

One World 2 Realms Unseen Realities

Introduction into the spirit realm

10/01/23 | #1 Unseen Realities | Andrew Pitts & Jordan Biel

Ephesians 6:10-19



Summary of Main Points


- There is a spirit realm beyond what we can see
- We must discern when the enemy attacks us spiritually
- You can win the spiritual battle in your life through Christ


// Summary of Conclusion

- An awareness of the plan, & attack of the enemy in our lives and sometimes “bad days” are actually spiritual attacks
- Understanding our authority that is given to us in Christ (more on this in WK4)
- Open altars for people who feel like they have been battling spiritual attacks to come and receive prayer for freedom.

// Introduction Ideas


- How many of you have ever had a bad day? I’m not just talking about a few instances where things didn’t go according to plan or the worker at Starbucks got your order wrong and you didn’t get your daily dose of caffeine to start your day. I’m talking about a really bad day. One that leaves you scratching your head wondering if you should just go back home, get back in bed and start again tomorrow.
- It reminds me of a children’s book I read growing up called “Alex and the terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. For Alex nothing went right, gum on his shoes to having to eat lima beans for dinner - A running theme in the story is Alex wanting to move to Australia b/c he thinks life will be better there. - **If you have a copy of the book, use it as an illustration or consider putting a picture of the book on the screen.**
- It reminded me of an account in scripture of a man named Job who also had maybe the worst days of his entire life - READ  **Job 1:13-19 & Job 2:7-10 -READ**
-  **JOB 1:13-19**
- ¹³Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, ¹⁴and there came a messenger to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, ¹⁵and the Sabeans fell upon them and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you.”

-  ¹⁶ While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, “The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you.” ¹⁷ While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, “The Chaldeans formed three groups and made a raid on the camels and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you.”


 ¹⁸ While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, “Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house, ¹⁹ and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead, and I alone have escaped to tell you.”

- [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version.*](#) (2016). (Job 1:13–19). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

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-  JOB 2:7-10 So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and struck Job with loathsome sores from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. ⁸ And he took a piece of broken pottery with which to scrape himself while he sat in the ashes. ⁹ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die.” ¹⁰ But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good from God, and shall we not receive evil?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips

- [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version.*](#) (2016). (Job 2:7–10). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

-  Why did this happen to Job - Our answer is found in the few verses before Job 1:13 - **Job 1:6-12**

- ⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. ⁷ The Lord said to Satan, “From where have you come?” Satan answered the Lord and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.” ⁸ And the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?” ⁹ Then Satan answered the Lord and said, “Does Job fear God for no reason? ¹⁰ Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ¹¹ But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.” ¹² And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand.” So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

// Main Point #1 There is a realm beyond what we can see.

- We live in the physical realm. It's the place all around us, the place you live in, some people call it the natural realm. But there is a realm beyond what we can see. We call that realm the spirit realm - it's an unseen realm invisible to the naked eye. I assure you it is a very real place.
- More Comments here Jordan about things told to me as a pastor of oppressive voices and darkness and “heaviness” ... things we’ve prayed people through over the years ...
- What does the Bible say about this “realm?”

- **■ Ephesians 6:10-19 Read** In these 9 verses the Apostle Paul begins to educate us about the spiritual realm. - Spend some time breaking down V 12 - 12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.
- That most of what we see taking place on the earth is a byproduct of what is taking place in the spirit realm.
- **Touch on the need for the armor of God** - the imagery given to us by scripture are indicators of a war not just in the heavenlies but also a war we participate in, in the physical realm - Understand what happens in the spiritual realm affects the natural realm and vice versa - **■ Matthew 16:19** - 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
- The book of Ephesians unpacks several fundamental truths for Christian living. In this book, Paul mentions the word heavenlies (heavenly places in some translations) five times. I think heavenly realms is the best translation. The New Testament gives detailed attention to the invisible, spiritual realm—the heavenlies. Although we make a distinction between the two realms, we need to understand that they are not isolated from each other. Instead, they overlap each other

