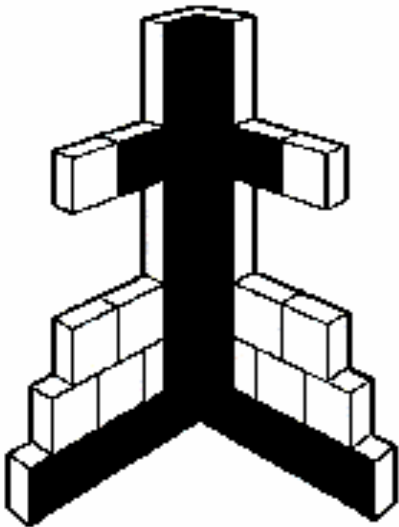


Can We Really Be Free?

Living in the Full Gospel

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A Covering For Many Diversified Ministries

Our goal is to put Christ back in the Church,
by making Him the Foundation, *1 Cor. 3:11*,
the Chief Cornerstone, *Eph. 2:20*,
and the Head of the Church, *Matt. 21:42*

CAN WE REALLY BE FREE?

Living in the Full Gospel

I. The Greater Enemy

A. For most of us, we have discovered who our adversary really is – Satan, formally, “*Lucifer*”.

Isaiah 14:12-14

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! ¹³For 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: ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

In understanding who our greater enemy is, our spiritual eyes must become wider and brighter. The greater enemy is none other than ourselves.

B. Our adversary uses many different tools to beat us; tools like deception, accusation, and temptation, but the greatest of these is simply keeping us in darkness. Christ’s desire was that we not stay in darkness.

John 8:12

*Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.***

Ephes. 5:8

For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

II. The Gospel’s Power and Authority

Luke 10:19

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.

A. In Scripture, Jesus, Himself gave us power (Greek, *exousia*) and authority over all the power (Greek, *dunamis*) of the enemy. Power against authority can bring a never-ending battle. But, when authority is established, it overrules power. ***Authority sets the bounds of all power.***

B. Jesus gave us authority over Satan's power, but we must ***choose*** who we serve. The right choice can put you in authority over Satan's lying works.

C. Two things are necessary to walk in this authority:

1. We ***must know*** that ***all authority belongs to Jesus***, not Satan, or any other god that man has tried to place on a throne of worship.

2. We ***must know*** that He has given that authority to the Church.

D. To be assured of this, we must believe that He ***is***, and is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. We must believe the Word of God is the truth and basis of our authority.

E. These Scriptures establish that ***Jesus has all authority***:

1. Jesus disarmed Satan.

Col. 2:14-15

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; [15] And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

2. Jesus destroyed Satan.

Hebrews 2:14

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

3. Jesus destroyed Satan's work.

1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

4. Jesus has taken all authority.

Rev. 1:18

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

F. We must also know that Jesus has committed that same authority to us:

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mark 16:15

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Luke 10:19

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.

III. The Full Gospel

A. The reality of the question comes back to you and me, not God or Satan!

Where is our faith? Do we really believe the truth?

Are we fulfilling the role of the Church and do we operate in the *whole or full Gospel?*

B. The job of the Church, the Body of Christ, is found in *Ephesians 4:12-13*. Note the three points in the following Scripture:

1. for the perfecting of the saints
2. for the work of the ministry
3. for the edifying of the Body of Christ

Ephes. 4:12-13

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: [13] Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the

knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

C. Note how long we are to work in our new jobs:

1. till we all come in the unity of faith
2. and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man
3. unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

D. This was the commission given to Jesus:

1. preach the Gospel
2. heal the sick
3. cast out devils
4. bind up the broken hearted

Isaiah 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; 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; [2] To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

Luke 4:18

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

E. We must remember that Jesus did not come to simply expose the devil. He came to destroy his works completely.

1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

*Note: The word “*devil*” spelled backward is “*lived*” (past tense).

F. Jesus’ deliverance did not separate salvation from healing and deliverance from demonic oppression.

Mark 2:9-11

Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? [10] But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) [11] I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.

Mark 5:7

And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.

IV. The True Enemy

A. This brings us to the main theme of our topic. Our *true* enemy, the one we need deliverance from the most, is ourselves. The hidden enemy is us.

B. It has been said that “*the object of war is victory; the result of victory is occupation.*” To live as victorious people, the only creature made in the image of God, means to have the Holy Spirit occupy every area of our lives.

Romans 14:17

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

C. Many Christians do not enjoy such a divine occupation. This is where the battle rages. Though they are born again, Christian believers, they continue to struggle with

1. fear
2. anger
3. lust
4. feelings of rejection
5. hate
6. bitterness
7. envyings

and many other emotional, mental and psychological problems.

D. God can only deliver you of what you are willing to give or *commit* to Him.

2 Tim. 1:12

For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for 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.

The question is, what have you committed unto Him?

V. Inner Healing

A. Any surviving enemy is a hindrance to divine occupation. This includes such things as:

1. unforgiveness
2. occult involvement
3. illicit relationships
4. generational curses (Example: *Matt. 23:27-25*)

B. Note *unforgiveness* is number one. The impact of this is very serious. All of your salvation and hope for eternal life is based on forgiveness. Just imagine if God had only forgiven part of our sins or just the spirit and not the soul or body.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Notice the condition in the word “*if*”, and then note the word “*all*”. Again, *what have we committed unto Him?*

C. The full Gospel is not the full Gospel until you have been totally delivered and healed of Satan’s spiritual wounds. *We must be willing to examine ourselves.*

1 Cor. 11:30-31

For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. [31] For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

Many of us are suffering from the law of sowing and reaping. (This law works whether you’re saved or lost).

Galatians 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

We bring about most of our own failures and defeats just by what we speak.

Matthew 7:1-2

Judge not, that ye be not judged. [2] For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

VI. True Deliverance

A. Remember the list we shared earlier? We can be born again and still be bound. Many Christians live with mental and emotional torment because of past sinful involvement and wounds that hold them captive and in bondage.

Hebrews 12:1

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

B. The process for true deliverance and experiencing the **full** Gospel has to involve the past, present, and the future:

1. the renewing of the mind

Romans 12:2

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2. putting off the old and putting on the new

Ephes. 4:22

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; [23] And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; [24] And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

3. learning to receive the grace of God and walk in the Spirit in newness of life

2 Cor. 6:1

We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

4. submitting to God and resisting the devil

James 4:7

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

5. being changed from glory to glory as we behold the face of God

2 Cor. 3:18

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

C. Jesus is our true example. Note what God, the Father did for Him.

Acts 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

D. Pilate sought to set Jesus free, yet *he was the one* bound, needing deliverance.

John 10:10

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 8:32-34

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
[33] They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? [34] Jesus answered them, *Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.*

Can we really be free?