would come...that people would feel uncomfortable in their deceits.

Questions on Chapter Eleven

1. How did Satan attack Christ in the wilderness?

2. List the three temptations of Jesus.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

3. What three temptations are listed in *I John 2:16*?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

4. How did Eve's temptations parallel these?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

5. Who is beyond temptation?

6. Is it a sin to be tempted?

7. What resources did Jesus use for combating Satan that we do not have?

8. Give a Scripture that promises victory in every temptation.

9. Why was it necessary for Jesus to be victorious in every manner in which Adam was tempted?

10. Why was it necessary for Jesus to be tempted in every point that we are?

11. What was Jesus' weapon for resisting Satan?

12. What would have been wrong with Jesus turning stones into bread?

13. Were the glories of this earth Satan's to bestow?

14. Does Satan keep his promises to men?

15. Does Satan have the power he tries to make us believe he has?

16. After Jesus' temptation, what happened to Satan? What happened to Jesus?

A. _____

B. _____

17. Did Jesus come here for a "holding war"?

18. What was Jesus' purpose in coming here? *Give Scripture.*

Answers on Chapter Eleven

1. Through temptation.
2. A. To turn stones into bread.
B. To worship Satan in exchange for the glories of the world.
C. To cast Himself down from the temple.
3. A. Lust of the flesh.
B. Lust of the eyes.
C. The pride of life.
4. Saw the forbidden fruit was good for food, pleasant to look at, and to be desired to make one wise.
5. No one.
6. Not at the outset.
7. None.
8. *I Corinthians 10:13.*
9. So that as in Adam all died, so in Christ (Second Adam) could all live (*I Corinthians 15:22*).
10. So that He could be our great High Priest (*Hebrews 4:15*).
11. God's Word.
12. It would have been instigated by Satan.
13. No.
14. No.
15. No.
16. A. He left Jesus for a season.
B. Angels ministered unto Him.
17. No.
18. To destroy Satan's works. *I John 3:8.*



"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:37).

NOTES:

Chapter Twelve

Satan's Power in Lives Today

The Bible clearly states that Satan is real and that he exercises a certain amount of power in this world today:

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (I Peter 5:8).

In addition to being known as the devil, Satan, and Lucifer, he is mentioned in the Bible as the dragon, serpent, adversary, Belial, Beelzebub, and others at least 175 times. In II Corinthians 4:4 he is referred to as the "god of this world."

In Chapter Six we discussed how he became the "god of the world." When Lucifer rebelled against God's will and was cast out of heaven (*Revelation 12:4*), it was years before the birth of Jesus as a babe in Bethlehem. However, Christ was present during that judgment. Years later He told His disciples: *"I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven"* (*Luke 10:18*).

When Satan was cast out, he set up his headquarters, established his armies, and began his all-out invasion of earth's atmosphere.

The flood gates for Satan's power over mankind were opened by Adam in that first act of his obedience to Satan in the Garden of Eden.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" (Romans 6:16).

It also brought judgment and death upon all mankind:

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have

sinned" (Romans 5:12).

That is why man is degenerate from his youth. His basic nature is now sinful.

There are those who teach that "everyone is inherently good." An internationally known organization has as its slogan, "There is no such thing as a bad boy." Some put a label of "sickness" on such things as homosexuality, alcoholism or other areas of bondage, but the Bible has this to say of fallen man:

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked..." (Jeremiah 17:9).

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Psalm 51:5).

"For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good and sinneth not" (Ecclesiastes 7:20).

While the slogans and excuses invented by the world to accommodate their own deeds may sound pleasant to the ear, they simply are not true.

Environment, training, social mores, etc., can cause people to exhibit civilized behavior, "acceptable" habits and characteristics. However, the pull is always downward for the unregenerated person who has not been transformed by the new birth in Jesus Christ.

Several times in the Bible when days of great wickedness are described, the explanation is that:

"...every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 17:6).

"And ye have done worse than your fathers; for behold, ye walk every one after the imagination of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me" (Jeremiah 16:12).

Satan does not influence all people under his dominion to the same types of sin and degradation. In some instances he causes complete depravity but many times works in and through those of great respectability and even those professing to be Christians.

In any case, the heart of the unregenerate person is submission to the downward pull of sin. *"...his servants ye are to whom ye obey..." (Romans 6:16).*

That Satan has dominion and power over those who serve him is

without dispute.

This chapter, however, is not addressed to that fact but to this question: *How much power does Satan have over the life of a true born-again Christian?*

One of the great paradoxes of Christian living is embraced in these two truths:

One: Satan was defeated by Jesus Christ in His death and resurrection. When we move into Jesus Christ through the new birth we move into the Victor Himself. We become His servants. He becomes our Savior, our Victor, our Shield...the provision for every need that we have.

Two: Satan does not acknowledge this defeat and moves against Christians with renewed effort and determination, seeking to destroy what he can before his final end.

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..." (John 10:10).

We can read the Bible from beginning to end and back again and never find one single place where we are promised defeat in Christ Jesus. Every promise to the child of God is a promise of victory. Not just victory...but more than victory. We not only win the battle; we carry off the spoils of war and come from the battle with a great deal more substance than we had before the battle.

"...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:37).

That means that we have *more than enough* "goods" for the battle at hand, *more than enough strength, more than enough power, etc.* While we are no match at all for Satan in our own strength, Satan is no match for us when we are in Christ.

As we follow God's rules of spiritual warfare Satan not only cannot touch us, he will end up in worse defeat than before he tried. *It is only as we neglect or reject God's provisions and yield to Satan that he can lay one finger upon us.*

When Satan came against Eve in the Garden of Eden, there was no way that he could force her to sin. He planted thoughts in her mind, he made suggestions, but it was only as she entertained these thoughts and yielded to the suggestions that sin entered the picture. She was not forced; she yielded.

"...she took of the fruit thereof and did eat..." (Genesis 3:6).

God sometimes allows Satan to exercise a certain amount of power over our circumstances such as in the case of Job. However, God had hedged Job with His love. Satan had to get permission from God for every assault he made against Job's circumstances.

Nothing came into Job's life that had not passed before the loving Father—**nothing!***

God allowed the circumstances to be touched, but **God was always in control.** He is always completely in control of our circumstances also.

There are two basic truths about all temptation that we need to know.

One: Temptation does not come from God.

"Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man" (James 1:13).

God *allows* temptation to come into our lives for a reason...to prove us, to bring maturity to us, to prove Himself. We may not always know the exact reason but there always **is** a reason.

In Job's case, that which could be seen with the natural eye, that which Job could comprehend of the enemy's touch, was not what was really going on at all. What he could see and feel was a *natural* manifestation of something far deeper. What was really going on was *spiritual warfare*. This warfare, however, was completely limited in area, scope, severity and time by God Himself. God always was in command.

Job, even without being able to comprehend his battle, maintained his integrity before God. He never lost his faith in God: *"Though he [God]slay me, yet will I trust in him..." (Job 13:15).*

"But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10).

"For I know that my redeemer liveth..." (Job 19:25).

He kept the victory of faith (spiritual) and he did see victory in his natural circumstances...**more than...**for we finally read:

"So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning" (Job 42:12).

If we could only see when Satan comes against us in any aspect of our

* See Morris Cerullo's book *Why Do The Righteous Suffer?*, copyright 1978, Morris Cerullo World Evangelism

lives...if we will just hold our integrity, keep our faith in God, use the weapons of our warfare He has provided...the battle is a spiritual battle between God and Satan, completely limited in scope by an ever loving Father, and it will last only as long as God permits.

If we could only see that our battle is just:



From here ----- to here



After that...*more than* victory. The Living Bible paraphrases *Ephesians 6:13* this way:

"...and when it [the battle] is all over, you will still be standing up!"

Two: The second point we need to know about temptation is this:

Temptation is not sin when it comes from an outside source and when it is rejected out of hand. It is only when it is tolerated and harbored that it becomes sin:

"But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed" (James 1:14).

The very first hint of temptation is the time for the Christian to act and to act decisively and effectively as Jesus did.

If this is done, Satan has no power. He cannot force you to yield to sin. He cannot force you to sin. His only recourse is to flee.

Jesus used the same resources available to us with triumphant results. As we make use of the same resources in the same manner we have the same results...complete victory. Satan must leave and God Himself will minister to His own.

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

The devil must flee because not only does he have no power over us, but we have power over **him**...power given and delegated to us by Christ Himself.

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10:19).

The question no longer is how much power the enemy has over us...it is how much power we have over him!

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4).

The circumstances that God permits Satan to shape in order to prove us become tools in God's hands for a greater abundance in our lives as we acknowledge him.

"Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee..." (Psalm 76:10).

Satan may try to cause our downfall, but God turns the test to His purposes and our good.

"But as for you, ye thought evil against me: but God meant it unto good..." (Genesis 50:20).

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

The answer to the question of this chapter, "How much power does Satan have over our lives?" is this:

None.

In Christ Jesus *we* have the power over Satan.

Questions on Chapter Twelve

1. What opened the flood gates for Satan's power over mankind?

2. Is man innately good or evil?

Why?

3. Are alcoholism and homosexuality really sicknesses?

_____ What are they?

4. List three Scriptures that show the degenerate condition of man.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

5. List three things that can cause people to develop "acceptable" habits.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

6. Is Satan defeated and if so, how was this accomplished?

7. Does Satan admit defeat?

8. What did Jesus say was the reason for a thief's coming?

9. How much victory can we achieve over Satan?

10. Does God tempt us? *Give Scripture*

11. Why does God allow us to be tempted?

12. When does temptation become sin?

13. When should we resist temptation?

14. What two steps can we take to cause Satan to flee?

15. Give a Scripture that shows we have power over Satan.

16. Can God get glory out of evil? *Give Scripture*

Answers On Chapter Twelve

1. Adam's disobedience.
2. Evil, because of Adam's sin.
3. No, they are sin.
4. *Jeremiah 17:9, Psalm 51:5, Ecclesiastes 7:20.*
5. Environment, training, social mores.
6. Yes, by Jesus' death and resurrection.
7. No.
8. To kill and destroy.
9. Complete.
10. No. *James 1:13.*
11. To prove us.
12. When we yield to it.
13. At its very outset.
14. Submit to God. Resist Satan.
15. *I John 4:4.*
16. Yes. *Psalm 76:10.*



Demons can talk, using a person's lips and tongue. They can enter into people or animals. Demons can preach, tell lies, stand, walk, seek rest and tell fortunes...

Chapter Thirteen

The Christian and Demon Possession

Satan himself is not omnipresent. Unlike God, he cannot be everywhere at once. He does, however, have legions and legions of evil spirit beings who do his work of binding and destroying mankind.

Though many people today deny the reality of demon spirits or their activities in today's world, there are thousands of people who are dominated, influenced, controlled and directed by demons...and many who actually are demon possessed.

From the Bible we learn that demons can talk, using a person's lips and tongue. They can torment people and they themselves can be tormented. They can enter into people or animals. Demons can preach, tell lies, stand, walk, seek rest, and tell fortunes.

They can deceive people and cause wrong decisions. They can cause blindness, deafness and muteness, or bind a person with physical affliction. They can drive people fiercely or lead them gently. They can cause people to commit suicide, or to be unreasonably jealous. They can cause people to be placed in asylums or to rob and kill.

In other words, just as good angels or spirits carry out the work of Christ in watching over and ministering to God's children, so do evil spirits seek to carry out the will of Satan here on earth.

Demon activity is an area people do not like to talk about. It is a negative. However, it takes positive and negative wires together to produce light, and demon activity is an area where we must be knowledgeable. We not only must know the power of Satan as he comes against human lives, but we must know the power of God Who is able to counteract every evil influence of the devil.

"...ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

Many Christian leaders get nervous when you talk about demons. Someone said to me, "My church does not talk about demons. If you talk about demons, pretty soon you will be seeing them in the air."

My response is this: If they are there, we had better see them. Also *we better know how to deal with them.*

One of the most classic cases of demon possession in the Bible is the madman of Gadara whose story is told in *Luke 8:27-36*. (Also see *Mark 5:1-5*)

Demons were real 1,900 years ago and they are just as real today.

Not many months before the writing of this textbook, we were in a crusade in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, when Satan tried to use a man in the congregation to disrupt our services. What happened is described by Rev. Mack Sutherland who was then pastor of Abundant Life Chapel and later became associated in a key area with this ministry.

Here is Rev. Sutherland's account of this incident:

"It was in the Pittsburgh crusade that I witnessed the most beautiful deliverance from demon possession.

"During the morning session, the pianist was playing, Brother Cerullo was at the microphone on the platform.

"This huge man, 6 feet 2 - 240 pounds, approached the pianist and told him to play 'Onward Christian Soldiers.'

"The pianist continued what he was already playing.

"The man began to swing at Henry Davis (the pianist) and immediately a few of the men on the staff of World Evangelism ran to the front and grabbed the man to quiet him. They were all thrown to the floor.

"Rev. Cerullo said, 'Please take the man into one of the back rooms and minister to him.'

"The men after much effort were able to get him in the back room. He was very violent and super strong.

"Upon entering the back room he kicked a rather sturdy chair. It broke into three pieces and went skidding across the floor.

"In a moment's time there were seven ministers in a circle around the demon-possessed man. He was like a cornered animal. The ministers began to shout at him 'Come out of the man, you foul spirit. I command you, evil spirit, to come out now.'

"There was a moment's silence. The huge man quieted down, pointed to one of the ministers and said, 'What is your name?'

"The man proceeded to ask every pastor his name and then commanded each to sit down—which they did one by one.

"I was the last one. When he asked me my name I told him. He said, 'Sit down.'

"I replied, 'I'm not going to sit down. You are a lying devil and you are going to come out.'

"His countenance took on a very strange and stern look. He pointed his finger at me and said in a very dramatic gesture, 'I am the Holy Spirit from heaven and because of your disobedience, I'm blotting your name out of the Lamb's book of life.'

"At this moment, Brother Cerullo and one of his associates came into the room. He said to his associate, 'Please have all the men leave.' I was allowed to stay.

"Brother Cerullo walked up to this insane-acting man and quietly said, 'Let's sit down.' He sat down right in front of this large man, face to face.

"The man reached over and took hold of Brother Cerullo's tie by the knot. He said to Brother Cerullo as he moved his tie from side to side, 'Are you strong?'

"The other associate and I were ready to run and help Brother Cerullo at the slightest motion from him.

"Rev. Cerullo never raised his voice. He said quietly, 'Yes I am.'

"The man reached over and took Brother Cerullo's hand in

the position of arm wrestling. He said, 'I mean are you strong like this?' He began to move Brother Cerullo's arm back and forth. Brother Cerullo just let his arm relax. The man moved Brother Cerullo's hand back and forth a few times and then let go of it.

"When he did this, Brother Cerullo just put his hand on the man's head and said, without raising his voice, 'You foul unclean spirit, in the Name of Jesus, you come out of this man.'

"All of a sudden the man began to sob. Momentarily he shook and sobbed and then he reached, weeping, put his arm around Brother Cerullo's neck and said, 'I'm sorry.'

"They stood up, embraced and then Brother Cerullo took him by the hand and walked out the door through the crowd. What a trophy! What a deliverance!

"I observed the man many times after that in the hotel lobby, in the meetings, in the restaurants. He was set free and was perfectly normal. Obviously the power of the devil had been broken.

"I saw him singing, worshiping and praising the Lord in the services throughout the crusade."

We praise God for such deliverance as this.

This is not some peculiar power that God gave Morris Cerullo or a few chosen people; it is a power that God wants all believers to possess.

In fact, Jesus not only gave His disciples power over devils, He commanded them to have it.

"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" (Matthew 10:1).

"And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:7-8).

It is not known how many wicked spirits are at work in the world today, but we know that there are very, very many. The maniac of Gadara was possessed by "legions"...military term of that period denoting from 3,000 to 6,000 troops. The Bible merely says "many devils

were entered into him" (Luke 8:30). We do know that there were enough to drive 2,000 swine into the sea and drown them.

Demons are disembodied spirits having no physical form, but they constantly seek beings to inhabit, human or animal. This habitation or indwelling is known as "demon possession" but demon spirits can also vex, oppress, or influence people from outside their beings. They attack man seeking to destroy him mentally, physically and spiritually.

Here is the record of a woman who was bound physically by Satan:

"And behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God...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?" (Luke 13:11-13,16).

Because this woman was bound physically does not mean she was demon possessed or that Satan had control of her soul. Jesus called her a "daughter of Abraham," indicating that she was a godly woman.

Others were vexed by spirits:

And behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil" (Matthew 15:22).

A vexed person may be one who is disturbed, agitated, troubled or afflicted physically, mentally or both. Vexation usually begins as an outside force, but if not dealt with effectively may become outright possession.

The case referred to above is also described in *Mark 7:26* in this manner:

"The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter."

In this case the spirit was *inside* the person as shown from Jesus' response to the woman's plea:

"And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter. And when she was come to her house, she

found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed" (Mark 7:29-30).

Though much demon activity comes from outside a person, it is true that spirits seek to enter a person and possess him. By possession we mean the act of possessing or owning. It denotes ownership.

I do not believe that a bloodwashed Christian can be demon possessed. Jesus and Satan cannot inhabit the same space.

My Bible tells me:

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4).

I believe that if the enemy tries to get in, the Spirit of God will raise up a standard against him (*Isaiah 59:19*).

In temptation, Satan has no power over us but what we yield to him, and he certainly has no power to **own** a Christian. We are **owned** by Jesus Christ Who bought us with His own blood.

