Sermon

6.8.16

Text: 2 Corinthians 10:1-18

**The Third Level**

Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “***Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God,*** and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. 11 ***And they overcame him*** by the ***blood of the Lamb*** and by the ***word of their testimony***, and they **did not love their lives to the death.**

**Life from Death**

2 Corinthians 4:10 always ***carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus***, that the ***life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.*** 11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So then **death is working in us, but life in you.**

**Spiritual Warfare**

2 Corinthians 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, ***we do not war according to the flesh.*** 4 For the ***weapons of our warfare are not carnal*** but **mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,**

**The First Battle**

Romans 7:21-25 I find then a law, that evil is present with me, ***the one who wills to do good.*** ***For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.*** But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! **Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

**Primary Need: Leadership**

2 Corinthians 10:14 For we are not overextending ourselves (***as though our authority did not extend to you)***, for it was to you that we came with the gospel of Christ; not boasting of things beyond measure, that is, in other men's labors, but having hope, that **as your faith is increased, we shall be greatly enlarged by you in our sphere,**

**“Spiritual Struggle”**

2 Corinthians 10:1 Now ***I, Paul, myself am pleading with you*** by **the meekness and gentleness of Christ—**who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you. 2 But I beg you that when I am present I may not be bold with that confidence by which I intend to be bold against some, **who think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.**

**The Strongholds**

2 Corinthians 10:5 ***casting down arguments*** and ***every high thing*** that **exalts itself against the knowledge of God,** bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled

**“Squatters” not Builders**

Matthew 12:43 “***When an unclean spirit goes out of a man***, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. 44 Then ***he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’*** And when he comes, **he finds it empty, swept, and put in order.** 45 Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; **and the last state of that man is worse than the first.** So shall it also be with this wicked generation.”

**The Knowledge of God**

Hosea 6:1 ***Come, and let us return to the Lord;*** For He has torn, but He will heal us;  
He has stricken, but He will bind us up. 2 ***After two days He will revive us;*** On **the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight.** 3 Let us know, **Let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord.** His going forth is established as the morning; **He will come to us like the rain,**Like the latter and former rain to the earth.

**“His” Day**

2 Corinthians 10:17 But “***he who glories, let him glory in the Lord.***” 18 For not he who commends himself is approved, **but whom the Lord commends.**