

# Kingdom Warfare, Part I

- **Great News: From One Kingdom Into Another!** Col. 1:13--“He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son.”
- **Hebrews 2:3—“So Great A Salvation”**  
— His kingdom has come and will come!-- lavish, abundant, never-ending, all-encompassing, heaven to earth!

- **Matt. 25:34**—“Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world”
- **James 2:5**—“heirs of the kingdom, which God has promised to those who love Him – kingdom now, and later in fullness— our promised inheritance—the age to come

Kingdom To Come *fully in the age to come*-- Heb. 6:5—"tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come."

Kingdom Here Now *partially In this present age*—the fallen world now in between Jesus' first and His second comings—"clash of kingdoms" era now:

- **We live now in “this present evil age”— 1 John 5:19--“We know that we are of God, and that the whole world (cosmos) around us lies under the power of the evil one.”**
- **Gal. 1:3-4—**“...the Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for our sins, to deliver us from **the present evil age.**
- **1 Co. 2:6—**“the **wisdom of this age and the rulers of this age**” – these rulers are demonic beings using humans, or human beings hosting demons
- **Eph. 6:12—**“For our battle (fight/war) is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, rulers, “the cosmic powers **over this present darkness,**” against spiritual wickedness in the heavenlies.”

- **Because of This Clash of Kingdoms, We Are in a Spiritual War!**  
**Let's be In it to Win it!**
- **2 Co. 10:3-4:** “Even though we live life in the body, we do not engage in war in the physical realm; for the weapons of the warfare we engage in are not of this world, but are powerful in God to destroy demonic strongholds.” – “strongholds” – armed camps of demonic power
- **We are at war** with the demonic rulers and their foot soldiers (terrestrial demons) who do their bidding—

**“Two “Fronts” in Kingdom Warfare” – Warfare against demons, not “flesh and blood”—Eph. 6: 12 “We do battle not against humans...”**

**Demons fight to: 1) defend their assigned territory in the kingdom of darkness; and 2) counter-attack Jesus-followers to regain whatever they have lost**

**Jesus-followers fight to: 1) attack and overcome demons in order to their territory; and we 2) defend against their attack on us to hold on to what has been taken from them**

- **God's Soldiers—We War by Engaging In:**
- **Our Offensive Warfare**—taking territory from the enemy by “binding” his demons’ authority and “loosing” what they have imprisoned/ruled
- **Key Scripture for Offensive Warfare: Luke 11:20-22** “But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are undisturbed. But when someone stronger than he is attacks him and overpowers him, the stronger one takes from him all his armor on which he had depended and takes all his possessions.”

# Kingdom Warfare, Part 2

## Actions of Offensive Warfare Against Demons: Advancing the Kingdom

- **Preaching the gospel/Evangelism/Witnessing/Power**  
**Evangelism**— the *evangel* is a weapon: Romans 1:16—“The gospel is the power of God for salvation to all who believe—first for the Jewish person, then to the Gentiles.” —Paul and the Philippian slave girl—Paul attacks, the enemy defends by releasing the slave girl to oppose Paul’s mission...*satan*—opposer; one who stands in the way of

## Actions of Offensive Warfare Against Demons: Advancing the Kingdom

- **Expelling demons** – set prisoners free in Jesus’ name – “If I expel demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come into your midst.”  
**Story**—demons of hatred, pride, deception, pugnaciousness, soul tie connected to a root of bitterness—expelled demons, severed soul tie, commanded the withering of the root of bitterness, accompanied by repentance and asking forgiveness for harboring/nursing hatred that was the initial door
- **Healing the sick**—“the sick—those oppressed by the devil—scripture—Acts 10:38—“God gave Jesus of Nazareth the Holy Spirit and power. He went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, because God was with Him.”

# **Actions of Offensive Warfare Against Demons: Advancing the Kingdom**

- **Exercising Supernatural Gifts of the Spirit** – Nine plus! Anointing breaks yokes!
- **Example**—Paul at Philippi (Acts 16)—1. Gift of Evangelist; 2. Gift of Discerning of Spirits; 3. Gift of Faith and Miracles (resulting in deliverance); 4. Gift of Apostleship (planting church)
- **Christ-Centered Acts of Compassion/Loving One's Neighbor** – 1 John 4:18-- “Perfect love casts out fear” and other spirits; Les Misérables -- manifesting the fruit of the Spirit, Christlike character spreads the reality of the kingdom – changes spiritual atmospheres!

# Prayer

- **Upper Room/Revival Praying**-- 10 Days of Prayer produced Pentecostal Outpouring & Evangelism
- **Spiritual mapping:** targeting “strongholds” of terrestrial demons by name as discerned by the Spirit in us, dealing with them via authoritative prayer;
- **Prayer walking**—Joshua 1:3; Deut. 11:24--“Wherever the soles of your feet step, I will give you that land.”
- **Intercessory targeting** of “territorial/ruling spirits” by praying to God to act to remove them in Jesus’ name – avoid direct address except in the most exceptional of situations; in general, avoid “strategic warfare” **Daniel 10**—Daniel prays to God; God responds by removing ruling spirit (Prince of Persia) via angelic warfare

## Planting Churches in homes, storefronts, outside, etc.

- *Ecclesia* (*church/called out ones*)—word for a political assembly in ancient Greek states that gathered in order to govern society— similarly, **churches govern** with spiritual authority;
- **churches should be** “spiritual governing authority centers for Jesus” and “armed camps” for Jesus – carrying out military operations for the kingdom by spiritual warfare, by offensive missions
- **Matt. 16:18**--“On this rock I will build My church, and all the powers of hell will not prevail against/conquer it.”