"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (I Corinthians 6:19-20).

There is no joint ownership or possession of people by God and Satan at the same time. However it behooves us to keep ourselves under submission to God at all times and our minds and hearts cleansed by the blood of Jesus.

It not only is *possible* but it is a **must** that we walk at liberty from the influence of Satan at all times, with every thought under subjection to Christ continually.

It is not possible, however, to walk where we do not interface with people who have great problems and bondages in their lives. Neither do we wish to avoid them. God has commissioned us as His representatives here on earth to help such people.

"...as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21).

When Jesus was here on earth, He sent the 12 disciples forth to preach the Gospel of the kingdom, to heal the sick, and cast out devils. Later, He sent out 70 other disciples two by two who found that the power which they had been given worked. Jesus had power to set people free who were vexed and possessed of the devil and when He sent His

disciples forth, He delegated his authority to them.

"After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come...And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name" (Luke 10:1,17).

There is one Bible case where a man who was numbered neither with the 12 nor the 70 was casting out devils in the Name of Jesus:

"And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth us: and we forbade him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me" (Mark 9:38-39).

Paul was not numbered with the 12 or the 70, but years after Jesus ascended into heaven, this scene took place:

"And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them" (Acts 19:11-12).

Paul's anointing was such that evil spirits departed without his even being near the possessed person.

In one sense, only God has authority over devils. That authority was delegated to His Son Jesus.

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18).

During His earthly ministry, Jesus commanded demons, unclean spirits and disease to depart. They recognized His authority and were obedient to Him.

Jesus has delegated that same authority to those who believe in His Name that His work might continue here on earth.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12).

Christ exercised no power He did not make available to His followers. Each can know the power of God working and operating through him to cast out devils and to heal the sick.

Not only do we have power over Satan in our lives and circumstances, but God gives us power to wade into Satan's territory to set other lives free from bondage.

"Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 18:18).

The delegation of God's authority to the followers of Jesus did not end with the first disciples. Every believer has a clear-cut authorization:

"...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature...And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" (Mark 16:15,17-18).

With the authority, He has given us the weapons and the Word to bring His deliverance to the bound at their point of deepest need.

Questions on Chapter Thirteen

1. Is demon possession real?
-

2. List at least five things we know from the Bible demons can do?

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

3. Why do we need to know about demon power?
-

4. How many demons are loose in the world?
-

5. What is the difference between demon oppression and demon possession?
-

6. Give a Bible instance of someone bound physically by Satan.
-

7. Give a Bible instance of someone vexed by Satan.
-

8. Can a Christian be demon possessed? *Give Scripture*
-

9. Give Scripture showing the true ownership of a Christian.
-

10. What power in relation to demon possession did Jesus delegate to His disciples?
-

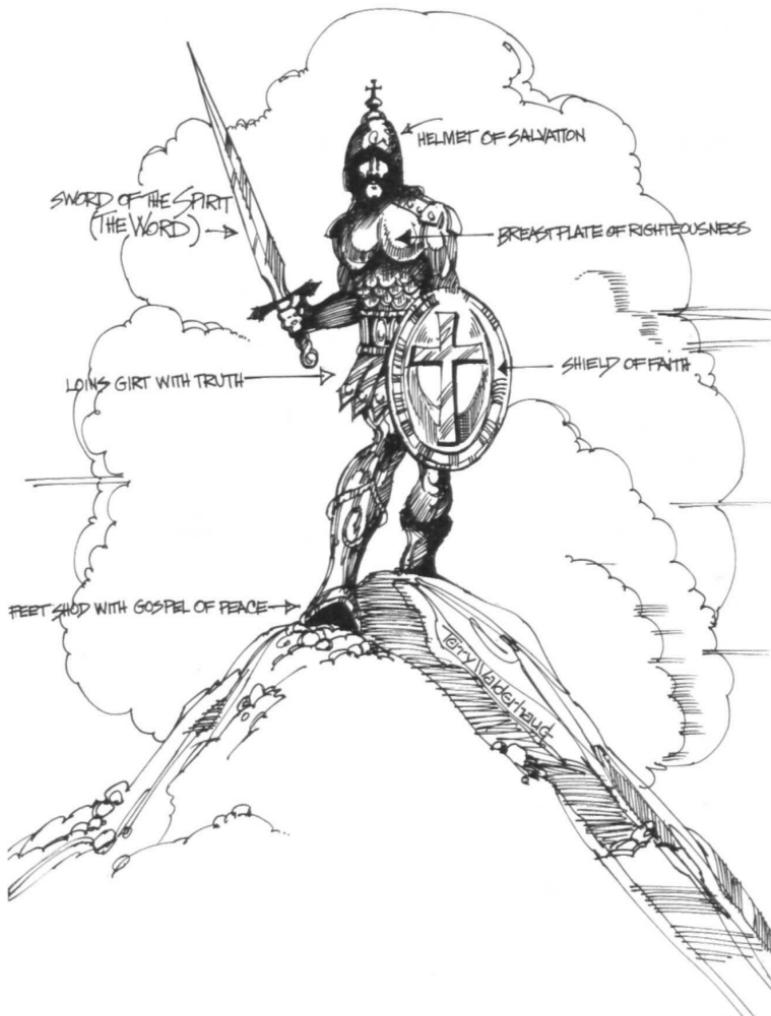
11. What did Jesus say of a man other than His immediate disciples who was casting out demons in His Name?
-

12. How was Paul's ministry of deliverance manifested even when he was not near the possessed person?
-

13. What is the clear-cut authorization of every believer? *Give Scripture*

Answers on Chapter Thirteen

1. Yes.
2. Lie, talk, walk, seek rest, vex, possess, inhabit animals, tell fortunes.
3. To know how to come against it.
4. No one knows.
5. Oppression is Satan coming against a person from outside, possession is when he inhabits that person.
6. Woman bound with spirit of infirmity (*Luke 13:11-12,16*)
7. Woman whose daughter was vexed by a demon (*Matthew 15:22*).
8. No—I *John 4:4*.
9. *I Corinthians 6:19-20*.
10. To cast them out.
11. To let him alone.
12. Through handkerchiefs or aprons from his body.
13. *Mark 16.15, 17-18*.



"Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11).

Chapter Fourteen

God's Armor Against Satan's Attack

Because of the peculiar nature of our enemy, the devil, God has provided peculiar armor for our protection and peculiar weapons with which to battle him.

We have pointed out that there are only two sides in this warfare that deals with all of life, and we have emphasized that this is a *spiritual* battle. We also have emphasized that the outcome is never in doubt. God has all power and all things are under His control...and **we** are victors because of Him. Satan has no power over us at all.

This is contingent however on one thing:

We must fight by God's rules.

He has not left us in doubt of these rules. He has made every provision for our welfare in battle, our growth even in the midst of the warfare and for our ultimate and complete triumph over all the forces of the devil.

What most people are prone to forget is the purely spiritual nature of the proceedings. Sometimes we allow ourselves to be drawn into conflicts with people, or with things, or even with ourselves. II Timothy 2:25 speaks of "*those that oppose themselves*."

When we forget who the real enemy is, we misdirect our firepower and it is dissipated without really getting to the root of the problem at hand.

God carefully has outlined a complete set of armor for our protection and use in the battle and has set these forth in *Ephesians 6:11-18*:

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit..."

The reason we must put on the whole or entire armor of God is very simple: In ourselves we are no match for the devil at all. Not the slightest. It is only in the strength of God that we can even stand. We must take our place in His complete protection and not leave one spot uncovered for Satan's touch.

"Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:27).

Completely armored by God, however, we will stand in complete invulnerability to Satan's attack.

"...when it is all over, you will still be standing up" (Ephesians 6:13 TLB).

We must use every bit of the armor that God has given us that not one spot is vulnerable to the attack of the enemy in any form.

Here is the armor God has provided us:

1. Having your loins girt about with truth
2. The breastplate of righteousness
3. Your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace
4. The shield of faith
5. The helmet of salvation
6. The sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God Let us examine this armor one piece at a time:

1. Having your loins girt about with truth.

Truth is our undergirding. Though antagonists in many worldly battles and disagreements fight with lies, bluffing, exaggeration and evasion, our undergirding is ever the truth of God's Word. Not only is His Word true but **He** is Truth.

Jesus said:

"...I am the way, the truth, and the life..."

Since Jesus and Satan are opposites, it is safe and true to say that as Christ is the way, Satan is the wrong way. As Jesus is the truth, Satan is a liar and the father of lies. As Jesus is the life, Satan is the bearer of spiritual death.

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

If we make use of lies, we are using Satan's own tools and certainly we are no match for him in that respect. Jesus is Truth. We need never be afraid of truth, and we need never be afraid of truth failing us in any way. We can stand on any promise of God with unswerving faith that what He has promised, that will He do.

"For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us" (II Corinthians 1:20).

"Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant" (I Kings 8:56).

In order to be girt with the truth we must *know* the truth. We not only must know Jesus as the personification of Truth, but the whole Word of God is truth. There is no way to stand on what God has said if we do not know *what* He has said. Therefore a personal knowledge of the Truth, Jesus Christ, and a knowledge of God's written truth are essentials in the battle at hand.

Satan is a wonder worker and is capable of performing lying wonders designed to turn souls away from the truth. Those who do not love and hold to the truth are open to the snares of Satan and are destined for failure.

"...the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (II Thessalonians 2:9-12).

King Ahab whom we studied in Chapter Nine fell into the snare of satanic delusion because he continually had shunned the truth of God. Those who do not love the truth or do not want the truth are defeated before the battle is begun. Truth is our only sure footing.

2. The breastplate of righteousness.

Righteousness goes hand in hand with truth as in the passage from II Thessalonians quoted above. Righteousness as a breastplate speaks of guarding the heart against all unrighteousness. Right standing before God is essential to the flow of His power in our lives.

There have been many cases where people of impure motives have sought to use the power of God without being qualified to use it. Those who attempt such folly not only will fail to obtain the desired results but will run into serious difficulties because of their efforts to do so.

In *Acts 19:13-16* we read of the seven sons of Sceva:

"Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded."

These men went through the same actions they had seen Paul go through, and used the same type of words which Paul had spoken. They even used the Name of Jesus. However, Satan knows when we are not shielded with the spiritual breastplate which guards our hearts. The battle went against the sons of Sceva and they were forced to flee in wounded dishonor.

Another instance occurred when Simon, who had been a sorcerer, saw the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the apostles and sought to purchase that power for himself:

"And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost" (Acts 8:18-19).

Peter's scathing denunciation was:

"...Thy money perish with thee... for thy heart is not right in the

sight of God...I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity" (Acts 8:20-21,23).

We realize that our own righteousness is of no avail. Yet we must enter into the righteousness that is in Christ Jesus if we are to utilize His power.

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags..." (Isaiah 64:6).

"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

It is impossible to walk in the Spirit of God if we are under condemnation.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Romans 8:1).

While being careful that Satan not cause us to unjustly condemn ourselves or that we fail to forgive ourselves for past wrongs for which God has forgiven us, we must also be careful that we walk in such a way that we do not bring real condemnation upon ourselves. When we do fail God, we must seek restored communion with Him and righteousness in Him *at once*.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9).

3. Your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

This preparation is exactly what you are doing as you study this text. That this admonition is connected with the feet shows willingness, even eagerness, to **go**...Jesus' last command to His disciples before His ascension:

"...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

The preparation of the gospel of peace even makes our feet beautiful:

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, and publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" (Isaiah 52:7).

Having the power of God will profit no one...neither yourself, God,

nor the person in need if you do not obey Christ's command to "go."

Because many people have misinterpreted the "go," they have misdirected their efforts, not realizing that all can fulfill this command. Many are not called to go to foreign fields, or even to leave their hometowns, but every child of God is called to go into all the world of their own influence to spread the Gospel of Peace with which we have been prepared and shod.

Whatever your sphere of influence...whether you are a housewife, a professional person, a laborer...be ready and prepared to go to share the power of God in your life with others who need your ministry.

4. The shield of faith.

Paul said that "above all" this is to be part of our armor.

"But without faith it is impossible to please him..." (Hebrews 11:6).

Without faith we have no hold on the truth. Without faith, we cannot appropriate the righteousness that is in Jesus Christ. Without faith, we cannot shod ourselves with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace.

It is easy to see how important faith is when we consider again the case of Job.

Under fiery attack by Satan (though unknown to him) Job lost everything that he had *except his faith.*

"Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him..." (Job 13:15).

Job's faith held out until every one of Satan's fiery darts had hit against it and fallen away. Job not only remained unharmed but was left in far better circumstances than he had been before those darts were fired at him.

Faith not only quenches the fiery darts of the enemy sent against us, but equips us to send *our* fiery weaponry against him since by faith in Christ we are enabled to do exploits for Him.

Peter was just one of the apostles who had a ministry of miracles...yet Peter attributed all his power where it rightfully belonged:

"...Why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?...and his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all" (Acts 3:12,16).

For greater emphasis on faith and how to achieve it in your life without struggling see my textbook on *Proof Producers*, the official textbook of the School of Ministry.

5. The helmet of salvation.

A helmet offers protection for the head.

Not only righteousness which is of the heart, but a mind that knows the salvation of God and is submitted to him is our armor. The mind that is not stayed upon God becomes a playland for Satan's suggestions to pull us away from the truth into areas of wrong decisions and actions.

Our minds continually must be under the blood of Jesus which saved us from sin in the first place.

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (II Timothy 1:7).

A person who dwells on negatives will never amount to a positive power force for God.

God Himself has told us what kind of thoughts we must hold:

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there by any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

6. The sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God.

Truth not only is our *standing* place, it is our *defense* to cut down the attacks of the enemy when he comes against us. It is also our offensive weapon to cut into Satan's very territory.

We are completely safe and sheltered in God for:

"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).

Clothed in the full armor of God, prepared to stand despite the battle, we move on in our warfare from defensive to offensive to learn how actually to invade Satan's territory and come away with unspeakable spoils of triumphant battle!

Questions on Chapter Fourteen

1. Our victory over Satan is contingent on what one thing?

2. Does God leave us in doubt as to His rules?

3. What does being drawn into conflict with people or things cause us to do?

4. Where in the Bible is found the list of God's armor for spiritual warfare?

5. Why do we need the armor of God?

6. List six pieces of armor named by Paul:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

F. _____

7. Who is the Truth? *Give Scripture*

8. Who is the "father of lies"? *Give Scripture*

9. Can Satan work miracles?

10. Why was a lying demon allowed to delude King Ahab?

11. List two instances of unrighteous people attempting to use the power of God and the consequences they suffered.

A. _____

B. _____

12. How does God's "go ye" apply to every Christian?

13. What weapons formed against the child of God can prosper? *Give reference*

14. After the battle, what will be our position?

Answers on Chapter Fourteen

1. We must fight by God's rules.
2. No.
3. Misdirect our firepower.
4. *Ephesians 6:11-18.*
5. In order to stand against Satan.
6. A. Having your loins girt about with truth.
B. The breastplate of righteousness.
C. Your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.
D. The shield of faith.
E. The helmet of salvation.
F. The sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God.
7. Jesus—*John 14:6.*
8. Satan—*John 8:44.*
9. Yes.
10. Because he had rejected the truth.
11. A. Sons of Sceva. B. Simon the Sorcerer.
12. We are to go into our sphere of activity.
13. None—*Isaiah 54:17.*
14. We will still be standing up.

NOTES:

Chapter Fifteen

Weapons of Offensive Warfare Part I— Intercessory Prayer

When we put on the whole armor of God and keep it intact in our lives, we have an impenetrable shield from every attack of the enemy, absolutely invulnerable. We thank God for it.

However, that is far from all that God means for us to have. We are not in a holding maneuver. We are in an all-out war.

There is a great difference between a defensive battle and an offensive battle.

In the sport of football, the rules note the two differing types of battle to the extent that one team is sent in for defensive play and an entirely different one for offensive play.

In the natural warfare, there is a vast difference in the categorization of weaponry. We have defensive weapons such as the missiles, and we have offensive weapons such as nuclear bombs which are capable of annihilating millions of people at one time.

Our treaties with foreign nations make allowances for different types of weaponry. We have a treaty, for instance, which allows the Russians to send *defensive* weapons to Cuba, but it is a violation of Russia's treaty with us if they send *offensive* weapons there.

In the spiritual world, our military Leader is Christ Himself. He has provided us not only with the defensive armor, He has provided us with the greatest, most potent weapons for offensive warfare into Satan's strongholds.

Our warfare is of such far greater import than football as to make it a ridiculous parallel, but we can use it to point out a very great truth.

God's "team" is not divided into defensive and offensive squads. God

does not mean for some of us to be defensive fighters and some to be offensive. He wants all of us to have on His whole defensive armor at all times, and it is His command that we take offensive action to invade Satan's territory and tear the spoils of battle from his hand, that we be **more than conquerors** (*Romans 8:37*).

If I had my way, I would see that the song "Hold the Fort" was taken out of every hymnal. God does not want us just to "hold the fort." We will never win the battle "holding the fort." We win the battle by going into the devil's territory and tearing from his grasp the things that belong to the children of God and to the kingdom of God.*

GOD-GIVEN STRATEGY

During the Vietnam War, I went to the battlefield to speak to the American troops. There I met with General William Westmoreland, commander of our forces. I asked him, "General Westmoreland, we have such tremendous forces in the United States of America, why can't we get in and win this war?"

The General replied, "Dr. Cerullo, we are not here to win the war as such. We are here to try to stabilize the people of South Vietnam, then to pull out and let them handle the situation."