I want to remind you of something I said a couple years ago when preaching on the attack of the enemy. **■ People are not the enemy; they're the mission. Anytime you've made a person your enemy, you've forgotten that the Bible tells us that we don't wrestle or fight with "flesh and blood enemies" but rather "evil authorities in the unseen world, evil spirits" aka evil attacks - dare I say "demonic attacks"**



So be careful when you get furious about someone. Yes, their actions are terrible, awful and hurtful and ignorant. BUT they are deceived! They believe they are right! They have potentially been conditioned to live in a mean, terrible way in their upbringing OR they have been told the lie that are superior to you or anyone else and in this moment you have the choice to see them as the enemy OR remember that Satan is the enemy. In doing so you can live out Jesus' command to truly pray for them and truly desire them to come to know Father God and be healed of the hurt they carry - the very hurt that prompts them to hurt you.

- **Lets dive deeper into this idea that there are 2 realms one physical and one spiritual**
- **Below verses from Daniel are *OPTIONAL* Should you want to use it to further emphasize 2 different realms.**
- **Daniel 10:12-END** - Daniel reads part of the book of Jeremiah regarding Israel's destiny and cannot fully comprehend what he is reading so he begins to pray and for 21 days he seeks the Lord regarding Israel - on the 21st day an Angel pays Daniel a visit
- The reason for the delay isn't b/c the Angel was on vacation or was lazy and a procrastinator - its b/c the angel was engaged in an ongoing battle with the prince of

Persia - A demonic challenger who kept the angel from coming to Daniel - It wasn't until Michael the ArchAngel came to help that the demonic principality was defeated and went to Daniel.

- I want to say it again this morning - the spiritual realm is real and there are things that go on an unseen realm that affect the physical world you and I live in.
- Additionally, the Angel tells Daniel that he has to go for the Prince of Greece is coming - Understand Greece in the physical world doesn't appear on the world stage in any significant way for another 200 years meaning that the prince of Greece being referred to by the Angel who appeared to Daniel is another demonic principality.
- Crazy right - I'm sure this raises some questions and has your head spinning - See, we live in a world that appears to be only physical but there is another realm, the "spiritual realm." The spiritual realm affects your life and my life, it affects families, churches and even nations.
- Comment more on this - that "affects families, churches ..."
- Division in a church ...


// Main Point #2 We must discern when the enemy attacks

- As we get further into our conversation this morning I want to preface the rest of my message to you by saying sometimes a "bad day" is just that a "bad day" but I will tell you this morning that sometimes you are a the causality of a coordinated attack by the enemy who is waging war in an unseen realm against the forces of God.
-  **Not everything is the devil** - We have to be keen enough in our spiritual life to be able to discern the difference between a bad day and a spiritual attack - Listen, if you wake up in the middle of the night to get a drink or use the bathroom and you stub your toe on the bed post - that's not a spiritual attack that's called trying to find your way in the dark. =)
-  **One question that comes to mind this morning is "How do I know what I am experiencing is a spiritual attack"**
- I want to give you 5 ways for you to identify that what you are dealing with may in fact be a spiritual attack
Spiritual attacks are a real thing that happens to every believer. We have to be able to discern what the enemy is trying to do.
 1. **#1 - Sudden or extreme onslaught of various troubles, losses, and trials - Refer back to Job 1 &**
 2. **#2 - Attacks of physical danger, illness, life-threatening loss - John 10:10**
 3. **#3 - Increased temptation and luring towards sin or wrong choices - Matthew 4: 1-11 - Jesus being tempted by the devil**
 4. **#4 Feelings of overwhelming despair, darkness, and fear - 1 Kings 19 - Elijah & Jezebel**

5. #5 Deep confusion, feelings of condemnation and guilt, dulled spiritual awareness - 1 Corinthians 14:33 & Romans 8:1

- We must never forget we have an adversary (Satan, the Devil) who hates us - He is crafty and cunning, he is strategic in his attacks and he likes to zero in on our weaknesses and pounce when we are at our lowest and most vulnerable - **But he is also a defeated foe.**
- **2 Corinthians 4:4** says - “The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

// Main Point #3 You can win the spiritual battle in your life.