# Our Defensive Warfare

- **Key Scripture for Defensive Warfare-- Eph. 6:13**—“Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist (*anthistemi*—to set against, to withstand), and having done everything, remain standing firm (resisting)” —“evil day”—when the strategies of the enemy are launched against us
- .16 shows that the warfare is defensive—context: the enemy is attacking—“incoming flaming arrows of the evil one”

# Biblical Examples of Demonic Assault

- King Herod the Great's slaughter of the innocents to try to kill and destroy the kingship of Jesus in its infancy--Matt. 2:16; note: Joseph "alert" through a dream; God pre-empted demonic attack
- King Herod Agrippa I beheading James (John's brother) in the Jerusalem church; it was growing and advancing God's kingdom ultimately "to the ends of the earth" – Acts 12:2
  - Note: no vigilant prayer mentioned here; a successful attack
  - But when Peter was targeted—vigilant prayer provided the church's defense against demonic assault: Acts 12:5—"So Peter was kept in prison, but prayer for him was being made  *fervently*  by the church to God." – energetically, intensely

# Defensive Weapons: Eph. 6:10-18

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes (strategies/battle plans) of the devil...praying in **all** ways at **all** times in/with/by the Spirit, and being **always** on guard to protect **all** the church.”

# Defensive Weapons: Eph. 6:10-18

- **“Satan” (Heb. And Greek)**—one who opposes, obstructs; one who stands against; an adversary (enemy) – works through demonic “schemes” – plans, strategies, means – intelligently thought-out –
- **Central strategy of Satan**—since Satan can’t attack God directly, he does so by attacking Christians (via stealing, killing, destroying—John 10:10), hoping to injure/damage the image of God, of Christ in believers; and thereby to stop advancement of the kingdom of God through the church – attack “the family”

# Defensive Weapons: Eph. 6:10-18

- **Attack examples:** unforgiveness (bitterness); attacking human, not demonic enemies; inter-personal/familial strife; cursing, not blessing; prevention; opposition in general via earthly means—government leaders and processes, things (tools, cars, fires), humans; retaliation
- **The full armor (6 or 7) in place to resist demonic attacks**—truth, right relationship with God, peace, faith, assurance of salvation, speaking scripture, all kinds of prayer
- 1 Thess. 5:8—armor pieces—breastplate, helmet
- Col. 3:12-- we are “clothed with Christ”—“Put on then, (be clothed then)...compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”

# The armor pieces “put on” differently

- Already “on” us, Christlike character traits: truth, righteousness, peace—must be in place in preparation for warfare to seal off enemy attack points
- When starting into the fight, “take up” -- assert your **salvation identity** (hope and assurance); use **spoken-out scriptures** as a weapon
- Used constantly during the fight – exercising **faith** (for protection), and **praying** “without ceasing” – importance of tongues-prayer

- **The “activating action” is prayer (the 4 all’s!) .18** “with all prayer and petition pray(ing) at all times in the Spirit...be(ing) on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.” – “ing”—participle indicates continuity – like the four “all’s” for material/financial provision for believers in 2 Co. 9:8—“all grace; always; all sufficiency; for all good deeds.”
- **Vigilance and prayer** —“being on the alert” through “watching” prayer— indicates continuity – be vigilant in the right places—for demonic attack – Eph. 6:18—“praying at all times in/with/by the Spirit, and remaining on guard spiritually in order to cover God’s people with prayer

## Various means of demonic attack detection (spiritual intelligence):

- **Know** enemy strategies (“we are not ignorant” 2 Co. 2:11), and anticipate them
- **Observe (through watching) “probing”** by enemy – evil things beginning in the natural – see demonic source behind them and destroy it

## Various means of demonic attack detection (spiritual intelligence):

- **See the “invisible” plans by the Spirit** -- Deploy prophetic intercessors who can “see” in the Spirit via the gift of discerning of evil spirits – **2 Kings 6:11-12**—“Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words that you (king of Aram) speak in your bedroom.”
- —God wants to deploy **“watchmen on the wall”** of every family, of every church, of every kingdom ministry – what is your prayer watching assignment(s)?
- **Then Pray “Ahead” pre-emptively** to “bind” (forbid) the enemy’s schemes from being launched—how? “In Jesus name I cancel the authority of all demons assigned against me, and I forbid the successful deployment of all attack strategies against me, my family, my property, and my kingdom work. In Jesus’ name.”

## Various means of demonic attack detection (spiritual intelligence):

- **The Weapon of Praise** – Acts 16:25--Paul and Silas in a Philippian jail – “were praying and were singing hymns” – one act of these two elements together, praying/singing praise—produced miraculous release from prison; also praise is offensive-- Jericho
- **The Weapon of a Prayer Shield (Individual and Corporate)** – provides defensive and offensive warfare – a “must-have” in for kingdom effectiveness and blessing! “Power of agreement” prayer released by prayer shields – Matt. 18:19—“If two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.”