I knew from that statement that it was totally impossible for us to win the war in Vietnam.

Why?

Because it was a holding maneuver. It was not a war for victory.

That is why there are so many perplexing areas in the world today. So many battles have been holding battles and they never resolve anything.

The Korean conflict was never resolved. Our troops were not allowed to penetrate beyond the 38th parallel. That meant enemy troops could come over the line, strike, and run back to their place of safety.

In Vietnam, the North Vietnamese guerrillas would find sanctuary in Cambodia, where our forces were forbidden to go. They would cross the line and strike at South Vietnam, and then flee back to their sanctuary. Our forces did penetrate into Cambodia to strike at the enemy on one occasion, but that was about the only offensive our forces took in the entire time of our involvement in that country militarily.

I am not debating the pros or cons of those wars. I am saying that *such tactics will never bring victory*. Neither will it in spiritual warfare!

* See Morris Cerullo's book, *Proof Producers*, chapter entitled, "The Roots of the Battle."

We have no right to go to war unless we mean to press on to victory.

God means for us to hold on. He means for us to persevere. He means for us to quench all the fiery darts of the enemy with our shields of faith. *But he never meant for His blood-washed, sanctified, Spirit-filled children to quiver behind the lines of a spiritual "38th parallel."*

God has called us to an Army. Militant. Mobilized. Moving. Making inroads into the very territory of Satan with no quarter given.

We must remember at all times, however, that this is a purely spiritual battle.

Our defensive weaponry which we have already studied is totally spiritual in nature.

It is a shame that so many natural warfares are waged in the name of spiritual causes...the Christians and the Moslems fighting in Lebanon, the Catholics and the Protestants fighting in Ireland, the so-called Holy wars of the ancient crusades.

The real battle of the true Church is totally, purely spiritual in scope. The battles in your home or on your job, anywhere in your area of involvement should not be fisticuffs, guns, knives or even railing. Our battle is not with flesh and blood. It is not with a wife or a husband. It is not with our children. It is not with a boss or a fellow-employee.

Our battle is with our spiritual enemy, Satan.

Just as our defensive armor, which we have already studied, is totally spiritual, our offensive weaponry is totally spiritual.

We can save ourselves a lot of hard lessons, we can save our testimonies a lot of criticism, if we keep this clearly in view. Many "messes" have been made, even in the ministry, by people who have taken matters into their own hands to try to "set things right." Often violence has occurred because of this.

We must be violent, all right, but not violent to people. We are to do violence to Satan's forces in the spirit world. Certainly his forces seek to do violence to us and to the kingdom of God.

To *seize* the keys of dominion back from Satan, we must be *violently determined* in the spirit.

"And from the days of John the Baptist until the present time the kingdom of heaven has endured violent assault, and violent men seize it by force (as a precious prize)—a share in the heavenly kingdom is sought for with most ardent zeal and intense

exertion" (Matthew 11:12, Amplified Bible).

Our violence is never in the natural arena at all, and neither are our weapons.

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God..." (II Corinthians 10:3-5).

How can we be violent in the spirit? What are our *violent* weapons?

We have a number of spiritual weapons, yet all operate as a single powerful unit that rolls to victory every time they are scripturally utilized. Though we will try to consider these weapons one at a time, they are all intricately interwoven and all are necessary to our overwhelming victory over the things of Satan.

Using the military as a parallel, we might say that we as the Army of God are the infantry, the land Army, marching to victory in the Name of Christ. We might say that those who sail to other lands to carry the message of the resurrected Christ are the Navy, traveling to foreign ports.

However, the real power is the power of the "Air Force" over us all which penetrates and wipes out the enemy. This powerful **air force** is composed of these irresistible weapons: **prayer**, **fasting**, and the **Word of God**.

When I speak of prayer as an offensive weapon, I am not talking about the kind of praying that we normally do at the breakfast table, in our five-minute devotions, or in Sunday school.

All sincere prayer to God is good and has its place. Paul tells us we must *"Pray without ceasing"* (*I Thessalonians 5:17*). We can and we should remain in an attitude of prayer and praise at all times, ever mindful of the blessings and protection of God.

However, the prayer that is our offensive weapon is the *travailing, prevailing, wrestling of the spirit* that turns men and nations around for God.

The violence of this type of prayer is exemplified in our record of the prophet Daniel.

"In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did

I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled...And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands...Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel; for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words" (Daniel 10:2-3, 10, 12).

Here were spiritual forces at war, and what a battle it was.

Daniel was praying and seeking God in the manner which was his custom:

"And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes" (Daniel 9:3).

It was because of such seeking after God that God revealed so much to Daniel and used him in such an outstanding way.

It was a violent time in Daniel's life when he was thrown into the lions' den. *Read the complete Chapter Six in the book of Daniel.*

Where was the violence? Daniel was not harmed.

The violence had already been done in the spirit world through Daniel's prayer life. The lions could not open their mouths. It was not that the lions were not violent: they killed the men who accused Daniel before they even reached the bottom when the king had them thrown into that same lions' den.

The lions could not touch Daniel because his warfare had taken place in the spirit world. The battle had been won spiritually. When that was done, the answer came in the natural world. The natural order of things favored Daniel.

The Scripture quoted above gives a graphic look behind the scenes at Daniel's prayer life.

He sought God for three full weeks before the answer came. Yet the heavenly messenger told him his prayer was heard the very first day. There was a battle going on behind the scenes. Evil forces withheld God's heavenly messenger, but Daniel continued to pray and God continued to send help.

God has far greater forces on His side than Satan has on his. He will always win. We can count on it. We can count it done. God hears us the very first day, the very first minute that we set ourselves to seek Him. The answer *must* come as we persevere in prayer.

A line from Alfred Lord Tennyson that is widely quoted says, "More

things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

This is true because there are some individuals...not many, but some...who see the real power of prayer in the affairs of men and nations. Far too many people, Christians even, have a fatalistic approach to problems. They say, "What will be will be." They fail to see how prayer mightily moves the hand of God and tears down the very strongholds of Satan.

Understand that when we pray, God is not our adversary. *Satan* is our adversary. Intercessory prayer is the force that brings God and all His resources (which are immeasurable, unlimited) to our side to effect the victory. It is the weapon God gave us with which to take the limit off Him and cut Him loose to work in our lives in a miraculous way.

To those who find the dynamic secret of intercessory prayer, it becomes a lifetime calling. To others, motivated by extreme pressure, need or desire, it may be a one-time experience for meeting the need of the moment only.

However, this instrument is so powerful, so effective, so *guaranteed* by God Himself that at one time Isaiah found God to be *surprised* that there was no one making use of this powerful means of bringing God down to man to meet man's most vital needs.

"And (God) saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor..." (Isaiah 59:16).

Job, in his extremity, used a term that well describes the intercessory prayer warrior.

"Neither is there any daysman betwixt us (between God and Job), that might lay his hand upon us both" (Job 9:33).

In the ultimate, of course, Jesus Himself is our Daysman.

"...It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us" (Romans 8:34).

However, God has placed it within the scope of our ability and the scope of our *responsibility* for us to be daysmen, by the fervor of our prayers reaching out in spirit to touch both God and man, bringing them together for that tremendous touch whereby another need is met miraculously.

We may make intercession for our own needs such as Hannah did in *I Samuel 1*. Unable to bear children, Hannah went to the temple on her

own behalf and sought God so desperately that the priest at first thought she was drunk. To him, Hannah explained the condition of her heart and spirit.

"And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD. Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto" (I Samuel 1:15-16).

God saw the anguish of Hannah's heart and the sincerity of the request and He gave her the desire of her heart to give her a miracle son.

"Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD" (I Samuel 1:20).

God was so moved by Hannah's prayer that Samuel, as she named her first child, was not the only result of her travail. She was *more* than conqueror in her battle.

"And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters..." (I Samuel 2:21).

The greatest use of intercession is that in which we in total selflessness penetrate the heavens for the needs of others with no regard for our own position and no desire for rewards. Such an intercessor was Moses.

On one occasion, Moses stood in the gap for Israel which had come under God's wrath:

"And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever" (Exodus 32:11-13).

God was so angry at rebellious Israel, that He threatened to annihilate

them completely and start a new family from Moses. Moses was more concerned with the needs of the people than he was in the honor of being the father of a new seed. He interceded for them with great fervor of heart.

"And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written" (Exodus 32:31-32).

Moses' prayers stayed the hand of God's judgment on that nation.

Through intercessory prayer, we may have mastery and dominion over the very elements of nature. A precedent for this is to be found with Elijah in his prayer for rain after three years of drought.

"...And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees. And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times. And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not. And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain..." (I Kings 18:42-45).

One of Jesus' parables stressed our power in continued intercession, not giving up but persevering in prayer:

"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily..." (Luke 18:1-8).

Victory through prayer that goes beyond mere surface "wishing" is the guarantee of Jesus Himself:

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8).

We ask on behalf of those in need, but it must not be left there. We must seek on their behalf, and knock, until we see the victory opened up completely.

This is the promise upon which we can surely stand...a sure word from God Himself...one of the most tremendous weapons of warfare we can ever know...

And it is in our hands.

More than that...it is in our *mouths*.

Questions on Chapter Fifteen

1. What are two differing types of spiritual warfare?
A. _____
B. _____
2. Why could we not win the war in Vietnam?

3. Do "holding wars" solve problems?

4. Which is spiritual, our defensive armor or our offensive weaponry?

5. When should a Christian be violent?

6. The weapons of our warfare are spiritual, not _____.

7. What do the weapons accomplish? Give Scripture.

8. What kind of prayer is an offensive weapon?

9. How was Daniel an example of this type of prayer?

10. Is it true that "What will be will be" and prayer cannot change the fact?

11. Who wondered at the lack of intercessors in Israel?

12. Give a Bible example of intercession which resulted in the birth of a child.

13. Who prevailed in intercession for Israel when God threatened to destroy the nation?

14. How many times did Elijah pray for rain before the answer came?

15. What lesson did Jesus teach with the parable of the unjust judge?

-
16. Give Scripture from Jesus' sermon on the Mount that encourages continued intercession.
-

Answers on Chapter Fifteen

1. Defensive and offensive.
2. We did not wage offensive warfare.
3. No.
4. Both.
5. In spiritual combat.
6. Carnal.
7. Tearing down of strongholds. *II Corinthians 10:4*.
8. Intercessory.
9. Prayed and fasted for three weeks.
10. No, false.
11. God.
12. Hannah's.
13. Moses.
14. Seven.
15. To persevere in prayer.
16. *Matthew 7:7*.



"I will make my words in thy mouth fire..." (Jeremiah 5:14).

Weapons of Offensive Warfare Part II—Speak the Word

The Word of God.

There is no way to stress strongly enough the power of God's Word as both a defensive and an offensive weapon.

We saw in Chapter 11 as we studied the temptations of Jesus how the written Word of God was used to thwart Satan's temptations and thus was a defensive weapon.

However, it is one of the most powerful offensive weapons, if not **the** most powerful, that God has placed in our hands...more than that, in our *mouths*.

Conversely, our own words often are the most destructive force Satan uses against us.

We have already seen that God's Word is the "*sword of the spirit*" (*Ephesians 6:17*).

Now God Himself tells us what a powerful sword this weapon is in Hebrews where it is written:

"For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (*Hebrews 4:12*).

This sure, sharp sword is used for other purposes also, but our concern in this study is the weaponry of the Spirit.

In a later chapter we take up the power of God's Spirit and the utter necessity of this power to properly handle armor and weapons.

In this chapter, however, we presuppose that you, as a child of God, use this potent sword, God's Word, by the Spirit. Anything less is lethal

to spiritual life.

"...the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life" (II Corinthians 3:6).

Sometimes people use God's Word on others with the deadly intent of smiting, even killing, that person spiritually, not of helping them or of showing compassion. Many, many people have been encouraged along the road to hell with God's Word, carelessly or ignorantly used, twisted, or taken out of context. We as God's elect must not come from that position.

As soldiers in the Army of God we must come from God's position, a position of the Spirit, that is diametrically opposed to Satan in all his ways and forms.

Jesus said:

"...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life" (John 6:63)

The Bible speaks of those who heard the Word of God and it profited them nothing because it was not mixed with faith.

"For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it" (Hebrews 4:2).

We also do not come from that position. We come from a position of faith* because we know that God's Word is true.

We can stand upon it and stake our lives upon it no matter what anyone else or any *thing* says.

"...let God be true, but every man a liar..." (Romans 3:4).

God's Word is so powerful that it is the instrument of His very creativity.

God actually created the worlds by the power of His Word...not by combustion, not by nuclear fission, not by some mystical, scientific process but by His Word.

The Bible says that Jehovah God stepped out on the precipice of space...

"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light...And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters...and it was

* See *Proof Producers* by Morris Cerullo, the chapter, "How to Have Faith Without Struggling."

so" (*Genesis 1:3,6,7*).

"And God said"..."and God said"..."and God said"..."as God said, so it happened. As God said so, the fish began to swim, the mountains were carved out, the waters were separated from the earth, the stars were thrown into their orbits, the sun and the moon began to shine.

"And God said...!"

When God said it, it was so.

Think about the power of this Word that said, "*Let there be life,* " and there was life.

Life, substance, fowl, animals, stars, sun, moon came into existence out of nothing, by the Word of a voice.

God's power was in His Word, *is* in His Word.

What a weapon!

I pray that in the spirit you will receive the spiritual bombshell I am about to share with you. It is this:

God's Word is true when He speaks it...and it is true when *we* speak it.

God's Word not only is the written Word but we may speak His Word... and it is an instrument, a weapon and a strength to us.

Imagine for a moment the power of God's words in *our* mouths.

"...*I will make my words in thy mouth fire...*" (*Jeremiah 5:14*)

If God could only help us to understand that the life and the power of His words are eternal. They do not have anything to do with the weakness of these human vessels that we are.

Consider this powerful truth:

"...*for he hath said, I will \ never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, ' The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me'*" (*Hebrews 13:5-6*).

He hath said...so that *we* may boldly say!

The writer is speaking about Jesus Christ.

"*For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*"

I wish that the writer had not put the period there, and I wish he had not made a new verse out of the next verse.

"For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee: so that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man can do unto me."

"He hath said...so that we may boldly say " ...you can take this statement and put it in anything that God has ever said.

What was true in God's mouth does not lose its trueness. It is just as true when you speak it as when God spoke it, because it is God's Word and God never lies. It is truth!

If therefore God's Word is true in our mouths, and we still are living in defeat or merely "holding the fort," not operating in spiritually creative areas...we must be saying the wrong things, or the right words have not entered into our spirit. We must be using words that are not God's, words that are not power, words that are not truth, words that are not positive, words that are not creative, or we are not believing the words that are all of those things.

Here is one of the greatest truths in this book: Many times we say, or confess, things that bring our own defeat. Instead of being weapons against Satan, we turn our words upon ourselves. Our own words become Satan's weapons against us.

"Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth..." (Proverbs 6:2).

We have just finished a powerful chapter on the use of prayer as a weapon against Satan, but do you know that by praying wrong words we defeat ourselves? We say that we believe God's Word...but we speak the opposite and by so doing reveal that we do not really have God's faith.

Jesus said:

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

Yet when we pray, we often say the very opposite. When we discuss our problems with others, we often say the opposite. Since God's Word is truth...the opposite word is a lie. Since God's Word is positive, the opposite word is negative. Since God's Word is creative, the opposite word is destructive. Since God's Word is light, the opposite word is darkness. Do you see it?

We tell our friends, "Well, I prayed and prayed...and things just got

worse."

That is not letting Mark 11:24 be His Word in our mouths. It is just the opposite.

We can stand upon God's Word when we pray. We can utilize tremendous Scriptures. We can say, "God, You said..." and add His promises.

"God, You said, 'if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.' (Matthew 18:19)."

"God, You said, My God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus' (Philippians 4:19)."

"God, You said, 'No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly' (Psalm 84.11)."

You can say any of the thousands of promises that are ours in Christ Jesus and use them as a point of prayer for powerful prayer victories as outlined in the previous chapter.

But God's Word is *more than a power in prayer. It is a power just when we speak it out, when we confess it.*

"But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth..." (Romans 10:8-9). .

Where is God's Word?

"In thy mouth!"

What must we do with it?

"Confess!"

What do we confess? Our feelings?

Feelings lie. Satan can affect our feelings. Circumstances can affect our feelings. Our diet or our lack of sleep can affect our feelings.

Our feelings change. They are not a weapon. They are unreliable and useless in warfare. Feelings are carnal and we are told expressly that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal.

That is *why* God says, "*Let the weak say, I am strong*" (Joel 3:10).

Someone asks, "Brother Cerullo, if I am weak and I say that I am strong, won't I be lying?"

I would not be lying. God's Word says that I am strong and I know

God's Word to be true. I know feelings can lie, but God's Word never can.

If there is a difference between what I see, feel, hear, etc., and what I *know* to be God's Word, that seeing, feeling and hearing lies. God's Word is still true. I am operating on the sixth sense that God has given me as His child...the supernatural sense called faith.*

God has said, "*With his stripes we are healed*" (*Isaiah 53:5*).

When I am sick, this Word is health in my mouth:

"Lord, I confess that with His stripes I am healed."

When you are going through some tremendous trial (and Christians often do*), you can sit down and cry...or you can rise up in the power of God's Word and overcome.

You can say, "God, by these tears, by my despondency, by my drooping spirit, what I am trying to say is that You are not meeting my need!"

You would be denying the Word of God that says, "My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." By that denial, you bring your own defeat...you are getting what you believe for!

