

Understanding Spiritual Warfare from God's Perspective

Lesson 1 - "God Is The Ultimate Authority"

God is Author over the affairs of all created beings and things in the heavens and the earth. The Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit have ultimate authority and power over the activities in both the heavenly and earthly realms.

Matt. 24:35 "I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved."

Gen. 1:1-3 The visible and invisible world has been created by the Triune God. "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, Let there be light; and there was light."

- What we see in the visible world had been created by God's spoken words. As the Creation stories are examined, we also see the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ as the Son were also actively engaged in the process of the Creation with Father God.

Psa. 104:30 "You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth."

Isa. 40:18, 22, 26 "To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him? It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. lift up your eyes on h high and see who has crated these things, who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name; by the greatness of His might and the strength of His power; not one is missing."

Col. 1:15-17 "He [Jesus Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible; whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."

Consist = "Are held together."

Matt. 11:25 Jesus states: "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth..."

Psa. 102:19 "For He looked down from the height of His sanctuary; from heaven the Lord viewed the earth."

Psa. 103:19 “The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.”

Daniel 4:34-35 “For His dominion is an everlasting dominion and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, What have You done?”

King Nebuchadnezzar spoke these words after he was humbled and ate grass for seven years and the Lord restored his sanity.

Heb. 11:3 We can understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command. God directs the total affairs and movements of the whole universe.

“By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

God’s power is Sovereign in the universe

Astronomers using the Hubble Space Telescope examining the observable universe in 2013 [7 yrs. ago] stated there are over 225 billion galaxies in the universe.

- Also, 200 billion stars and over 100 billion solar systems in the Milky Way Galaxy.
- The boundary of what we can see is limited by how far the telescope can view the observable universe.
- This could mean the universe is actually thousands of times larger and wider than what we can observe at this present time.
- Regardless of its size, God is reigning over the entirety of the universe.

He is:

- **Omnipotent** – All powerful and Almighty.
- **Omnipresent** – Infinite and boundless.
- **Omniscient** - All knowing and all seeing.

Just to remind you:

- Livescience.com gives information as to how far it is to the edge of the Solar System from earth.

“Voyager 1 & 2 left the Earth in 1977 and exited the solar system at 9 billion miles from earth. As of Feb. 29, 2020 [approx. 43 yrs.] it is over 13.8 billion miles from earth. That is the equivalent of flying from JFK [NY] to LAX [Los Angeles] – 2,475 miles, 3 – 4 million trips.

- Imagine how long, even at that speed it would take to reach the heavens where God dwells.
- YET, your prayers can reach His throne room instantly and His angels can come from heaven to assist His chosen people just as quickly.

Scientists gathered from the Hubble telescope there are at least 2 trillion galaxies in the universe – [www.nasa.gov]

It expanded 10 times greater than the 2013 reports.

God is in absolute sovereignty over the universe with His mighty power – Psa. 103:19

“The Lord has made the heavens His throne; from there HE rules over everything.”

So, the devil and the demons, which are just created beings; are no match for Him, the Almighty.

The Names of the Creator God

Throughout scripture, various names of God were known by His people which represented the aspects of His character.

God’s diverse names represent His attributes such as:

- Divine authority
- Power
- Righteousness
- Holiness
- Peace
- Grace
- Mercy
- Love

We, as His people need to understand His names so we can live a victorious life according to His provisions through His powerful name.

These names were given by the Lord to His people from the beginning of Covenant so that we could understand that it was the first law of mention.

That Who He is from the beginning is Who HE is forever. “Behold, I AM the Lord and I change not.” Mal. 3:6. Heb. 13:6 “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”

1. **YAHWEH** “**I AM WHO I AM**” the personal name of God.

- Exodus 3:14-15 “God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM;” and He said, thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, I AM has sent ME to you. God, furthermore, said to Moses, Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial name to all generations.”
- Whatever we need, we can apply His name in all our situations to receive His blessings.
- He IS our Deliverer, Healer. If we are His people, we can claim the Great I AM in our every need.

2. **ELOHIM** “**The Creator God**” [a plural noun: Triune God, mighty and strong }

- Gen. 1:1; 17:7 “In the beginning God [ELOHIM]: The Triune God, created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”
- Gen. 1:1-2 The Father and the Holy Spirit were engaged in the creation.
- Col. 1:16 Jesus was also involved in creation with the Father and the Holy Spirit. “For by Him [Jesus Christ] all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.”

As we put our total faith in The Creator, we do not need to fear anything in this world because He is in absolute control over the affairs of the universe including the earth and our lives.

3. **EL SHADDAI** “**God Almighty**”

- Gen. 49:24 “By the hands of the Mighty [EL SHADDAI] God of Jacob.
- The Hebrew word “*abir*” has the meaning of God protecting Jacob under His wings [feathers]; thus is translated as “Mighty God Who Protects” or “Mighty God the Protector.”
- No wicked schemes of the devil will prevail against you if EL SHADDAI goes with you wherever you go and protects you with His Mighty power.
- Psa. 91.4.

4. YAHWEH-JIREH “The Lord Will Provide”

- Gen. 22:14 The Lord provided the ram for the offering after Abraham was faithful and obedient to offer Isaac to the Lord.
“Abraham called the name of that place The Lord Will Provide, as it is said to this day, In the mount of the Lord it will be provided.”
- This lesson taught that no matter what your circumstances are, if we put our total faith in the YAHWEH-JIREH, “He will provide supernaturally for all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” – Phil. 4:19.

