

Remnant Life Church
June 13, 2021
“Spiritual Warfare –
Part 3
A Biblical Drama”
Luke 8:26-37

Spiritual warfare encompasses satan’s rebellion against God and the manifestations (or visible aspects) of that rebellion in the created order of the world. But at the heart of this warfare is the fact that God is sovereignly in control of His creation, and He has already decided that satan’s rebellion will ultimately fail.

Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

The threads of satan’s rebellion and the responses of Almighty God are interwoven throughout the Scriptures as an ongoing drama played out on the stage of human history

Act 1 – God’s creation of the universe and everything in it

Act 2 – The fall of man into sin

Act 3 – The drama is continued throughout the rest of the OT

Act 4 – The drama intensifies in the NT

- It begins with the birth, life, and death of Jesus
 - This is the fulfillment of the promise of God in **Genesis 3**
 - It is the Son of God sent to save you and me from being lost in the battle
 - Through the life of Jesus, leading to His death, and resurrection, He makes His way through the spiritual battleground to establish our freedom by going to the cross
 - satan’s most intense efforts to win the war are seen in the Gospel accounts
 - Surely his thinking was, I was able to make a human fall before, why not again?
 - But this demonstrates again that his thinking is limited
 - He is not all knowing or all-powerful
 - The temptation in the desert (**Matt 4**)
 - The efforts of the disciples to talk Jesus out of going to the places He needed to be
 - Peter’s words to Jesus telling Him that He does not need to die (**Matt 16**)
 - Interwoven in this act of Jesus’ life and ministry is His setting free captives of the deceiver (**Matt 12:22-29**)
 - The physical struggles and demonic oppressions are all a part of the manifestations of the rebellion
 - Certainly, the demonic encounters are the most clear and overt battles given in the Scripture
 - Jesus and the Gerasene demoniac

- **READ – Luke 8:26-37**
 - We are shown in this account the desire of the demons to control the mind of man, as well as the power of Christ's authority (**Matt 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-37**)
 - The result of their presence in this man's mind is a denial of his own humanity
 - He lives in the tombs, crying out, cutting himself
 - But the power of Jesus brought what was stolen back to the man in accordance with God's perfect will
 - As a result, the man was clothed, seated, and in his right mind
- This is a very important point to help enable you to determine what is of God and what is counterfeit
- The presence of Jesus brings peace and calm not chaos and loss of control
 - Too many ministries have allowed themselves to be lead astray by a demonic spirit
 - The kundalini spirit is demonic and perverts the emotional state of people who are seeking the Holy Spirit
 - People did not lose control of themselves in the presence of Jesus they were at peace
 - Or, like the man set free from legion – seated, clothed, and in his right mind
- Perhaps the most potent example of the spiritual battles Jesus encountered was the temptation in the desert
 - Before His ministry began, satan tried to dissuade Jesus
 - But He refused to turn away from His calling and the express purpose of God for His life
 - You see, the plan of satan for the believer's life is not just to get you to fall into sin
 - But to forfeit the purpose of your life
 - If he can keep you from realizing all that God created you to be he has won a battle in your life
- What we learn in this 4th act is found in **John 8:31-36**
 - *To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.*
 - True freedom, and victory in the spiritual battles, is found not in doing whatever we want to do being led by the flesh, but by living in obedience to God.