Or in your trial you can say, "God, I confess that despite every circumstance I can see, you are meeting my need right now. I confess that You will never leave me or forsake me. I confess that 'My God shall supply all my needs in Christ Jesus.' I confess that 'I am more than conqueror through Him that loved me.'"

Confess *any* Word of God. His Word is true. What He said is exactly what is going on...you *are* having your need met right now. You are *not* being left or forsaken by God. You *are* more than a conqueror through Him.

This chapter could go on and on. It could embrace every promise in the Word of God. However, a book like that already has been written. It is called the Holy Bible. What promises for spiritual victory it contains!

I will list just a few for you...but these are just the tip of the iceberg.

Read, study, absorb the Word of God. Make every word your own. It will be a creative, victorious force in your mouth as you speak out and confess God's Word. Satan *must flee* in the face of this effective sword wielded by the power of God.

* See Morris Cerullo's book *Why Do The Righteous Suffer?*, copyright 1978, Morris Cerullo World Evangelism.

[God] hath said: "... Whatsoever ye shall hind on earth shall he hound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall he loosed in heaven" (Matthew 18:18).

So that we may boldly say: ". ..Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit" (Mark 5:8).

[God] hath said: "...my peace I give unto you..." (John 14:27).

So that we may boldly say: "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (II Timothy 1:7).

[God] hath said: ". ..no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Psalm 84:11).

So that we may boldly say: "The LORD will give strength unto his people..." (Psalm 29:11).

[God] hath said: will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hebrews 13:5).

So that we may boldly say: "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them" (Deuteronomy 33:27).

[God] hath said: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee..." (Isaiah 41:10).

So that we may boldly say: "...the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits" (Daniel 11:32).

[God] hath said: "...with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

So that we may boldly say: "...If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23).

[God] hath said: "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof..." (Psalm 24:1).

So that we may boldly say: "... my God shall supply all [my] need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

[God] hath said: "The LORD is my shepherd..." (Psalm 23:1).

So that we may boldly say: "...I will fear no evil..." (Psalm 23:4).

[God] hath said: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee..." (Isaiah 41:10).

So that we may boldly say: "... [He] will uphold [me] with the right hand of [His] righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10).

[God] hath said: "...he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked" (Psalm 97:10).

So that we may boldly say: "... in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:37).

[God] hath said:* "...be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might" (*Ephesians 6.10*).

So that we may boldly say: ". . .taking the shield of faith, wherewith [I] shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked" (*Ephesians 6.16*).

* See Morris Cerullo's book, *Confess The Promise Out*, copyright 1977, Morris Cerullo World Evangelism.

Questions on Chapter Sixteen

1. Is God's Word a defensive weapon or offensive weapon?

2. Give Scripture which calls the Word of God a two-edged sword.

3. When can use of God's Word be hurtful to spiritual life? *Give Scripture*

4. Why did God's Word not profit those referred to in *Hebrews 4:2*?

5. What was the instrument of God's creativity?

6. Is God's Word just as true when we speak it as when God speaks it?

7. Is it possible for our own words to be weapons against us? *Give Scripture*

8. Can our prayers actually work against us?

How?
_____.

9. Where is God's Word according to *Romans 10:8*?

10. Can we always trust our feelings?

Why or why not?
_____.

11. Is it being hypocritical for the weak to say they are strong?

12. List ten positive statements of victory we can boldly say because God has said them:

A. _____

B. _____

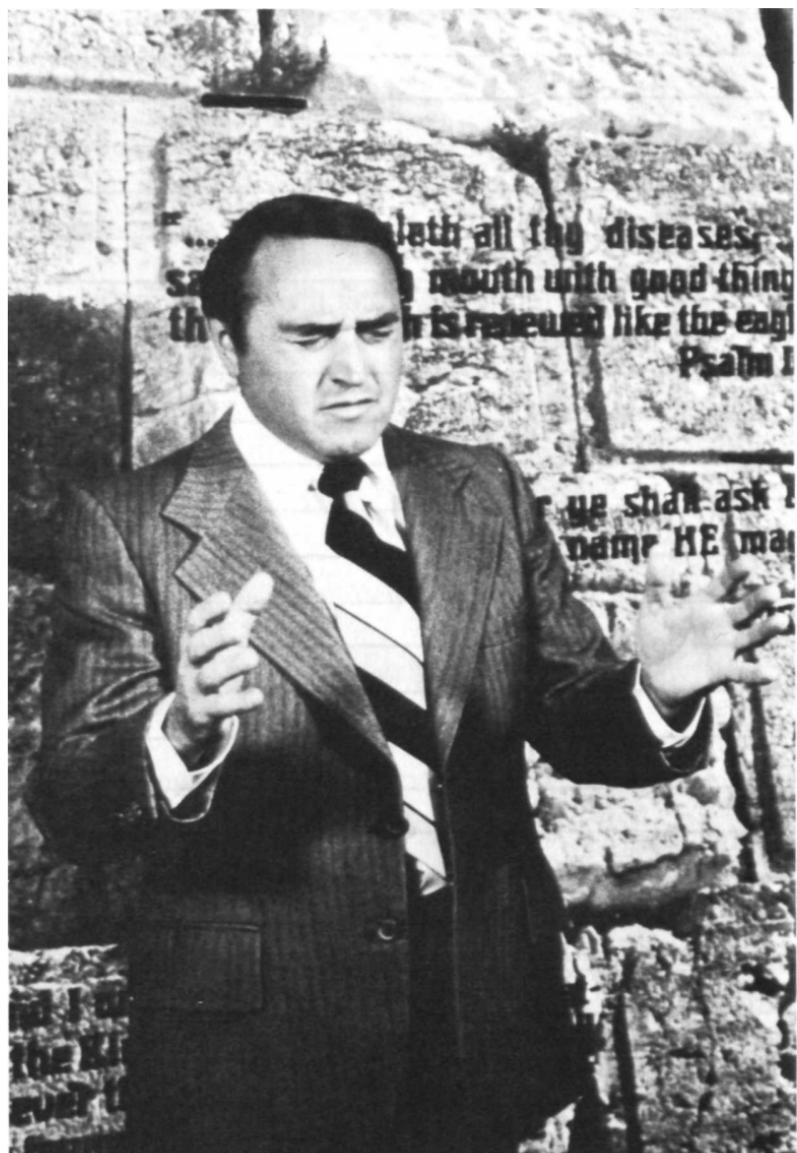
C. _____

- D. _____
- E. _____
- F. _____
- G. _____
- H. _____
- I. _____
- J. _____

Answers on Chapter Sixteen

1. Both.
2. *Hebrews 4:12.*
3. When used in the wrong spirit. *II Corinthians 3:6.*
4. It was not mixed with faith.
5. His Word.
6. Yes.
7. Yes. *Proverbs 6:2.*
8. Yes, we can pray negatively. We get what we believe for.
9. In our mouths.
10. No. Feelings change but God's Word does not.
11. No.
12. *Mark 5:8, II Timothy 1:7, Psalm 29:11, Deuteronomy 33:27, Daniel 11:32, Mark 9:23, Philippians 4:19, Psalm 23:4, Romans 8:37, Ephesians 6:16*
and every promise God has made.

NOTES:



"Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 18:18).

Chapter Seventeen

Weapons of Offensive Warfare Part III— Binding and Loosing

When Jesus was walking in the flesh here on earth, He was the walking example for the disciples who were to carry on His work after His death, resurrection and ascension.

This includes His use of the words of His mouth.

We mentioned previously that although Jesus is God, while on earth He did not call upon His inherent deity. He also was 100 percent man. He utilized only those spiritual weapons and resources which also are available to us.

Jesus declared:

"...All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18).

He also said:

"Behold, I give unto you power.. .over all the power of the enemy..." (Luke 10:19).

He further said:

"...as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21).

Here is the purpose for which God sent Jesus to this world:

"...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (I John 3:8).

This is the same purpose for which we are sent. We are to destroy the works of the enemy. We do it by the same methods Jesus used.

Jesus was a master at the use of God's Word.

The Scriptures give us clear teaching on methods of praying for the sick. However, as we enter into the authority delegated to us by Jesus Christ, we enter into a dimension even beyond that, a dimension in which Jesus Himself functioned to fulfill His God-given purpose.

Though Jesus healed many sick and afflicted people and those who were demon possessed, we do not have a single record that Jesus ever once prayed for the sick.*

He spoke the Word.

When the centurion came to Jesus on behalf of his servant who was paralyzed, he told Jesus, "*You don't have to come to my house. Speak the word only and my servant will be healed.*"

Jesus said:

"...Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour" (Matthew 8:13).

The centurion had perceived something about Jesus which made him a man of great faith. We also will be people of great faith when we perceive this truth: He saw that Jesus Christ was a man under authority of God.

As an army officer the centurion knew his soldiers would obey his slightest orders. With the eye of faith he saw that Jesus had much greater authority, that He had authority over *all things*, and that His every word *must* be obeyed.

Jesus had only to speak the word.

One day Jesus met a man in the synagogue who had a withered hand. Jesus did not pray for him to be healed. Instead He told the man, "*Stretch forth thine hand.*"

He spoke the word. In obedience the withered hand was completely healed (*Mark 3:1-5*).

A leper came to Jesus and declared, "Jesus, if You will, You can make me clean."

Jesus did not pray for him.

He said, "*I will; be clean.*" He spoke the word, the leprosy disappeared (*Matthew 8:2-3*).

He said to the lame man at the pool, "*Rise,*" and the man arose (*John*

* See Chapter 13 of Morris Cerullo's book Proof Producers entitled "The Methodology of Producing the Proof."

5:8).

He said to the blind, "See," and the blind received their sight (*Luke 7:21*).

He said to the deaf, "Hear," and the deaf heard (*Mark 7:32-35*).

He said to the demons, "Come out," and they obeyed His word (*Matthew 9:32-33*).

The religious leaders said:

"...What thing is this? What new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him" (*Mark 1:27*).

Jesus spoke the word to the winds and the waves, "Peace, be still," and the storms subsided (*Mark 4:39*).

When Jesus came to Bethany where His friend Lazarus had died and had been buried for four days, Jesus did pray. However, His prayer was expressly for the purpose of letting those around Him know that His power was from God. He said:

"...Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me" (*John 11:41-42*).

When He wrought the deliverance, however, He did not say, "Now God, You bring Lazarus forth." He spoke directly to the corpse and commanded: "Lazarus, come forth."

"And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go" (*John 11:44*).

We not only see as the centurion did that Jesus had the authority to speak the Word, as His chosen disciples we see that we have been delegated His authority. If He could speak the Word and the work was done...and He gave us the same authority...we can speak the Word and see the work done.

Jesus said:

"...as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (*John 20:21*).

"...whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed,

and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe all those things which he saith, shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he sayeth" (Mark 11:23).

We now are moving into an area that is based on prayer, yet is not prayer in the strict sense of the word. It is based on the Word of God, but it is not solely the written Word of God. It is a new dimension of spiritual power that is never reached by many people.

It is a dimension of speaking, with God's authority, words that God puts in our mouths so that no force of Satan dare stand before us. It is a dimension of power open to us but never entered into by an overwhelming majority of God's people.

It is one of the most powerful weapons in the Bible for spiritual warfare and its scriptural foundation is found in this statement by Jesus:

"...Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 18:18).

This power of binding and loosing warrants a chapter by itself because it is not really prayer and it is not solely the written Word of God.

It is based on prayer by nature of the fact that in order to lay hold on this powerful weapon we must penetrate to a deeper dimension in prayer than most people ever dream about. We must learn to travail and prevail in prayer until we penetrate the spirit world to where we can exercise this authority God has given us to bind and to loose.

We cannot deal on a surface level with the spiritual battle that rages at the roots of every problem. The warfare is not on the surface. It is not in the circumstances as we see them. In order to fight the war, we have to get on the territory where that battle is taking place, and this is in the spirit world.

The weapon of binding and loosing is so powerful that we must be powerful, spiritual men and women, to be able to use it.

When David was fleeing from Saul, he sought Ahimelech, the priest, and asked him for a sword.

"And the priest said, The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod: if thou wilt take that, take it: for there is no other save that here..." (I Samuel 21:9)

Goliath's sword was made for a giant. An ordinary person could not use it. However, David had grown and matured in warfare from the time he had been unable to maneuver in Saul's armor (*I Samuel 17:38-39*). He now had experience in warfare and confidence in his authority. He rose up in faith to handle this larger weapon than he had heretofore used and he boldly declared: "...*There is none like that; give it me*" (*I Samuel 21:9*).

The ability to bind may be larger, more powerful weaponry than some of us have ever used. In the authority of God's Word let us rise up in faith and say of this weapon God has given us: "Give it me. There is none like it."

This is the sword of spiritual giants. We can be those giants.

Ready for prevailing spiritual battle, we have come to the place where one of the gifts of God's Holy Spirit is an absolutely essential must to the spiritual warrior and that is the discerning of spirits (*I Corinthians 12:10*).

How can we fight what we do not see or discern? How can we fight if we do not know what the enemy is?

We know that overall it is Satan and we certainly can come against him and all his power, but we have added leverage if we can call out the spirits by name as we bind them.

One reason that some people are so ineffective in this [area is that they do not discern the real issues at stake.

We are now in the arena in the power of God, clothed with his armor, bearing His weapons, recognizing and discerning the enemy. We are prepared to let God's Word be our two-edged sword of the Spirit.

There are several explanations of the two edges. One truth is this: We have the written Word of God which we know is true and upon which we can stand at any time and in any circumstance. God also gives us the *spoken* word, spoken by His power in the same manner Jesus used. God can and does put inspired words in the mouths of His ministers as they move under the unction and anointing of His Holy Spirit.

When I was in India at the time the revelation of the New Anointing was given to me (as I related in Chapter One), as I entered into the spirit world in prayer, I began to call out and bind such spirits as were there to hinder our crusade in that country. I bound the spirits of sin, the spirit of false idols, the false cults, the spirit of false religion, every devilish spirit I knew was at work there against us. I found myself

binding the power of Satan which controlled the religious leaders that might influence them to try to destroy the crusade. In Jesus' Name I bound them and I cast them out.

Then I began to loose the spirits which would bless the crusade efforts.

This has been a stumbling block to some immature Christians, that there are many good spirits. They quote the verse that says:

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body..." (I Corinthians 12:13).

It is true that there is one Holy Spirit which is the Spirit of God, but remember that all truth is parallel. As there are many evil spirits emanating from Satan, there are also good spirits which emanate from the Lord.

The spirits of rebellion, confusion, frustration, turmoil, lust, promiscuousness, sin, dope, unconcern, selfishness, criticism, fear, and anxiety are all loose in the world.

Some of our modern-day Christians are so confused that they do not know the will of God. They do not know where to go; they do not know what to do; they do not know where to turn. They just do not know what decision to make. They operate in a spirit of frustration and uncertainty.

Contrast that with the spirit of steadfastness known by the Apostle Paul who said:

"...I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Timothy 1:12).

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?...Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:35,37).

As evil is a spirit, good is a spirit.

As hate is a spirit which has infiltrated and ruled this nation and the world, so love is a spirit.

As frustration and confusion are spirits, so is steadfastness.

Sickness is a spirit. It is a result of the curse. God never intended for man's eyes to become dim or his ears to become weak or even for him to

lose his hair.

Healing also is a spirit.

Many ministers have been amazed that all of a sudden people would begin to get healed in their services. No matter what they preached on, people all over the congregation would start receiving their healings. Then suddenly it would stop. What happened was that a spirit of healing was present in the meetings.

That is why I emphasize over and over in my meetings that I do not need to touch a person for them to be healed.

"God is a Spirit. He is right there beside you," I tell the congregation. All over the auditorium people will begin to have miraculous healings as the spirit of healing moves through the room.

A pastor might notice souls being saved in every service, no matter what kind of service it is. When this happens a spirit of salvation is moving in the service.

People have different spirits operating in and influencing them, and often these spirits are contagious.

Perhaps someone will come in with a spirit of confusion. Before you know it, that spirit has spread. Or it may be a spirit of contention or a spirit of lust.

People walk in their own spiritual atmosphere...and their spirits affect the spirits of others.

One person with a spirit of contention can affect a whole building of co-workers. Conversely, one person with a spirit of enthusiasm or friendliness can affect that same building for good.

Some atmospheres are so heavy with bad spirits...unforgiveness, selfishness, discouragement, hatred, prejudice, etc....that you can feel it. Some are so full of good spirits such as friendliness, love, openness, etc., that you receive a lift just by entering.

You cannot fight a spirit of contention with contentiousness in your own spirit. That just adds confusion to confusion. You fight evil spirits by binding them and their power and by loosing good spirits in their place.

This is something that is done here on earth. You may be on your knees in the I Care Prayer Center, in your dormitory room, in the park, or some other earthly setting, but if you are binding or loosing spirits you are operating in a spiritual realm. What you do on earth is done in

heaven.

In the Spirit of God you utter the words here on earth...those words are carried out in the spirit world.

His earth is a great arena of spiritual warfare and this is where the major battles must be fought and won.

If your family relationships are tangled, in the spirit you can bind that foul spirit of contention or rebellion and cast it out. You can loose a spirit of forgiveness, a spirit of love.

If you have met God's conditions of giving and are still having financial problems, if it appears that all your resources are going down the drain no matter what you do, you can bind the spirit of poverty and loose the spirit of abundance on your means.

You can bind a spirit of confusion and loose a spirit of peace and well-being.

