

Understanding Spiritual Warfare from God's Perspective

Lesson 6 "The Process of Man's Fall"

Man lives in a body [flesh] that has a soul and a spirit.
The soul consists of the mind – the will – the emotions.

In order for satan to control a man's body and get him to do his will, he must control man's will.

satan's attempt to control our actions is by deception concerning the truth.

- satan's most effective way is to keep us ignorant of God's Word and cause us to disobey which disqualifies us.
- If we do not know the truth, we will come into satan's bondage.
- How satan works is by tempting us to slowly fall into his wicked plans by infiltrating into our physiological – fleshly realm and entice our fleshly desires – the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh.
- Once we have opened the door to those temptations, he gradually moves into the realm of our soul domain to cause us to obey his evil schemes.
- As those temptations penetrate the soul, he goes into our deep spiritual realm to take control by his wicked power to oppress, or even possess us.

A look at how Eve fell through this process: **Gen. 3:6**

1. **Temptation in physiological – fleshly area**

"So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food..."

- Eve had seen this tree & its fruit many times before but never had a desire to touch or eat of it prior to satan's temptation.
- It is when his voice tempted her that she began to pay attention to it and perhaps eating it would be good for her.
- The temptation of the lust of the eyes and the lust of the flesh was planted in her heart.
- Upon entering her heart, she began to look with lustful eyes – "the tree was good for food..."
- If she had changed/resisted with her mind at this point, she would not have sinned.
- Just being tempted in one's eyes and of itself is not a sin. Yielding to the temptation and taking action is to commit sin against God.

2. **Temptation to the psychological – soul realm:**

- “It was pleasant to the eyes.”
- At first it was the fleshly thought, now it was becoming a mental thought that it was desirable to satisfy her appetite.
- She is tempted into thinking it was pleasant to the soulish eyes –leading her soul one step closer to sinning against God.
- The flesh of all human’s desires is only to satisfy its basic needs of the senses: seeing, smelling, tasting, touching and hearing.
- The soul desires to feel and experience the matters that satisfy the emotional needs such as feeling loved, accepted, recognized, excited, filled with joy.
- Once the enemy is allowed into the soul realm, it is only one step away from committing sin by acting out in the fleshly realm.
- The flesh has the natural tendency of becoming a slave to the soul’s desires.
- The enemies desire is for you and I to agree with his wicked plans, then we will be overcome and fulfill the fleshly desires described in 1 Cor. 6:9-10
“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the Kingdom of God.”

3. **Temptation in the spiritual area:**

- “The tree was desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”
- Eve allowed the enemies scheme to enter its final stage – her spiritual realm.
- Having entered the spiritual realm – her fate was now sealed.
- She invited satan’s scheme to control her fleshly, soulish and now spiritual realms and she fell; taking the fruit and eating it and also offering it to her husband.
- They both fell from God’s glory and began to hide themselves from the presence of the Lord – Gen. 3:9-13.
- The saddest reality and reaction of their fall was they began to hide themselves from the presence of the Lord.
- The final consequence of their action caused them to lose the very intimate communion with the Creator as their Father, Lord, Savior, Provider, Sustainer, Joy, Peace, Lover and Protector.
- They became their own gods living according to their own desires to choose good and evil for themselves.

Thank the Lord that when HE through the Holy Spirit regenerates the fallen human, He first deals with their spirit so we may yield to the conviction voice of the Holy Spirit.

Once we invite the Holy Spirit to enter our spirit, we are resurrected from the bondages of the sinful lifestyle and guided to repent of all the sins committed in the soulish area.

As the regenerating Holy Spirit's conviction enters into our soulish realm we become ready and willing to turn away from our wicked ways and this causes our fleshly domain to submit to the call of the Holy Spirit for salvation.

As we yield our spirit, soul, and flesh to the Lord Jesus be repenting of our sins, then we are born again and become the new creation in Him.

The Lord regenerates the fallen by entering into their spirit first, then He will deal with the soulish area, then helping one to overcome in the fleshly area so we can be free from the bondages and become a son or daughter of God.

John 8:36 "If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

2 Cor. 3:17 "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

Observation: Satan works on a person from the outside to get into the spirit to corrupt; the Lord works on the inside outward to totally restore and redeem a person.

Satan's schemes against human beings:

Since the fall of man, satan's design is that human live under the curses and sin infested into the world.

1 Cor. 6:8-10 listed earlier, spell out the curses and conditions and ultimate destiny the enemy has for mankind.

Gal. 5:19-21 further spell out the works of the flesh which are the product of sin and rebellion:

"Now the works of the flesh are evident; which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outburst of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God."

- satan will see that his sinful pleasures satisfy you until his claws have sunk deep into your soul.
- He will kiss you on the cheek and whisper empty promises into your love-struck ear.

- He will use his dazzling array of sinful pleasures to woo you into his bed-chamber, lull you to sleep, and then use and abuse you and stab you in the back.
- He will promise you everything and leave you with nothing.
- His favorite lie is to promise you heaven on earth, but will give you eternity in hell.
- He is more than willing to love you for a season so he can curse you for eternity.

The only escape is to repent of our sinful lifestyle and accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior so we can inherit the Kingdom of God according to His promises:

John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Rom. 10:9-10: “If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved, for with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Rom. 6:23: “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

The deadliest poison satan injected into the human race was to taste the lies he spoke to Eve in Gen. 3:4-5.

“Then the serpent said to the woman, You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

- Satan was suggesting that they would not surely die even though they would be disobeying God’s one command in the Garden.
- Their spiritual eyes would be opened to be like God and they would no longer need to depend on His presence, power, wisdom, love and guidance anymore, but would be able to choose for themselves what was right or wrong – good or evil.
- The fruit of that independent thinking has been manifesting to the post-modern Christian world through many variations of religions of man; especially all the forms of New Age belief systems.

satan’s influence on the Church:

Although satan is a defeated foe, he will not go down without a fight.

He has lost the war in the third heaven when Jesus was crucified and took the keys of death and hell from him – Rev. 1:18: “I AM He that is alive and was dead; and behold, I AM alive forevermore, and have the keys of hell and of death.”

Matt. 16:19: “And I will give to you the keys of the Kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Jesus has the keys back.

The enemies focus is to deceive, work his evil to take as many to the lake of fire as he can with him.

His attempts now are to neutralize the church – Gods government on earth, by manipulating, deceiving and blinding us to fall into the same fate he inherited through rebellion, disobedience, and lawlessness.

He hates all activity of the church which is expanding God’s Kingdom on earth seeking to fulfill the word of Matt. 24:14

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations – every people group, and then the end will come.”

Our commission is found in Matt. 28:18-20 & Acts 1:8:

Matt 28:18-20: “All authority has been given to ME in heaven and on earth; Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:8: “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Once baptized with the Holy Spirit, the Lord knew the early believers would need the body of Christ – the Church [not a building] to unite them to expand the Kingdom of God for Jerusalem to the ends of the earth.

The Holy Spirit established the church to initiate His worldwide missions to fulfill the Great Commission.

This is when satan began to persecute the church so he could have more time on earth to hinder, destroy lives and keep them from coming into the Kingdom of God.