

# Armor of God | Part 3

Steve Berger July 24, 2016

## A Review

- **Reality** - Ephesians 6:12
  - *"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."*
- **Pictures/History - Satan's fall from Heaven to the Earth**
  - John 12:31 - *"...ruler of this world..."*
  - 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 - *"But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."*
    - Men's unbelief is blamed on Satanic blinding, not lack of logic or science.
  - 1 John 5:19 - *We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. (whole world lies, rests, oblivious of wicked influence).*
    - The word "lies" carries the meaning of 'kicked back,' 'relaxing,' 'unaware'
- **The Bible clearly teaches that there is spiritual warfare going on, and that the Enemy of man's soul is at work among men on earth. No question about it!**
- **Satan isn't working alone, when he fell, he brought others down with him to work.**
  - Revelation 12:9 - *So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*
    - After peddling self, 1/3 of angels followed, fell, now working.

## Naming and Identifying

**No less than 16 named, identified, demonic spirits listed in scriptures, obviously more, but these give us insight into their attack upon humanity.**

- **Spirit of Jealousy** - Numbers 5:14,30
  - Jealous and envious in **relational** context
- **Distressing Spirit** - 1 Samuel 16:14-16, 18:10
  - Troubles, torments, insecurity, violence
- **Lying Spirit** - a behind the scenes look into the spirit realm, throne of God
  - 1 Kings 22:19-23 - *Then Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right hand and on His left. And the Lord said, 'Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?' So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord, and said, 'I will persuade him.' The Lord said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the Lord said, 'You shall persuade him, and also prevail. Go out and do so.' Therefore look! The Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the Lord has declared disaster against you."*
  - Lying spirit upon advisers to the king - can you draw a parallel to today?
- **Perverse Spirit** - Isaiah 19:14
  - Twisted, distorted, stubborn in its way, a refusal to change
- **Spirit of Deep Sleep/Stupor** - Romans 11:8
  - Clueless, careless of spiritual truth
  - Isaiah 29:9-11 - *"Pause and wonder! Blind yourselves and be blind! They are drunk, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with intoxicating drink. For the Lord has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets; and He has covered your heads, namely, the seers. The whole vision has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one who is literate, saying, "Read this, please." And he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed."*
  - 2 Timothy 3:7 - *"... always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."*

**When you continually reject God's truth, you set yourself up for Satanic deception through a spirit of stupor! (2 Thess. 2:9-12...deception, delusion to unbelievers)**

- **Spirit of Heaviness**

- Oppressed, feeble, dark...chemical and spiritual
- Isaiah 61:3 - *"To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness."*

- **Spirit of Harlotry** - Hosea 4:12, 5:4

- Loving God in word only, while loving, worshipping, and serving other gods - compromise, convenience, leisure, entertainment, lust, self, etc.

- **Unclean Spirit** - Zechariah 13:2

- All demonic spirits are unclean, impure and filthy, CLARITY!
- Matthew 12:43-45 - *"When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. 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. 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."*
- Unclean Spirits - recognized Jesus, cried out, fell before Him, dwell near tombs or in synagogues, produce physical strength, torment, cutting, destroying life!

**APPLICATION** - this man experienced reformation not regeneration, partial conversion, the almost Christian, some external changes but **EMPTY INSIDE**, resulted in an attack that made him worse in the long run. You must be born-again, filled with Holy Spirit in order to prevent spiritual ruin, being "religious" "reformed" won't get it done!

- **Mute Spirit** - Mark 9:17-24

- Deaf, speechless, foaming, gnashing, rigid, fire, water, kill.

- **Spirit of Infirmary** - Luke 13:11

- 18 years, bent over, couldn't straighten up.

- **Spirit of Divination** - Luke 13:11

- Fortune telling, soothsaying, tarot, zodiac, horoscope, etc.
- Acts 16:16-18 - *Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. (fortune telling, she spoke truth, yet Paul discerned and cast out...he spoke to the spirit, not her).*

- **Evil Spirit**

- Acts 19:13-16 - *Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches." Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. (evil spirits prevail when men don't personally know Jesus)*

- **Spirit of Bondage** - Romans 8:15

- Adoption not bondage, love not duty.

- **Spirit of the World** - 1 Corinthians 2:12

- Lust of flesh and eyes, pride of life.

- **Deceiving Spirits** - 1 Timothy 4:1-2

- *Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron...*

**APPLICATION** - *deceiving, seducing spirits influence people toward demonic doctrines, beliefs!*

- **Spirit of Error** - 1 John 4:6

- *"We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error."*
- Fact - the spirit of error is at work in people who don't hear, receive, believe gospel truth!

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## **What do we do with all of this?**

- **Test/Discern**

- 1 John 4:1 - *"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."*
- Deuteronomy 18:10-12 - *"There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD..."*

- **Submit/Resist**

- James 4:7 - *"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."*

- **Execute Authority!!!**

- Luke 10:19-20 - *"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."*

## Discussion Questions

1. In what specific ways have you seen spiritual warfare going on in your life?
2. As you were reviewing the different spirits, did the Holy Spirit reveal to you areas of your life under the influence and sway of any of these spirits?
3. Were you surprised by any of the spirits? Were there any you were unfamiliar with before today?
4. How do you exercise the authority Jesus has given you to "trample on serpents and scorpions"?
5. God gives us the equation for winning against the enemy: submit, resist, and watch the enemy flee. Are there areas of your life where you find it difficult to submit to God? Why?