In the Name of Jesus Christ and by the power of God's Holy Spirit you can bind any evil spirit and loose God's goodness into any situation as long as you are doing it in the arena of spiritual warfare.

There is no need to let perplexities and problems run rampant through our lives or those of our loved ones.

We have the authority and the dominion to stop it **now** and see a complete turnabout in the situation.

Every battle is spiritual in scope...and we have the weapons to win if we will just rise up and do it.

Questions on Chapter Seventeen

1. What weapons did Jesus use that will not be available to us until He comes again?

2. How many times is it recorded that Jesus prayed for the sick?

3. How did Jesus heal the sick?

4. List four different healings performed by Jesus through speaking the Word.

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

5. Why did Jesus pray before He raised Lazarus from the dead?

6. What effective weapon has God given us which is neither prayer nor His written Word but is based on both?

7. Give Scripture for the Christian's authority to bind and to loose.

8. Why do we say this is based on prayer?

9. What is a gift of the Spirit that is prerequisite to binding and loosing spirits?

10. How can we say there are many good spirits when *I Corinthians 12:13* says, "for by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body"?

11. List five evil spirits which may be bound.

A. _____

B. _____

- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____

12. List five good spirits that we may loose.

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____

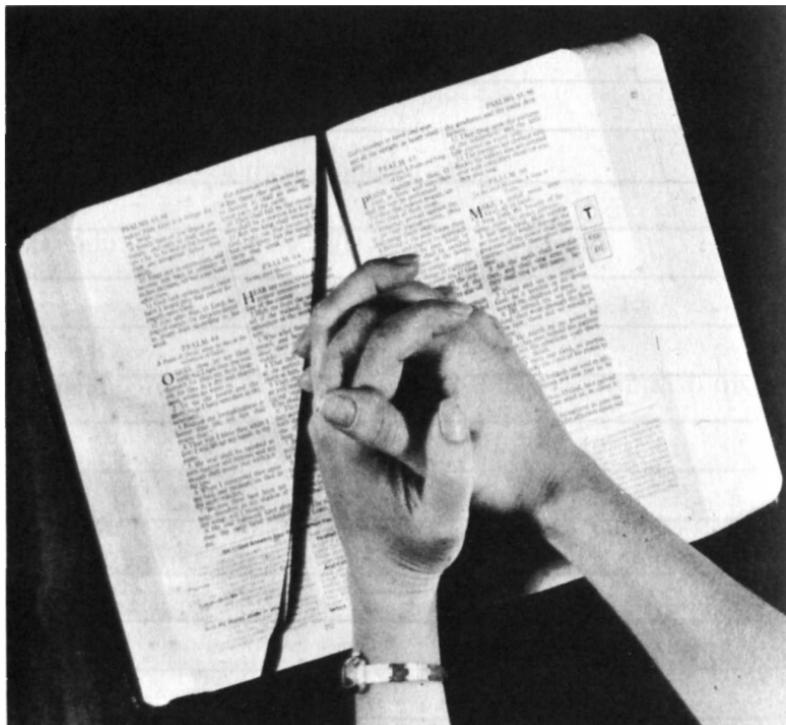
13. Are spirits contagious?

14. Why is it not necessary for the minister to touch each person in a healing service?

Answers on Chapter Seventeen

1. None.
2. None.
3. He spoke the Word.
4. The centurion's servant (*Matthew 8:13*).
The man with the withered hand (*Mark 3:5*).
The man with leprosy (*Matthew 8:3*).
The lame man at the pool (*John 5:8*).
5. For the sake of those looking on.
6. Binding and loosing.
7. *Matthew 18.18*.
8. We must pray out in the spirit world to accomplish this.
9. Discerning of spirits.
10. There is one Holy Spirit but many manifestations of the Holy Spirit such as a spirit of love, spirit of giving, spirit of salvation, etc.
11. Spirit of lust, spirit of greed, spirit of racism, spirit of sickness, spirit of poverty, etc.
12. Spirit of liberty, spirit of joy, spirit of peace, spirit of love, spirit of victory, spirit of healing, etc.
13. Yes.
14. Because God is a Spirit and He is present with each person.

NOTES:



Of great benefit to the Christian is the spiritual strength provided through scriptural fasting. It is of such benefit as a spiritual weapon that Satan fights very hard to prevent true fasting.

Chapter Eighteen

Weapons of Offensive Warfare Part IV— Fasting and Faith

We come now to a subject that is at the same time a tremendous battle and yet one of the most forceful weapons for fighting spiritual battles that we have at our command...fasting.

Fasting often is spoken of in conjunction with prayer, and the two do go hand in glove. However, Jesus mentions each as an individual act*...and so will we treat them here.

As we stressed earlier, many weapons overlap and interface. As we do well to use the whole armor of God in our defense, it is equally important to use the entire arsenal of God's weapons for the offensive tearing down of Satan's strongholds.

Jesus' disciples were commissioned to go out to preach the Gospel, heal the sick and cast out devils. They did this with such success that they returned rejoicing that "*even the devils are subject unto us*" {Luke 10.17}.

Despite the commission Jesus gave them and the delegation of His authority to carry out the commission, and despite successful ministry in the past, there came a time when the disciples found themselves powerless to cast out a demon. The account of this is given in *Matthew 17:14-21* and also in *Mark 9:14-29*.

This incident took place as Jesus was returning from the Mount of Transfiguration with Peter, James and John. There was a great tumult among the multitude awaiting Him. At His inquiry, one of the men ran to explain what the problem was:

* "And when thou prayest, thou shall not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men...Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast..." (*Matthew 6:5,16*).

"And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them. And straightway all the people, when they beheld him,—were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him. And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them? And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit; And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not" (Mark 9:14-18).

Though the disciples were unable to cope with the need, Jesus was not. The results of His ministry are told in verses 25-27:

"When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him. And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead. But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose."

Before Jesus rebuked the devil, however, He rebuked those around as a faithless and perverse generation.

"Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me" (Matthew 17:17).

When the disciples asked Jesus why they had been unable to cast the demon out, He told them it was because of their unbelief (*Matthew 17:20*).

Then He added:

"Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting" (Matthew 17:21).

Since Jesus told the disciples that they could not cast the demon out because of their unbelief and then declared that this kind came out only by prayer and fasting, it is obvious that prayer and fasting was the remedy for the unbelief. Prayer and fasting would have given them that added impetus and power needed to meet the need.

If such a demon could be cast out only by prayer and fasting and yet Jesus immediately did it, it is equally obvious that He *already* had prayed and fasted.

The Scriptures report of Jesus' prayer life time and again that He often

spent time with God.

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed" (Mark 1:35).

"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone" (Matthew 14:23).

When Lazarus died and was buried for four days, Jesus spoke the word of power that brought Lazarus forth from the grave, but it was obvious that Jesus had been in prayer long before the need for ministry arose.

Before He called Lazarus forth, Jesus turned His eyes heavenward and said:

"...Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me" (John 11:41).

Notice the past tense. The preparation for ministry had already been made. When the need arose, the work could be accomplished on the spot.

The pull of the world is continually downward. As a Christian ministers the things of the Lord, he must be careful to tarry before God to replenish his spiritual supply for coming needs. This preparation must include not only prayer but fasting as well for there are some things that can be accomplished through no other means.

That fasting can be of great physical benefit to the body is generally recognized throughout the world today as a means of cleansing and purifying the system.

Of far greater benefit to the Christian, however, is the spiritual strength provided through scriptural fasting. It is of such benefit as a spiritual weapon that Satan fights very hard to prevent true fasting.

Our spiritual battles often involve our physical senses and needs and fasting is no exception.

To fast unto God as a spiritual exercise is one of the hardest exercises of godliness that is known, for to do so is to deny one of the fundamental appetites of the flesh.

Galatians 5:17 tells us that:

"...the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the

flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."

Matthew 26:41 tells us that:

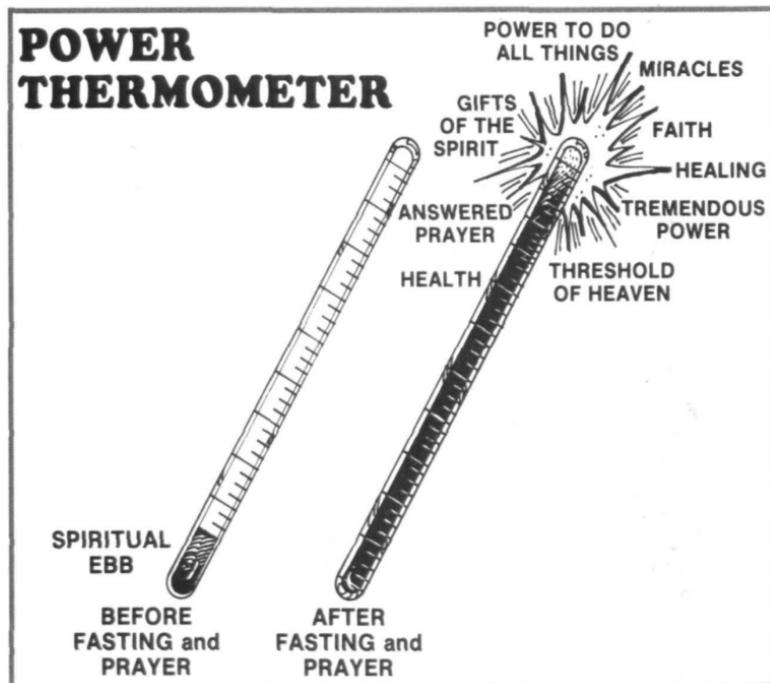
"...the spirit indeed is willing, hut the flesh is weak."

Still another verse, *Romans 8:7*, tells us that the carnal or fleshly mind is "enmity against God."

The pull of the world, and of the flesh is constantly a downward pull. The pull of the Spirit in Christ Jesus is up, a lifting into the heavenlies, a strengthening of might in the "*inner man*" (*Ephesians 3:16*).

It is through fasting that we have the most effective means for loosing the transcendency of the flesh and bringing the body under submission so that we may operate and minister in spiritual realms.

The spiritual results of fasting may be shown in this illustration:



There are several *kinds* of fasting, different *lengths* of fasts, several *reasons* for fasting detailed in the Bible.

There is a fast from God which permits drinking of water; there is a

complete fast which includes abstinence from water, and there is a *partial* fast which, in effect, is a restricted diet.

There are *private* fasts which are between the seeker and God alone, and there are *public* fasts which are called by religious or governmental leaders.

All of these are honored by God when scripturally applied.

It seems clear from the Scriptures that the fast of Jesus recorded in *Matthew 4:2* and *Luke 4:2* was a fast from food only. At the end of 40 days, Jesus was hungry but the Bible does not say that He was thirsty. Since the need for water is much greater than that of food and since Satan tempted Jesus with something to eat, not with something to drink, it stands to reason that Jesus had water during this wilderness time.

Moses was on two nearly consecutive 40-day fasts with neither food nor water:

"When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which the LORD made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water" (Deuteronomy 9:9).

He was supernaturally sustained by God because going for more than three or four days without water normally harms the body.

There are several fasts without water listed in the Bible. Ezra did it:

"Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Johanan the son of Eliashib: and when he came thither, he did eat no bread, nor drink water: for he mourned because of the transgression of them that had been carried away" (Ezra 10:6).

When Queen Esther made her valiant plea for the salvation of the Jews before King Ahasuerus, she requested Mordecai to call a fast of the Jews in Shushan. This is one instance in which prayer is not mentioned in connection with the fast though it must be assumed that the people already were praying for deliverance.

"Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish" (Esther 4:16).

Immediately upon Paul's conversion, he went on a three-day abstinence from food and water:

"And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink" (Acts 9:9).

Daniel was seeking God at the time of his great visitation as related in the tenth chapter of Daniel. He went on a partial fast, probably the barest necessities, for three weeks:

"In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled" (Daniel 10:2-3).

In another instance he says:

"And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes" (Daniel 9:3).

These are all examples of individuals fasting before God.

There were times, however, that battles were turned because of organized fasts called by leaders.

Nineveh was spared from annihilation through a fast called by the head of the government:

"And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not" (Jonah 3:4-10).

The children of Israel won a great victory against overwhelming odds when King Jehoshaphat called a fast:

"And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah" (II Chronicles 20:3).

When a spiritual authority calls a fast, those under that authority should never use the excuse, "I do not feel led to fast." They should exercise obedience as group fasting has been mightily used even to the changing of God's mind (as in the case of Nineveh).

There are several dangers inherent in fasting that is not exercised under the control of God.

One is that a regularly scheduled fast, such as every Friday, may get to be a form devoid of real meaning and power unless an attitude of worship is maintained. In that respect it could also become a matter of pride or self-righteousness.

The Pharisee prayed: *I fast twice in the week... (Luke 18:12)*.

The publican could not even lift up his head. He could only pray: "...God be merciful to me a sinner" (Verse 13).

However, he was the one who went to his home justified, not the man who fasted twice a week. That is why Jesus enjoined us not to pray to be seen of men (*Matthew 6:5*).

During the time of Isaiah, the people were fasting...and God turned a deaf ear. Isaiah had this to say:

"Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours. Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?" (Isaiah 58:3-7).

The fast that God chooses is the one that brings liberty to the captive, help to the needy.

When this type of fasting is sincerely employed, the results are almost staggering. The Christian is strengthened with might in the inner man...capable of waging spiritual warfare with great power...with this

kind of testimony behind it:

"Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward. Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity and thy darkness be as the noon day; And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones; and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not" (Isaiah 58:8-11).

When such a prepared vessel is brought into the arena of confrontation with Satan and all of his power, Satan will have to flee...a defeated foe.

Questions on Chapter Eighteen

1. Give two Scriptures in which fasting is spoken of apart from prayer.
A. _____
B. _____
2. What reason did Jesus give the disciples that they were unable to cast the demon out in Matthew 17?

3. What additional two things did He say were necessary for casting out that kind of demon?
A. _____
B. _____
4. Why was Jesus able to perform the needed miracle immediately?

5. Can fasting benefit the physical body?

6. Is fasting a battle, a weapon, or both?

7. Give two Scriptures that explain why fasting is hard on the flesh.
A. _____
B. _____
8. Where are we strengthened when we fast?

9. List three different kinds or degrees of fasting.
A. _____
B. _____
C. _____
10. Which of the three was Moses' 40-day fast?

11. Which was Jesus' 40-day fast?

12. Which was Daniel's three-week fast?

13. What is a public fast?

14. What city was spared because of a called fast?

15. If a leader calls a fast, should we comply even if we do not feel led to fast?

16. What is a danger in fasting we should avoid?

17. What is the fast that God chooses?

18. What is the result of such a fast?

Answers on Chapter Eighteen

1. *Matthew 6:16, Esther 4:16.*
2. Because of their unbelief.
3. Prayer and fasting.
4. He was prepared.
5. Yes.
6. Both.
7. *Galatians 5:17, Matthew 26:41.*
8. In the "inner man."
9. Normal or regular, complete, partial.
10. Complete.
11. Normal or regular.
12. Partial.
13. Called by a leader for a group or congregation.
14. Nineveh.
15. Yes.
16. Ritualism without meaning.
17. *Isaiah 58:6.*
18. *Isaiah 58:9.*



God wants to raise up men, women, farmers, lawyers, doctors... He wants to take the grass roots. He wants to work with you in the sphere of your own activity and endue you with His New Anointing power to work His works through your environment.

Spiritual Firepower

Much spiritual dynamite has been included in these chapters, enough for anyone who reads it and absorbs it to experience victory over Satan continually in every circumstance.

It is all firepower that is available to anyone with a spiritual eye to see or a spiritual ear to hear.

Why then are so few people exercising the power and authority God has given us over Satan?

Too long the devil has kept the level of our faith far below what God has for us.

Satan has many people convinced that their condition is hopeless, that the condition of the world itself is hopeless. People have problems that they cannot solve, sicknesses for which they cannot receive healing. They are carrying heavy, heavy burdens.

Likewise nations seem overwhelmed with problems, perplexities, pitfalls.

People and nations are crying for the kind of weapons and strategy that we know. The real purpose of this textbook is not just to know with our minds, however. It is to motivate men and women to reach out into the realms of the Spirit where victories are won. Faith is a fact, but faith is an act.

I tell you in the Name of Jesus Christ, you are going to receive the faith that you need to rise up and take the limit off God to meet the needs in your life and your ministry, to know that the God we serve is the God Who knows no limit.

It is He Who holds the power to take this world for Him, power He wants to delegate to us.

Many people believe that God wants to be a mystery, that He wants to cloud Himself and hide Himself. They think that God takes great pleasure in being eerie and mystical.

The thing that is eerie and that clouds itself in mystery is Satan, and all of his works.

God is very simple. He is so clear that you can see Him as looking into a mirror. He is no mystery. He *wants* you to know the height, the length, the width, the breadth and to understand all about Him.

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God..." (Ephesians 3:17-20).

Until the Church of Jesus Christ is filled with all the fullness of God, we will never take the world for God.

In 1978, God spoke to me and told me, "Son, I am going to use you to lead My people in how to take the limit off God." Then God said, "They in turn will be used by Me to reach a world."

There are many reasons why the Church of Jesus Christ limits an unlimited God.

Unless you deal with them, you can relegate your life to conventional Christianity. We must get out of the ruts of the harvest and climb some spiritual ladders until we get into that place with God where God can use us in the same way that He used the early Church.

Lives must be changed. Minds must be changed. Spirits must be changed. Attitudes must be changed.

I am not talking about mind power or the power of positive thinking. I am not talking about any natural power at all.