- Ephesians 6 reminds us to make sure we are properly armored b/c we are in a war - So we better come ready for battle.
-  How do I fight my battles?
 - **Create space and a place to get alone with God - Luke 5:16** - Jesus often withdrew - He got alone with the father and remained in continual unbroken fellowship with him. He stayed connected to his source of power.
 - **Pray & Fast** - Some things only come out by prayer and fasting - Prayer brings you into God's presence where you can make your petitions known and you can engage with God about what is going on in your life, fasting empties yourself of all attachment to the things of the world and it brings you to an emptied state where you aren't as easily swayed by your emotions, temptations or schemes of the enemy. It's in the practice of fasting that you crucify your flesh man and begin to hear more clearly.
 - **Be led by the Holy Spirit** - the Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus to help lead and guide you, to bring you comfort and to empower your life to reflect that of Christ's. Lean into his lead and follow closely where he directs you to go.
 - **Understand your authority in Christ** - More about this in WK4 - You are victorious and an overcomer b/c Jesus lives in you - You have the same authority Jesus was given by God the father to speak to the enemy. Invoke the name of Jesus - **EX - “In Jesus name I declare this sickness, oppression, depression, issue, problem, attack etc. has to go right now in Jesus name.”**
 - **Pray with other believers** - Can I tell you this morning when the enemy is attacking - that is not the time to lean out and isolate, more than at any other time you need to lean in and connect to the people of God and be found in God's house.
- We are called to be overcomers, to not be bound in chains and slaves to sin, to be free, healed and whole. You can win the spiritual battles in your life. It's our right as children of God.

// Conclusion

- As we move through the weeks of this series we are going to be looking at things like the existence of demons and angels, what they are, how they came about and the role they play in our lives today. Additionally, we are going to be addressing the authority that we have as a follower of Jesus - the power that is given to us through the Holy Spirit as well as the power that resides in the name of Jesus and lastly we are going to be looking at some of the more “supernatural” passages and stories in scripture and what we can glean from them.
- But this morning as we close I want to invite you this morning - if you feel like you are in the middle of a spiritual attack one of the best place you can find yourself is at the altar surrounded by people who want to agree with you and battle with you - Can I tell you this morning there's strength in numbers - don't let satan make you think that you have to fight this battle alone - We need each other.
- **Altar**

Sermon Notes - One World, Two Realms

UNSEEN REALITIES PART 1

OCT 1, 2023

Bottom Line: You have the victory over every oppression, addiction and heavy spirit that tries to influence your life through the name of Jesus Christ!

// Main Points

- There is a spirit realm beyond what we can see
- We must discern when the enemy attacks us spiritually
- You can win the spiritual battle in your life through Christ
- Of the following tools we were given in the sermon, which one stands out to you as being the one you should utilize more?
- **Create space and a place to get alone with God - Luke 5:16** - Jesus often withdrew - He got alone with the father and remained in continual unbroken fellowship with him. He stayed connected to his source of power.
- **Pray & Fast** - Some things only come out by prayer and fasting - Prayer brings you into God's presence where you can make your petitions known and you can engage with God about what is going on in your life, fasting empties yourself of all attachment to the things of the world and it brings you to an emptied state where you aren't as easily swayed by your emotions, temptations or schemes of the enemy. It's in the practice of fasting that you crucify your flesh man and begin to hear more clearly.
- **Be led by the Holy Spirit** - the Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus to help lead and guide you, to bring you comfort and to empower your life to reflect that of Christ's. Lean into his lead and follow closely where he directs you to go.
- **Understand your authority in Christ** - More about this in WK4 - You are victorious and an overcomer b/c Jesus lives in you - You have the same authority Jesus was given by God the father to speak to the enemy. Invoke the name of Jesus - **EX - "In Jesus name I declare this sickness, oppression, depression, issue, problem, attack etc. has to go right now in Jesus name."**
- **Pray with other believers** - Can I tell you this morning when the enemy is attacking - that is not the time to lean out and isolate, more than at any other time you need to lean in and connect to the people of God and be found in God's house.