5. YAHWEH-RAPHA “The Lord Who Heals”

- Ex. 15:26 “If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I AM the Lord who heals you.”
- It is God’s will to heal His people, but there are prerequisite clauses in order for them to receive His divine health and healing – diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God, do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments, keep all His statutes.
- Know that God’s power is not dependent upon our feelings.

6. YAHWEH-NISSI “The Lord Our Banner”

- Ex. 17:15 Moses defeated Amalek and placed an altar to memorialize the victory by the Lord.
“Moses built an altar and named it The Lord is My Banner, and he said, the Lord has sworn; the Lord will have war against Amalek from generation to generation.”
- If the Lord is your banner and fights on your behalf, “Then no weapon formed against you [they will be formed] will prosper.” Isa. 54:17.
- YAHWEH-NISSI will go before you, fight your battles for His glory.
- We need only to trust in Him and stay in step with Him.

7. YAHWEH-M’KADDESH “The Lord Who Sanctifies”

- Lev. 20:7-8 “Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I AM the Lord your God. And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: **I AM the Lord who sanctifies you.**”
- As the Holy Spirit indwells inside of His children, it is He who makes them holy and sanctifies them for His glory.
- We cannot make ourselves holy and pure before God with our own righteousness and will power.

- He who lives inside us is holy and His holiness sanctifies us as we separate ourselves to Him. Rom 6:12-13.
- As we surrender to Him, His holiness will shine through us for His glory, so the light can shine before men.

8. YAHWEH-SHALOM “The Lord our Peace”

- Judges 6:23-24 After Gideon saw the Angel of the Lord, he was afraid he might die.

“Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die. So Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it The Lord Is Peace.”

- If the Lord chooses to use you for His glory and you are blameless before Him then you have no need to be afraid because He comes to you as “The Lord of Peace.”
- Jesus is also the Prince of Peace – John 14:27 “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”
- After Jesus resurrected, He said “Peace be with you.”
- Strong’s concordance 7965 “Shalom” means completeness, wholeness, health, peace, welfare, safety, soundness, tranquility, prosperity, perfectness, fullness, harmony, rest, and the absence of agitation or discord.
- Shalom comes from the root word *shalam* = “to be complete, to make whole, perfect and full.”
- When YAHWEH-SHALOM comes into your life, you can enjoy all of the blessings of Shalom.

9. YAHWEH-TSIDKENU “The Lord our Righteousness.”

- Jer. 33:15-16 “In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of Righteousness; He [Jesus Christ] shall execute judgement and righteousness in the earth. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she shall be called: The LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”
- As the Lord of Righteousness, He will take away our sin by His own blood and provide His righteousness to reign in our lives so we can live for His glory and expand His Kingdom on earth.

10. YAHWEH-ROHHI “The Lord our Shepherd”

- Psa. 23:1-2 “The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not lack. He causes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.”

- If the Lord is your Shepherd, you do not need to be worried or afraid because He will guide you through green pastures in which you will be taken care of all the days of your life.
- He will guide you to still waters where you will always have more than enough water to drink from.
- V.6 – “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

11. YAHWEH-SABAOTH “The Lord of Hosts”

- Isa. 1:24 “Therefore the Lord says, the Lord of Hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will rid Myself of My adversaries and take vengeance on My enemies.”
- When enemies rise against the Lord, He musters the armies of heaven to destroy the wicked plans against His chosen people.
- If God be for you, no one can stand against you – Rom. 8:31 “If the Lord is for you, who can be against you?”
- Isa. 54:17 “No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment the Lord shall condemn.”

God Rules over the kingdom of men

Dan. 4:17b “In order that the living may know that the Most-High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men.”

- God is in absolute charge over the affairs of the kingdoms of men. Nebuchadnezzar was humbled as a beast to eat of the grass of the fields until he honored the Lord God as Almighty.
- We may not be able to fully understand why or how God allows wicked rulers to reign.
- When we get to glory, we will see and understand God’s plans and His wisdom in these matters.
- We will all come to the conclusion that God reigns over the dominion of man according to Dan. 4:34b-35.

“For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, what have You done?”

In any battle, the greater power wins.

- The power of God is infinitely greater than any power that can come against Him.
- The secondary emphasis is on the delegated authority and power God has made available to His sons and daughters to make them “More than conquerors” over all spiritual foes. – Rom. 8:37
- Every war involves two opposing powers; only one side can win.
- In the spiritual war, we see the power of God and His army pitted against the power of the devil and his army.
- God’s army is comprised of the holy angels and the Saints of God; satan’s army is comprised of his evil angels and all unbelievers.
- Some who do not know God have posited a dualism that portrays the devil as the equal of God.
- satan is in no way a match for God!
- As a fallen angel [an un-employed cherub] created by God and controlled by God.
- As a fallen angel, he retains only as much of his original angelic power as God has allowed.
- He can do nothing to a Saint of God except as God permits and as the believer opens to the door to the enemy.

The history of Israel is the story of warfare, victories and some defeats

God told them to go in and possess the Promised Land.

As long as they were obedient, no power could stop them.

He has told us to **“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”**

Mark. 16:15

As we obey God’s commandments and do according to His instructions, we can be victorious over the powers of darkness.