What I am talking about is the power that works inside you, the fullness of God, the firepower of the Spirit which causes us to rise up and march in victory over Satan.

One of the great reasons why we limit God and go through the same spiritual routines and ruts in our lives over and over is because we do not go far enough.

Most in Christian experience go only to a certain point. They jerk, shake, dance, jiggle, and get goosebumps but that is about all.

They come to the point of blessing, they have a lot of feeling...but let them go out onto the street where somebody rubs them the wrong way and watch how long that blessing lasts. Watch how shallow the experience is to carry them through the times and the places where they

need to manifest the fullness of God inside of them.

Until the Church of Jesus Christ goes past this point, there is no hope for the world...no hope! Until you are willing to lose every feeling you have...until you are willing to die instead of trying to assert yourself, trying to put that "I" and that self forth...until that happens, we will never take this world for Jesus Christ.

It is not enough to sing it. It is not enough to preach it. *Something has got to happen to us where it becomes an experience in our lives.*

Whenever we go out in mind power, in the spirit of self, we struggle. We struggle spiritually to reach up to try to get the things that we think God has for us. His promises and His blessings.

Two thousand years ago, the Church was born with a peculiar ingredient. It was not born weak, it was not born anemic, it was not born spiritless; it was born with a very peculiar ingredient.

The Church was not born through just the 12 apostles. There were 120 people in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. We limit God to 12 apostles and we think that everything was built and established upon them. It is true that God set the apostles in the Church, but *every* individual in the church who was a follower of Jesus Christ was a minister of a unique characteristic.

When Jesus ascended, He gave His disciples a commission to "*Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature*" (Mark 16:15).

"But," He said, "do not go yet. There is something you must do first, something you must wait for."

Jesus looked at these poor, uneducated fishermen He had called.

He did not say to them, "Wait until you have had three years of Bible school. Don't go out until you get your theological degree from the seminary."

He did not say, "Tarry here until you get goose bumps," or "Wait until you are speaking in other tongues."

He did not say any of those things. What He said was this: "*I am going to give you an experience.*"

Our problem is that we have been going out without an experience.

With all due respect to pastors, evangelists, ministers and missionaries, we can never save this world from behind the pulpit.

God wants to raise up men, women, widows, farmers, lawyers, doctors. He wants to take the grass roots. He wants to work with you in

the sphere of your own activity and endue you with a special characteristic.

I do not think the devil minds people speaking in other tongues. Look at the lives of many of those who do...how many souls are they winning? How much are they really going out and working for the Lord Jesus Christ? How concerned are they about a lost world?

I do not make light of speaking in tongues. I speak in tongues every day of my life. The prayer language of the Holy Spirit has a very distinct purpose in our lives.

I do not think the devil cares if you memorize the whole Bible. He does not mind your taking any kind of weapon at all...whether it is tongues or the Word...as long as you keep cleaning it, polishing it and playing with it.

"The only time the devil minds your taking a weapon is if you pick it up, load it, and use it for the purpose that God intended it to be used."

When John the Baptist came, he cried, "Do not look at me. I am not the promised Messiah, but there is somebody coming after me Who is mightier than I Whose shoes I am not even worthy to unloose. He is mightier than I and He will baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire."

Jesus told His disciples they must go out to face this world and preach the Gospel, but, He told them, *Do not dare leave Jerusalem until you are endued with power.*"

Power!

Power!

Power!

Suppose your life were represented by a glass half filled with water. The water could be like the Spirit. There are many people who are only half filled. Others are three quarters filled.

A vessel can have various levels. Only God can judge how much an individual commits himself and what measure of the Spirit lies within that individual.

An effective individual can and must be filled to the top.

Many people are filled with the Spirit who are not fully baptized. Many who speak in other tongues are not fully baptized in the Holy Ghost. With the great move of the charismatics, we have set people down and said, "Say what I say." There comes a little jabbering...but not

the power.

Many ministers declare that when Jesus said, "*Tarry in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power,*" it had a different meaning than it does now. They have come along with a new, modern, 20th-century philosophy, trying to make instant spiritual giants. It cannot be done.

They sit converts in chairs and say, "You don't need to tarry any longer, because that word 'tarry' means 'just receive.' All you have to do is sit there and instantly receive."

I am not against instantly receiving the prayer language of the Holy Spirit, but it took the followers of Jesus ten days, night and day, in the Presence of God, waiting before God until they were endued with **power**. No one is going to be baptized in the Holy Spirit unless he learns the secret of waiting in the Presence of Almighty God.

We must get down on our faces and be willing to spend all night praying, crying out, laying ourselves bare before Almighty God until He endues us with power from on high.

One day Peter saw a man lame since birth.

He said,

"Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6).

Then he took the lame man by the hand, lifted him to his feet...and the man was made whole.

This is the same Peter who slept when Jesus prayed, the same Peter who denied Jesus. This was the same man who could not be found at the cross when Jesus hung there for the sins of the world. This was the same man who, when somebody said to him, "We have seen Jesus. He is alive. He is resurrected. He lives".... this is the same man who said, "I don't believe it."

Now he stood forth and exercised faith in the Name of Jesus and a great miracle occurred.

Peter was exercising faith...but it was tied to an *experience*. He had been in the upper room. Cloven tongues of fire had fallen on him. He was baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Now he walked down the street with the Holy Spirit in his life without measure. He was not speaking in other tongues like sounding brass and tinkling cymbals. He was now moving with the Spirit without measure. He was able to say, "I have been endued with power!"

The disciples did not just stand there in the upper room. They cried out to God. They laid themselves bare. They confessed their sins. They asked God for forgiveness where they had failed Him.

They humbled themselves in the Presence of Almighty God until God endued them with power, until He baptized them with the Holy Ghost.

Then and only then were they equipped with the good force that could win over the evil force. Then and only then were they filled with the power of God that is able to , overthrow every power of Satan.

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4).

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you" (Luke 10.19).

There is no reason for living in defeat or seeing Satan triumph in battles around us when God has made us more than conquerors.

"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:37).

We have the victory not just in the days to come but we are...present tense...more than conquerors right now.

God has provided everything we need to make us successful not only in withstanding Satan but actually penetrating his strongholds and tearing them down by the power of Christ.

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;" (II Corinthians 10:4).

We need never lose this battle; Jesus Himself will come and set up His rule, putting all enemies under His feet!

"Then cometh the end, when he [Jesus] shall have delivered up the kingdom of God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet" (I Corinthians 15:24-25).

The greatest activity of Satan on earth will take place during the tribulation period when he will particularly persecute the Jews.

Revelation 12:7-17 tells of a war in the heavenlies between Michael and his angels and Satan and his angels.

As a result, Satan is cast out of the heavenlies and the earth does become his main arena. Verse 12 points out that his wrath is increased because of the shortness of time that will then be left him.

The woman he persecutes and with whom he makes war is Israel.

"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 12:7-17).

Satan gives the fullness of his power to the beast, or the Antichrist, for the duration of the tribulation period.

This textbook does not purport to be a study of that period. However, any study of spiritual warfare needs to include the final outcome.

Here are some of the activities that will culminate in Satan's final defeat:

1. Christ comes from heaven with His forces and defeats the forces of the Antichrist (*Revelation 19*).
2. The beast and his false prophet are cast into the lake of fire

(Revelation 19:20).

3. The devil is cast into the bottomless pit for 1,000 years (known as the millennium) and is then loosed for "a little season."

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season " (Revelation 20:1-3).

4. Satan is loosed and gathers the nations against Jerusalem. Fire from heaven destroys his armies (*Revelation 20:7-9*).
5. Satan is vanquished once and for all:

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Revelation 20.10).

The picture of a laughing Satan reigning over souls in hell is just not scriptural. He himself will end in the lake of fire where hell also will be cast. Satan will know torment forever and ever.

The prophecy of God pronounced upon him in Ezekiel and in Isaiah will have been fulfilled.

"Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffic, therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more" (Ezekiel 28.18-19).

"Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof, that opened not the house of his prisoners?" (Isaiah 14:15-17).

This is the time when natural eyes will be able to see Satan's defeat.

However...and this is what this book is all about...the spiritual eye can see Satan's defeat now and rise up in victory, for that defeat already has been accomplished by Jesus Christ.

The cross of Calvary, meant by Satan to be the final victory for the forces of evil, was instead the very instrument of victory for Christ and all His followers.

I can see the devil having himself a great big field day when Jesus Christ was buried in the tomb. Down in that big, black, ugly abyss of the throne room of Satan all the demons of hell had been called to worship the devil because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was dead. He had died on the cross. The devil sat back in his wicked glee and said, "I have conquered the Son of God."

The devil did not know it, but on that first day, second day, and third day the blood of Jesus Christ was ascending to the throne of Jehovah God to make atonement for the sins of the world.

The pattern given to Moses and Aaron in the Old Testament was that the blood from the sacrificial lamb was to be caught in a basin.

On the first Passover when Israel was delivered from the bondage of Egypt (which is in biblical language a type of sin), we see the blood of the sacrificial lamb being caught so that it would be applied to the lintel and the door post of each home (*Exodus 12:7*).

The sacrifice was not enough, the application of the blood had to take place, or death to the eldest son would have occurred as it did to the Egyptians. Moses commanded the Israelites:

"And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning" (*Exodus 12:22*).

So, the hands of Jehovah, so to speak, had reached down on that cross and caught the blood of Jesus. That blood was rising to the throne room of the Father being presented as an everlasting, once and for all atonement for the sins of the world.

The sacrifice has been accomplished, but now the application of that blood has to be made to the door of the human heart in order to cleanse it from sin and remove from it the specter of eternal death.

Those who would like to believe the fantasy that once you have had the blood applied to your heart, it does not matter what you do from then on because you are saved once and for all, should look at the fact that Moses told them that even after they had applied the blood to the door post they were not to leave the covering of that house or they would be subject to the same fate as the Egyptians.

The Old Testament required that the blood be sprinkled upon the mercy seat.

"And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat..." (Leviticus 16:14).

On the third day Jehovah God sent the message down through the corridors of the universe, "I receive the blood of My Son, I receive the blood of My Son. There is power in the blood...the blood avails."

It says in the book of Acts:

"Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption" (Acts 2:27).

On the third day as this message reverberated from one end of God's creation to the other, something began to happen. A little light began to flicker in the throne room of hell where the great victory orgy was in full swing. That light began to get brighter and brighter until it filled the whole place where Satan and his demons were gathered. Those demons began to scream and cry out as they had never done before because they cannot stand light...their deeds are evil.

The devil came and bowed before that light. You say, "Brother Cerullo, there is no light in the throne room of the enemy."

There was a light there this day! It was the light of the Son of God, because on the third day the devil could not hold Him, the grave could not keep Him, death could not swallow Him up. On the third day He arose, and He walked down into the throne room of the enemy.

It is written:

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me...he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound" (Isaiah 61:1).

The devil bowed before Jesus, but our Lord said, "I have not come to bind you now, but to fulfill the word of My Father to give to the Church yet to be born the victory over all the power of the enemy."

With one mighty sweep of victory our blessed Lord reached to the powers of evil, and took from the devil the keys of the kingdom. Then He arose from the grave having opened the prison doors and set the captives free.

"And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it" (Colossians 2:15)

Jesus said:

"Behold, I give unto you power...over all the power of the enemy..." (Luke 10:19).

The devil cannot violate the authority of God which stands behind me. I am a man of authority. The powers of Satan must obey his authority. This is why I say that the devil is a defeated foe. We only need to recognize it!

The devil is not afraid of us, but he is afraid of Jesus. He is afraid of the badge of authority that we wear, because we do not stand alone. Behind us stands Jesus. Behind Jesus stands God the Father. With Jesus and God the Father are all the angels and a Host of Heavenly Beings, ready to do the bidding of God Almighty.

"And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them..." (Mark 16:20).

"And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give" (Matthew

"Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:18-20).

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world..." (Matthew 28:18-20).

Satan knows better than most Christians that they have the power and the authority to defeat him, but that does not worry him. Only when he sees them go to war against him does he become afraid.

This New Anointing revelation teaches how to use this authority and this power in a greater way. What we need to do is to act!

Our enemy is located! Go to war against him in the Name of Jesus.

The Church of Jesus Christ has received its marching orders to invade the kingdom of Satan.

"And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19).

I promise you, you are going to press forward into more prayer victories than you have ever experienced in your life as God makes this revelation real to you.

We have our enemy located.

We have his complete battle plan.

We know the strength of his power.

We know what it will take to resist him and bring deliverance from all his works.

We know that we have the power and authority of God to back us up.

We have an anti-Satan defense system that he cannot penetrate if we will use it!

And we have the power and the weapons to spiritually march into Satan's territory and take it back for Christ.

Now is the time to start.

Questions on Chapter Nineteen

1. To whom is the spiritual firepower discussed in this book available?
-

2. Why are so few people exercising it?
-

3. What must we do with the knowledge of spiritual warfare we now have?
-

4. Why does God want to be a mystery to us?
-

5. What is one great reason we limit God and go in the same ruts in our lives over and over?
-

6. What did Jesus command the disciples to do before they went into all the world?
-

7. What is it that ministers and workers need to receive from God before going out?
-

8. In what spheres of activity does God desire workers?
-

9. What does being baptized with the Spirit really mean?
-

10. Can someone receive the prayer language of the Holy Spirit instantly?
-

11. How long did the disciples wait before God until they were endued with power?
-

12. When will Satan's greatest activity take place?
-

13. Who will be his particular target?
-

14. Why does Satan's wrath increase in the tribulation period?
-

15. List five events leading to Satan's final defeat:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____

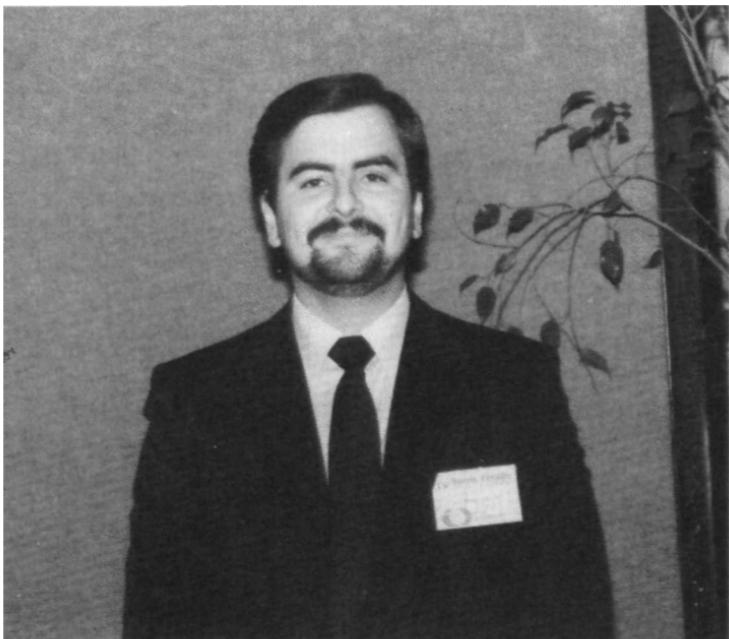
16. When can we see Satan's defeat?

17. When was Satan defeated?

18. When should we march in and claim every victory from Satan?

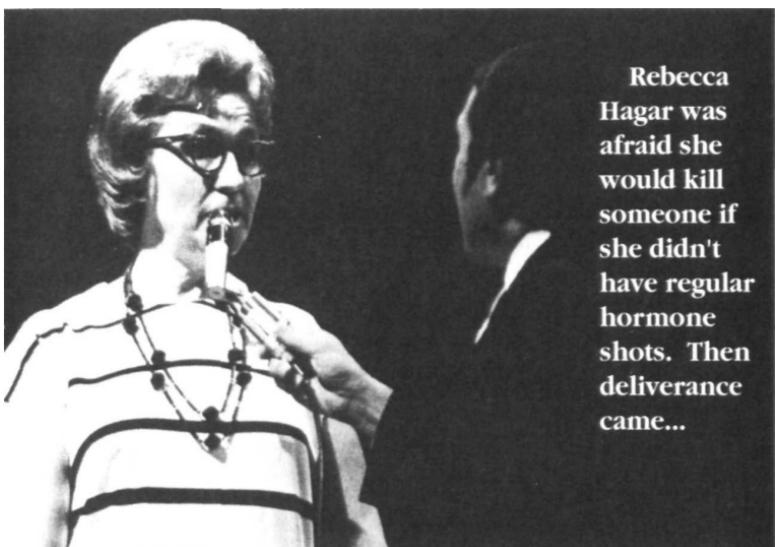
Answers on Chapter Nineteen

1. To all disciples.
2. Fail to press in and receive.
3. Use it.
4. He doesn't. He wants us to know Him.
5. We do not go far enough.
6. Tarry until they were endued with power.
7. An experience.
8. In the sphere of every worker's activity—schoolroom, homes, business, etc.
9. To be completely filled with and immersed in God's Spirit.
10. Yes.
11. Ten days.
12. During the tribulation.
13. Israel (or the Jews).
14. Because he has a short time.
15. A. Christ defeats the forces of the Antichrist.
B. The beast and his false prophet are cast into the lake of fire.
C. The devil is cast into the bottomless pit for 1000 years.
D. Satan is loosed and gathers the nations against Jerusalem.
E. Fire from heaven destroys his armies.
F. Satan is vanquished once and for all.
16. Now.
17. At Calvary.
18. Now.



Kenneth Williams' life was a nightmare, a living hell.