// Discussion Questions

1. Question 1 When Jesus said in **Matthew 16:19** - 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be_{in} bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be_{in} loosed in heaven." What do you think that means for your life? How does that impact you?

2. Question 2 **2 Corinthians 4:4** says - “The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” How do we see satan, the god of this age, blinding people in our culture today?
3. Question 3 How can we be the LIGHT of the world regarding the issues we just spoke about? What can we do?
4. Leader, read the atmosphere prayer out loud then pass out a copy for each couple/person in your group for them to take home. Remind them: This is not a rabbit’s foot as in you *have to have this document* to get freedom. Many Christians make that mistake when given a tool like this. It is simply a guide to remind you of what the Bible says and who the Bible says you are! Use it when you or someone you love is feeling under attack, unable to move or get free from a heavy or controlling spirit.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR THE PRAYER - that way you can just print page 2 when printing

Atmosphere Prayer

This prayer is to help you walk in victory - to take authority over your atmosphere and sphere of influence. It's meant to help you declare the Kingdom of God is at hand. It's not meant to be a formula but simply a tool to train believers like you to declare the truth found in scripture and walk in the promises of God given through the victory of Jesus Christ!

Father, I thank You for all that You've generously given me. I come to You with a heart of gratitude. I choose to submit myself (James 4:7) my mind, my emotions, my body, my rights and all my control to You, Jesus. You have the keys to the Kingdom. According to Mt 16:19 and Mt 28, You have given me authority to partake in Your divine nature. According to Gal. 4:7, I am a co-heir with You, Jesus. I have what You've promised me in Jn 14. I bless my spirit to be refreshed (1 Cor. 16:18) and to be led by the same Holy Spirit that led You. I ask You to lead my emotions, my soul and my body to be in alignment with truth. I agree with the finished work of the cross and I place all my confidence in You, Jesus. You have the final say over all things in Heaven and on earth. Your Word promises that nothing will be too much for me to handle and that with every temptation and fear that You provide a way out. I stand on the truth that whatever I loose on earth must be whatever is loosed in heaven; according to Mt 18:18, I declare victory in my life that has been won by the blood of Jesus.

*I will triumph because of the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony! I take the authority given to me in Your name, Jesus, over my atmosphere and my domain of influence. I declare that the goodness of God will be celebrated, talked about and given full attention and no longer the work of the enemy. I stand in the authority given to me by Jesus to bind every spiritual attack, principality and power, all rulers and authorities. I have this power according to Lk 10:19 and Eph. 1 & 6. I will have perfect peace. Every evil spirit must bow at the name of Jesus Christ, the living Son of God. I silence every lying spirit and every demonic voice that tries to insinuate, accuse, lie, intimidate and manipulate. I ask that the angels You promised to minister to me and my family be released to do warfare on my behalf. I thank You for every angel whether they are to give a message, bring deliverance, healing or encouragement. I thank You for protecting me and my family and we commit ourselves again to Your Lordship, Jesus. We hide under the shelter of Your wings according to Ps 61. You will protect us from every evil according to Ps 91. Jesus, You are Lord of this situation, this room and You are Lord of my life! May Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Thank You for giving me daily bread and all that I have need of. Thank You for being all that I could ever want. Jesus, You lead me beside still waters. You comfort me. In You, I have all I need and I shall not want. Lead me not into temptation but deliver me from evil. Yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. **Amen!***

Originally Written by Oaks Rising www.OaksRising.com. Adapted a little by P. Jordan Biel