"I lost my wife, my church, my children, my reputation. I was mentally, emotionally and physically devastated. Then I attended a Morris Cerullo World Conference meeting where the power of God was present to heal and restore. Now my family, my church, my health and my reputation have all been restored."



Rebecca Hagar was afraid she would kill someone if she didn't have regular hormone shots. Then deliverance came...



Jean Vickers went into the garage to kill herself because of her dread affliction...but that was before her miracle of healing!

John had been an abused child and screamed when strangers touched him...now he wants to preach like Morris Cerullo.



Reverend Louise Henry prayed "Lord, take me home," but God took her to a miracle deliverance instead...

Chapter Twenty

A Great Crowd of Witnesses

Paul said: "...we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses..." (*Hebrews 12:1*).

The New Anointing revelation for spiritual warfare works! Thousands of witnesses have had miracle answers to prayer since they put these principles into action.

This principle was the factor which led to greater, more miraculous answers to prayer in my own life and ministry.

Letters and telephone calls pour into my headquarters in San Diego every day from men and women all across the nation who have found that the New Anointing works. They have applied these truths. Their prayers have penetrated into the very spirit world, binding spirits that are evil and loosing upon their own lives and those of their loved ones the blessings that God intended for them to have.

Through the revelation of the New Anointing, God has placed in our hands the potential, the spiritual atomic bomb, to more than defeat every attack of the devil.

It is not enough to have it in your grasp...you must begin to use it.

When I think of the many books written that have the power to lift people's lives to higher potential yet are just sitting on shelves collecting dust, it makes me realize again how I must depend upon the power of the Holy Spirit to stir people's hearts. Peter said: "...I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance" (*II Peter 3:1*).

Do not put this book on the shelf until it has accomplished in your life what the Holy Spirit intends it to do. Let Him stir you.

My dear fellow-minister, God wants to give you the joy of seeing things happen when you preach and minister. In our meetings I have seen people receive outstanding miracles of healing and give their

hearts to Jesus who were too overwhelmed by the Holy Spirit to understand a word that I said.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit spoke to their hearts. They reached out from their hearts to receive God's salvation, God's healing and miracle-working power in their lives.

There have been times in our services here in North America when I have walked out onto the platform and felt the tremendous power of the Holy Spirit convicting men and women of their sins, calling them to get right with God.

My first question has been, "How many right here in this audience have never had the experience of being born again?" Hundreds of hands have been raised sincerely. They were not backsliders; they simply had never in their lives received Christ. Most of them had never been asked to receive Christ as their personal Savior.

Then in the simplest of terms, taking no more than a few minutes, I would explain the plan of salvation. Without a single emotional story, I would ask them the question, "How many would like to be born again? How many would like to receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?

Within moments from the time I stepped to the microphone there would be several hundred people at the altar. Many of them would stand there before me with tears streaming down their faces when five minutes before they didn't even know what it meant to be saved.

I am convinced that the Holy Spirit can do more in one split second than we can do by our efforts in a lifetime.

Pastor, you don't have to walk away from your church after service with that empty, frustrated feeling, wondering seriously if you should ever go back again. Put the principles of the New Anointing into practice.

This is by no means to discount the need for preparation in prayer and in the Word. Rather, it actually intensifies your desire to be prepared.

In the first service of our Dallas, Texas, crusade, I came out prepared to preach a message. I had spent hours in my room in preparation and prayer. As I started to announce my subjects for the next two nights, a woman who had been in a wheelchair for ten years got up and walked down to the altar.

What was I to do? Tell everybody to just hold steady and wait until after I delivered my message to receive their miracle? I really had little

choice. I just had to stand back and let the Holy Spirit take over completely.

In our crusades I actually feel the part of a spectator because I do not feel responsible for what takes place. My participation takes place back in my room in using the principles of spiritual warfare that I have described in this book.

When I describe the results of the New Anointing, I am not speaking from belief or theory only, but from experience—it works! This also is the testimony of countless ministers whose lives and ministries have been completely transformed.

Going through customs in Vancouver, British Columbia, I met an Eskimo pastor who told me, "Brother Cerullo, I came to the Portland Crusade and Holy Spirit Teaching Seminar a year ago and my life has never been the same since."

In Tampa, Florida, a Baptist pastor reported several weeks after the crusade was over that he had not had the opportunity to preach a regular sermon in six weeks. In every service the Holy Spirit just completely took over and the Word was coming forth under the inspiration of the Spirit. Miracles and healings were literally shaking the community. The church was in a continual revival and there were immediate plans to triple the size of the sanctuary to accommodate the crowds. It literally exploded.

A pastor in Dallas, Texas, described himself as a very conservative man before the Dallas crusade. He reported afterward that he is a new preacher and he has a new church. "You just wouldn't recognize our church!" he exclaimed.

Reverend George Stormont of Manchester, England, is the perfect picture of an English gentleman with stately bearing.

He pastored Beth-Shan Tabernacle in Manchester, one of the largest Pentecostal churches in the British Isles. After the New Anointing got hold of him, he needed a dry set of clothes waiting for him when he finished preaching on Sunday nights. Souls were saved in nearly every service. It wasn't the increased physical effort that produced the result, but the power of the Holy Spirit that was now so much more present in his preaching.

The New Anointing is not for ministers only. God is not a respecter of persons. These principles and this authority are for all who enter into the flow of God and will claim them.

Rebecca Hagar of Denver, Colorado, was a lady who had been bound for years by the need for frequent hormone shots.*

If Rebecca did not have a shot every ten days, she would become so tense and overwrought that she wanted to kill somebody. She used to send her little children out to play for fear she would kill them in one of these indescribable attacks.

The fact that Rebecca was a Christian and loved God made the situation even more unbearable, as she knew this was not in harmony with the fruit of the Spirit she was supposed to exhibit in her life as a child of God. It was very frustrating. Her husband used to watch for the symptoms that told him she needed another shot.

Rebecca also had a growth on her thyroid gland, was allergic to "almost everything," had varicose veins and arthritis, and had a disabled arm which had been injured during her childhood when she fell from a horse.

Rebecca came to my Holy Spirit Teaching Seminar in Denver and sat through the morning classes, drinking in God's Presence and the spiritual food lifted her to new spiritual planes. She wasn't even thinking about her physical needs, just basking in the spiritual atmosphere.

On the closing morning of the series I said, "Now we are going to put what we have learned into action. I want every one of you to begin praying. I want you to come against every spirit of Satan which touches your life or those of your loved ones."

As I spoke, Rebecca's hands went up and she began to exercise this power and authority from God.

She said later, "My mind was a complete blank when it came to knowing what it was I wanted to be loosed from. It never occurred to me I was under bondage to hormones, but I commanded Satan to loosen everything that affected my life."

Immediately she felt the warm flow of God's Spirit in her arm and that disabled arm was loosed. The next morning while washing her face, she discovered that the growth on her thyroid was gone.

It was several days after the conference when her hormone shot was to become due...but not feeling any of the previous symptoms, Rebecca didn't take a shot. One extra day went by, then two, three, four. She

* Rebecca's testimony as well as those of several others mentioned in this chapter appear in full in my book *Miracles Happen*.

waited for her husband to say something, but he didn't. A whole month went by before he asked her one morning, "Isn't it about time for your shot?"

"No, I don't take those anymore," she told him, for God had completely loosed her of the need for that medication. She no longer had an urge to kill or attacks of nerves. Through exercising of the New Anointing, she had found out that what she learned in the teaching sessions worked when put to use in her own life. The varicose veins, arthritis and allergies were also healed.

Jean Vickers suffered from one of the worst afflictions known to medical science. Tic Douloureux is sometimes called "Devil's Pain" for good reason. Doctors say that nine out of ten people who reach the advanced stages of the painful disease attempt suicide. The pain and suffering become so intense that everything becomes unreal.

Jean, though a Christian, decided she could not cope with the pain any longer. She went into the garage to hang herself. The noose was all ready. Only a last-minute crying out to God from the very depths of her being saved her from that awful fate. Still she continued to suffer.

Several months before our crusade in Sacramento, California, the doctors began giving her a powerful, new drug that took away the pain but left her in a virtual stupor. She was warned that regardless of the condition of the disease, she would be hopelessly addicted to the new drug if she ever tried to stop.

She attended the crusade services each night and she also came to the morning Holy Spirit Teaching Seminar services. Morning after morning her faith increased. Neither Jean nor I can tell you the exact moment that her miracle happened. On Thursday evening during the message on prophecy, an inner voice told her something was different and that it would not be necessary for her to take her medicine any longer.

There was no mention of healing or prayer for the sick during that service, but Jean went home with an assurance that she was healed of the dreadful affliction that has baffled medical science.

Her husband warned her that if she did not take the medicine, she would be a raving maniac in the morning. Though in the natural she knew that this was true, she did not take the powerful drug that had been prescribed for her, nor did she need it. She was completely healed of the dread disease.

Mrs. Elsie Parmeland of Ridgewood, New Jersey, is typical of millions of parents across North America and around the world.

Mrs. Parmeland said that her daughter was the most rebellious child you would ever meet. She hardly ever smiled. If her parents tried to touch her, she would pull away, not allowing any embrace or affection.

"When I stood in that vast auditorium," Mrs. Parmeland later related, "during the last day of your Holy Spirit Teaching Seminar in Toronto, with tears running down my cheeks, I put into action the things you have taught us. I bound the spirit of rebelliousness in my child and released the spirit of love.

"When I returned home, my daughter ran to me, threw her arms around me and said, 'Oh, Mother, I missed you. I missed you.' Can you imagine what this meant to me?

"All I could say was, 'Praise God. Praise God. ''

When Freeda Harlow of Nocoma, Texas, heard of this ministry, she began to write in her prayer requests...and God began to answer.

Unable to have children of her own, Freeda talked it over with Ray and they decided to adopt one. At the orphanage they met with disappointing news: It would take about two years for them to get a child.

Freeda wrote for prayer. Six months later, the couple was in possession of the first of their new family, a five-month-old boy...but already it was a family fraught with severe problems.

When the orphanage called and told them they could pick up John, they found that he was just out of the hospital where he had been admitted at the age of three weeks with a broken arm, leg and ribs, all the result of abuse at the hands of his parents. He was bruised, undernourished and frightened. They also discovered that he had a hernia and a ruptured navel.

When John came to the Harlows at the age of five and a half months, he was extremely frightened of people and would cling to Freeda in fear. He sometimes vomited when held by anyone else, even for a few minutes.

Freeda brought John with her to my crusade in Dallas, Texas, in 1974, where two things happened...Freeda received my personal teaching on the revelation of the New Anointing...and John was completely delivered of his fears.

Freeda since has used the keys of the New Anointing in taking many other children into her home, some of them also victims of abuse and some considered incorrigible.

Ten million people in America are now alcoholics. One out of every five cars you meet on the road is being driven by a man or woman under the influence of alcohol. Linda Thomas of Tampa, Florida, and Eileen Smith of Dallas, Texas, both were unable to cope with the realities and pressures of life without a constant flow of liquor. Their greeting to their husbands when they came home at night was to ask them if they had brought another bottle or not.

Both of these ladies suffered physical afflictions as a result of their drinking, but still did not have the power within themselves to quit. Each of these ladies came into contact with the message of the New Anointing and both were delivered completely from the physical and emotional need of alcohol.

Millions of dollars are spent every month in America on diets, diet pills, food, drink, doctors, clubs, clinics and what have you to help people curb their appetites.

That this revelation covers every area of our lives is evident from a letter from Linda Okerstrom of Downers Grove, Illinois, who wrote, "I want to praise the Lord for healing me of a compulsive appetite that has caused me untold heartache and suffering ever since I was eight years old. To His glory and honor I can report a weight loss of twenty-five pounds! I have never been so at peace in my life as far as dieting is concerned."

A lady in Tampa, Florida, had been divorced from her husband for five years. She still loved him and prayed every day for his salvation. He was involved in underworld activities and the conflict in the home became more than she could bear...

She attended the Holy Spirit Teaching Seminar in Tampa and in the first service received enough of the New Anointing revelation to begin to use it. Her objective was her former husband. She began to bind the evil powers that held this man in their grip.

Then she invited him to one of the meetings. He came and at the conclusion of my message, he came to the altar and gave his heart to Jesus.

Another family has been reunited by the power of the Holy Spirit.

From Fresno, California, a lady wrote: "I attended your Fresno Holy Spirit Teaching Seminar, and what a thrill for me! The Lord saved me from fourteen years of dope addiction and demon oppression."

Mrs. Richard Romero of Fullerton, California, wrote this triumphant

testimony: "For the first time in years I've been set free and delivered forever from that filthy cigarette habit. I truly experienced a beautiful victory over them. Not only did He deliver me from the cigarettes, He also removed the terrible desire."

That was similar to the letter from Mr. Lynn Peterson of Watause, Tennessee, who wrote: "I just read your New Anointing article and I just quit smoking. I have been praying for the strength to quit and through your article God revealed the strength inside of me through Himself."

A Vermont woman's report is: "I recently wrote asking your advice on how to bring peace into my home. I applied your answer and wish to report that my husband's drinking and cruelty have miraculously ceased."

Mrs. Vada Gamble wrote from Gilman City, Missouri: "My husband and I have found a new area of the Spirit to live in. We have seen our building program begin (a Full Gospel church). We have seen our only son begin to be more involved in His service and found the Lord's will in other things. We have both been wonderfully touched physically and spiritually."

Reverend Louise Henry, pastor of a church in Brooklyn, was so ill with a perforated ulcer and other conditions that she was too weak to pastor and the church was ready to close. Louise came to the Regional Deeper Life Conference in Lansing in 1970. She did not receive her healing during the conference, but after she returned home, she prayed out into the Spirit and was miraculously healed. She disposed of all her medicine and went into the kitchen to prepare herself a steak dinner, although doctors had said her diet would be baby food for the rest of her life. She was also healed of an obscure disease called Christian Webber disease which caused large egg-like nodules to grow all over her legs, and for which doctors had found no cure.

But that is not all. She plunged into her pastoral duties with new strength and the New Anointing, and within a short time her congregation had bought a new church complex which opened with 300 people present and Louise was conducting a regular television program called "The God Answers Prayer Program."

Louise believes so strongly in the revelation of the New Anointing that she took a leave of absence from her church to enroll as one of the first students the Morris Cerullo School of Ministry so that she would be even more effective in seeing the devil's strongholds destroyed.

Not just in America, but also from many countries around the world

testimonies pour in. Men and women of God, who used to have "good" ministries, have seen their effectiveness multiplied. We have a great cloud of witnesses.

As you have read this book, you have been surrounded with a *cloud of witnesses* to the fact that God wants to meet your need and that He is able to move through your life and ministry to bring Christ's deliverance to others.

Nothing in life happens by chance. This book in your hands will revolutionize your life if you will let it.

It is now up to you...it is in your hand.

I have delivered the revelation that God has given to me under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. I believe that you can feel that anointing as you read this book.

I pray that you not only will be a *hearer* of the Word, but a *doer* also...that the message you have received will cause you immediately to see the results of this message in your life.

I pray that *everyone* who reads this book will become more than a conqueror for Christ.

God give you New Anointing in your life...and bring you now into prayer victories you have never before experienced.

Amen!

NOTES:

Epilogue

God's Got An Army

The only real ending for a book on spiritual strategy for defeating the devil is found in the final chapters of the greatest Book, the Holy Bible, where it is written of the loser:

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Revelation 20:10).

And where it is written of the victors:

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things: and I will be his God, and he shall be my son (Revelation 21:7).

We have read "the back of the book"...and we know what the ending is. Satan will be completely defeated and sent into everlasting torment, while God's victorious people will enter into everlasting joy with our Lord.

I believe that time is very near at hand. Yet, until it is actually accomplished...the battle goes on...the battle in which an army of men and women, raised up by God, are tearing out of the hand of the enemy the souls of millions of people around the world, people who need the help of our prayers and labor of love that they might enter with us into these joys.

God has such an army...an army that is on the march. How grateful I am that so much of the Army is composed of dedicated men and women from many nations of the world who have found added strength and motivation for the battle of faith through the Morris Cerullo School of Ministry in San Diego, California.

The truths in this Book are truths which I have long taught and practiced in more than 40 years of ministry around the world.

During this time I personally have taught these keys of spiritual warfare to more than 300,000 ministers and other Christian leaders, many of them in the Third World nations of the world.

It was in the city of Porto Alegre, Brazil, in 1962, where I was holding a crusade service at the Exposition Grounds that God impressed upon me the urgency and the importance of unifying His people into an Army to take the nations of the world for Him.

About 50,000 people were present for the crusade service on this particular day as I began to minister. I had been at the microphone for only a short time when suddenly a tremendous pain shot through my chest. I had never had heart trouble before, but I thought I was having a heart attack.

The pulpit for this meeting was just a board nailed on the railing of the platform...very rough and not very substantial, but I grabbed for it and held on to keep from falling.

My whole body was doubled up with pain and my thoughts were racing. "Am I going to die? Is God going to take me home now?"

I finally was able to reach out my hand to my overseas crusade director and pull him over to the microphone.

Not able to explain the whole situation to him in a split second, I said to him, "Please, you close the meeting. It is impossible for me to go on. Something has happened. I must get back to my hotel."

The automobile in which I rode back and forth from the hotel to the Exposition Grounds for the services was parked behind the platform and I literally fell into it.

The driver took me back to my hotel room and I did not even take time to remove my wet clothes. I just fell on my face before God on the floor of my hotel room.

"Lord," I asked, "Are You taking me home?"

Even lying there on the floor in great pain, I realized that God did not need the help of a heart attack to take me home. He could just take my spirit out of my body. I did not need to suffer some disease or affliction.

God soon let me know that this pain was not for the purpose of my homegoing. As I lay there, the pain lifted completely and it has never occurred again. I have never had any heart trouble. As I realized the pain was gone, God came into my room and He spoke to me very clearly and very directly.

He said, "Son, I have permitted this to happen to you for a purpose."

I said, "Lord, please teach me."

I was only thirty years old at the time, but already God had given me

one of the most successful ministries in the history of the world. Yet I knew there is always more to be learned.

In answer to my plea for God to teach me what He wanted me to know through this particular experience, God asked me a very peculiar question.

He said, "Morris, what do you want out of this life?"

I thought to myself, "Now, that is very strange for God to ask me that."

God knows our thoughts. He also knows the intents of our hearts.

My wife Theresa and I, at this writing, are in our 28th year of evangelism on the foreign fields and throughout the world without a break.

In all of these years I have never disobeyed God. Every time God told me to go somewhere, I went. Every time He told me to do something, I did it. I never disobeyed Him. Our lives, our family have always been totally on the altar. That is why I found God's question so very strange.

"God, why would You ask me that?" I asked Him. "Knowing the dedication and knowing the consecration that I have made to You, why would You ask me what I want out of this life?"

From traveling the length and breadth of this world, I had seen the many needs of this world. I knew that if I preached three times a day every day of my life I could never reach the world for Christ.

There are four and a half billion people living on the face of the earth. One man, or even several select evangelists, can never get to all of these nations.

Many people have supposed that television is the answer to worldwide evangelism, but they do not consider the 80 percent of the world's population live in rural areas, many of them very remote from any television exposure.

Even though there are great cities such as Manila in the Philippines, and Nairobi and Lagos in Africa, three or four miles outside of these places there is very abject poverty. Most places do not have electricity or running water, much less television. They have none of the conveniences that belong to the six percent of the population located in the United States, Canada and Great Britain.

Also there is no way to reach most of Europe by television because, in most European nations, television is owned and totally controlled by the

government.

Television is a great medium to reach the United States and Canada, but we can never evangelize the world through those means. That wasn't the answer.

In 1962 when this encounter with God occurred, I already knew what the answer was, because I had traveled from country to country and I had seen the tremendous needs of the people.

I knew what God was probing for with His question.

There are many people who want to leave behind some kind of monument to themselves...some tribute to their particular ability...a building, a school, a monument...something tangible.

But there was one thing I wanted out of life and God knew it.

I said, "Lord, there is only one thing that I ask of You in this world...only one thing.

"Give me the ability...give me the anointing...to take what You have given to me and to be able to communicate it to someone else."

That was the earnest cry of my heart because the only way we will ever reach this world for God is if God raises up trained and motivated men and women, full of the power of the Holy Spirit, who will go into the villages and countryside of their own countries and evangelize their own nations. I saw clearly that the trained and motivated National is the key to reaching the nations of this world for God.

So this was my request to God..."**Give me the ability to take what You have given me, the power and anointing that is upon my ministry...and give me the ability to communicate that to others.**"

That is what I wanted out of life.

God said to me as I lay there on the floor in 1962:

"Son, build Me an Army."

What a charge and what a challenge!

But God has helped me to build such an Army. He has given me an anointing of apostolic leadership which has been translated into an Army of recruits to do His great work around the world.

For years now, we have been building God an Army in Africa, in Asia, in India, in South America, in the Philippines...everywhere I have been privileged to go and minister for our Lord Jesus Christ.

I have been invited to nation after nation...and every time I consented

to go to a certain country I always insisted that one of the conditions was that I could meet with the National ministers and share with them on as personal a level as possible the keys to effective evangelism which God has put into my hands.

This outreach grew and developed tremendously over the years. Still it was not enough. The invitations to come to the nations of the world continued to flow in until I could not have met all the invitations that lay on my desk even in ten years, or many lifetimes.

Then instead of diminishing the demand...God increased the vision.

That is when the School of Ministry was born. God put it into my mind and into my heart to build a School of Ministry right in my hometown area of San Diego, where people from all nations could come from all over the world and learn these truths in a central place. They in turn would disperse to all corners of the world bearing these same truths to share with others.

With the vision, God also gave me a great sense of urgency. When engineers, architects, etc., all explained to me that it would take at least three years to build a school, the urgency in my heart would not let me accept that answer. I began a search for an empty school or campus with nearby housing where the School could begin immediately at an interim location while we built something suitable.

God knew the urgency of the hour even more than I did...and He had the answer.

Suddenly...dramatically...and miraculously...God opened the way to acquire a fully equipped and operating hotel facility with 500 rooms and generous classroom facilities.

The story of how the financial obligations were met to permit the acquisition of this facility also is staggering...but again God met the need.

Even as I wondered how to present the need and challenge to our friends and partners so that the magnitude of the vision would not overwhelm them, God spoke new assurance to my heart.

I was travailing in prayer alone in my hotel room just before going into a service in Washington, D.C., when God spoke these words to me which have been a source of great and continuing encouragement:

He said to me: "Don't look to the bigness of your need, look to the bigness of your God. Your circumstances are hindered to seeing My abilities. If you keep your eyes on your circumstances, the devil will use your circumstances to

defeat you and accuse the Word of God...the written and the Living Word. Your victory is in keeping your eyes on the bigness of your God and His ability. He has promised to take you step by step by step.. .not all at once but step by step and.. .each step will be a miracle!"

Step by step God has led...each step has been a miracle.

That is why within a matter of a very few months, the down-payment for the facility changed hands and I was presented with the keys to the facility and a deed of trust on October 2, 1978.

And...another great miracle coupled with the dedication and ability of those whom God had raised up to help...the Morris Cerullo School of Ministry opened its doors to more than 500 students only three months later, on January 1, 1979!

Still another miracle! We were able to intensify the keys of effective evangelism in the apostolic power of the Holy Spirit into six high-speed learning months...stressing not only knowledge but the motivation and power of the Holy Spirit.

Then...another miracle. God allowed us to further intensify the next session of the School of Ministry...and the next...into three-month sessions. Men and women came from more than 40 nations of the world for each session with the promise and the pledge that they would take into their hands and hearts the keys for reaching their nations and that they would return and pass these same keys to at least 100 other people!

God's law of multiplication for building an Army.

Each life that passes into the School, is revolutionized for Jesus Christ and goes out again to take the world for Him...is a new miracle.

It is no wonder that the theme songs selected for the Schools of Ministry were these:

"God's Got An Army"...and..."It Is The Time To Take The Kingdom!"

Beloved, you, too, no matter who you are, are a vital part of God's Army. We must all be disciples. The hour is now—the kingdom is the Lord's: "*Whose voice then shook the earth; but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven*" (*Hebrews 12:26*).

Still I have not been satisfied. There is still an urgency. We must enlist others by the tens of thousands to learn these keys, to absorb them, to use them...and most of all to teach them to others.

NOTES:

Come March With Us In God's Victorious Army!

Not one of us can grow spiritually, multiply our fruitfulness in the Lord, and launch sustained, victorious warfare on Satan's strongholds if we are alone. We need each other!

He has shown me a way to do this through God's Victorious Army, a monthly ministry that is literally building an Army for God throughout the world. **God is calling you to join us!**



God Has Heard Your Cries

God has heard your cry for greater knowledge of Him, and your cry to be a vital part of His endtime plan.

To answer these cries, He has given me a way to teach you (right in your own home) how to manifest the same proof-producing power that anoints our Nationals to take their countries for Christ! How? Through our Victory Miracle Library, which will be sent to you every month **as a member of** God's Victorious Army.

Each month you will receive:

- A power-packed lesson in spiritual warfare and personal growth, written with specific steps for spiritual growth (8 1/2 X 11" size syllabus, 48 powerful pages).
- Instructions on intercessory prayer, to break down enemy strongholds throughout the world.
- Special sections to help you see how God is preparing His Bride to fulfill prophetic destiny.
- Periodically, you will receive special gifts of tapes and other ministry tools.

Your Monthly Gift Plants Explosive Seeds!

This powerful Victory Miracle Library is available to you for a pledge gift of only \$20 a month. Each month, your gift of \$20 will be an explosive seed that will raise up trained Nationals in every country!

Beloved, you can't go to Africa, South America or Central America, Mexico, Brazil, Asia or India. But through your monthly gift you are reaching these nations to raise up an Army for God.

The men and women you sponsor are your hands and feet in areas of the world that are now closed to missionaries.

Testimonies

Richard Omenako—Accra, Ghana



Son of an earthly king...now son of the King of kings:

"My earthly father was a king who ruled over 600,000 people in Ghana. Now my heavenly Father is my King of kings! I give honor to the Lord Jesus Christ that I am part of God's Victorious Army.

"Before I went to the Morris Cerullo School of Ministry, I had only one church of about 80 people. But when Dr. Cerullo came to Ghana, my life changed. Now I have five churches of 2,700 members. I have also set up an organization to unify 1,750 churches. Now God's Victorious Army in Africa consists of born-again Presbyterians, Methodists, Pentecostals and Baptists...all marching in unity and taking the land for Jesus Christ!"

Benjamin Munthe—Medan Indonesia

10 brought in 10,000 in one year!

"How I thank God for God's Victorious Army which is now marching across Indonesia.

"I have put into practice the proof-producing principles of the School of Ministry. Using these strategies, I started an "I-Care" prayer center in my home.

"At first, there were just ten people involved. But in one year the number increased to 100. Then I conducted my first crusade in Medan, where 10,000 people filled the Sports Hall! Thousands were saved as God performed many miracles and wonders."





Alejandro Morales—Mexico City, Mexico
From traditionalism to evangelism!

"Even though I attended a traditional Bible School for three years, and had a heart to serve God, I was still confused, angry and even rebellious.

"Then the Lord miraculously opened the doors for me to attend the Morris Cerullo School of Ministry. In this School, Brother Cerullo taught me how to use the weapons of our warfare...to be a good soldier for Jesus Christ and pull down the strongholds of Satan. I graduated, a **new man**.

"My first act of faith when I arrived back in Mexico was to claim the jungles of Oaxaca for Jesus. By using the plan of spiritual warfare that I learned in the School of Ministry, a fearless army of Proof Producers was raised up in **every village I passed through**.

"Now the Oaxaca jungles have 13 churches, some with as many as 300 members! Praise God that God's Victorious Army is **you**. It is me!"

Dean Lane—Phoenix, Arizona

Alcoholics for Christ:

Dean Lane testifies, "Since becoming a member of God's Victorious Army, God has opened the doors for me to start an 'Alcoholics for Christ' ministry. (They) are responding mightily to the Word of God.

"I am teaching from the Victory Miracle Library to as many people as I possibly can. The whole church is becoming involved in supporting this ministry. We go down to the park every Saturday, and so many are grateful for this opportunity to learn about God's Word. We are getting to minister to many, many people and see them gain deliverance from alcoholism.



"The wonderful thing is that we are able to share not just a new direction with people, but a whole new way of life, as they begin walking with Jesus!"

The same anointing that God has given our Nationals can come upon you, week by week, month by month, in God's Victorious Army!

Take These Two Steps Now!

1. Enroll...in God's Victorious Army!

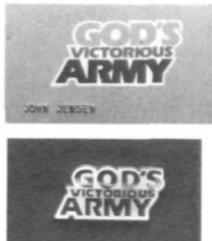
Complete the simple enrollment card enclosed. By your gift of \$20, or more each month, you will accomplish two sacred purposes:

- Each month you will sponsor the God-given plan of training Nationals through the School of Ministry.
- You will receive anointed teachings for your own spiritual growth.

2. Receive...God's anointing on your life!

Every month you will receive *Victory Miracle Living*. This magazine contains the very same anointed teachings I use to help train Nationals worldwide. *Victory Miracle Living* is not just another Bible study. It is anointed by God to empower you to minister to others and receive answers to the needs in your life.

God has anointed this program! Members of God's Victorious Army also receive a beautiful pin (for men) and necklace (for ladies) and a personally embossed membership card to identify you as a member of a ministry which reaches around the world.



Clip Here



Enroll me as a member of God's Victorious Army!

Enclosed is my pledge of \$20 (£15) \$50 (£30)

\$75 (£50) \$100 (£60) per month or more

(\$_____ best gift). Please send my God's Victorious Army kit immediately.

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Canada: P.O. Box 3600, Concord, Ontario L4K 1B6

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GOD SAID...

**Don't look to the bigness of your need
Look to the bigness of your God!
Your circumstances are hindrances to seeing
MY ABILITIES...**

If you keep your eyes on your circumstances, the devil will use your circumstances to defeat you and accuse the Word of God...the written and the Living Word.

YOUR VICTORY
is in keeping your eyes on the bigness
of your God and His ability

HE HAS PROMISED
to take you STEP by STEP by STEP
not all at once.....

But step...
By step and...

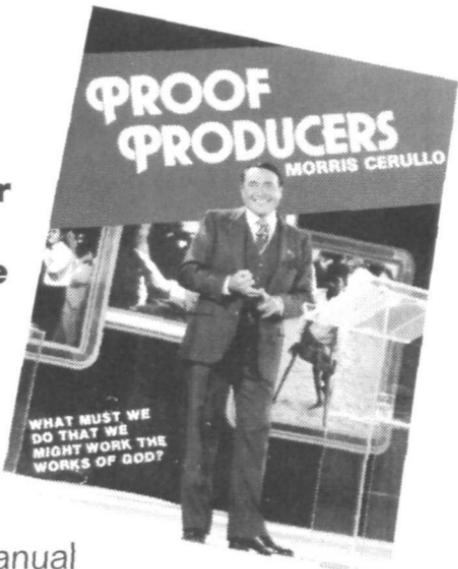
Each step will be a Miracle!

MORRIS CERULLO WORLD EVANGELISM

This is the plaque I had made after God spoke these words to me concerning the School of Ministry and building an army for God. If you do not have one of these plaques, write to me. I will gladly send you one as a free gift.

Proof Producers

**If you want the answer
for your life to the
question "What must we
do that we might work
the works of God?"
...you need this official
School of Ministry
textbook.**



This is the same training manual Morris Cerullo has used to personally train more than 500,000 ministers and lay leaders around the world in the Schools of Ministry.

A complete School of Ministry textbook, more than 316 pages.

- What does it really mean to preach the Gospel?
- Can we have faith without struggling?
- Are miracles a carnal ministry?
- How can I press past the point of blessing to a place of power?

\$11 (£7 U.K.) each.

Order your copy today. Use this convenient order form (found on next page) and mail to your nearest Morris Cerullo World Evangelism office.

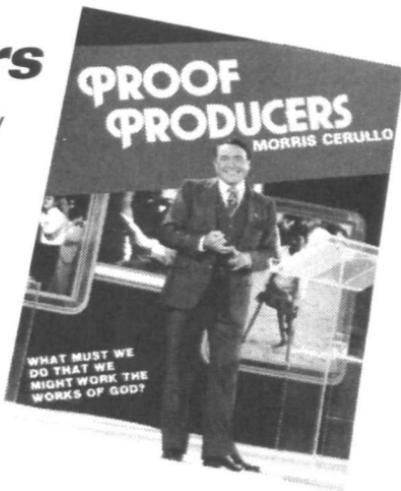
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Use this convenient order form to obtain copies of *Proof Producers*. Be sure to order sufficient quantities for use in your ministry or fellowship.

Proof Producers

- The official School of Ministry textbook.
- More than 316 pages.
- \$11 (£7 U.K.) each.

Quantity	
Price	@ \$11 (£7 U.K.)
Total Amount	\$ (£)



- Dr. Cerullo, please send me a free copy of your plaque, "Each Step Will Be A Miracle."
- Enclosed is \$/£_____ for my total order.
Please send to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Or
Postal Code _____

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Canada: P.O. Box 3600 • Concord, Ontario L4K 1B6



Dr. Morris Cerullo, President Morris Cerullo World Evangelism

Morris Cerullo's accreditation for spiritual teaching is, in itself, quite formidable: a divine, supernatural call from God to preach and evangelize when he was 15 years old...graduation from New England Bible College...over half a century of experience as a pastor, teacher, author and worldwide evangelist. Many honors have been bestowed on Morris Cerullo, including honorary doctorates of Divinity and Humanities, both by academic and spiritual leaders around the world in recognition of his achievements and contributions to global evangelization. Dr. Cerullo is respected and looked upon by thousands of Nations as God's end-time apostolic prophet to the nations of the world. Dr. Cerullo's ministry out-reaches include:

Mission To All The World – reaching the entire world region by region with major regional Schools of Ministry, miracle crusades, major television prime time specials and local Schools of Ministry designed to cover every village, city and town in every region!

Schools of Ministry – training National pastors, ministers and laypeople to reach their nations for Christ through mass evangelistic crusades.

Global Satellite Network Schools of Ministry – monthly, ongoing training for National ministers worldwide.

Victory Miracle Living – a 48-page, monthly study manual presenting revelational truths from the Bible to equip God's Victorious Army.

Victory Television – cutting edge daily television programming designed to strengthen the Body of Christ to reach the entire world.

The New Inspirational Television Network – the 24-hour Christian satellite television network that provides Christian programming to the entire North American continent, with an ever-expanding outreach toward linking the world via satellite television.

Dr. Cerullo has also authored more than 50 books. Few ministers have had such an impact on the destiny of the nations of the world. Morris Cerullo's life has been sacrificially dedicated to training and spiritually equipping pastors, laypeople and evangelists to reach their nations for Christ with a supernatural endowment of God's Power.

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