Teach Us To Pray

Part 1 of 5 | Jordan Biel | Rock of Grace Kinsman Campus | 08.07.22

Today, we begin a 5 week series on the Lord's Prayer and man, this series is gonna be AWESOME! I'm so excited to hear what GOD is going to do and we are going to LEARN and more importantly, what we are going to EMBRACE and live out, not just learn, amen?

Let's Pray

God we pray that your Holy Spirit would move aside my thoughts and bring about YOUR thoughts. Your ways are higher than our ways. The prophet said "who can search and know all the ways of God?" But Father you also said to seek you and if we do, that we would find You. So we seek You today. We ask You to speak to us. Open our hearts to discern good from evil and teach us to pray and live like You intended.

Lord's Prayer Passage: MT 6:6-15

⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁷ "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. ⁹ Pray then like this:

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread, ¹² and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. ESV

Why do we pray?

When we pray, we are aligning our mind and emotions with the will and ways of God.

Section 1 - WHO IS GOD?

Artist - who wants His image represented to the earth by humans for the joy of it

King - who wanted (and still wants) humans to partner with Him in ruling and reigning bringing light to darkness, and hope to hurting

Father - who wanted (and still wants) a family - a people to call His own

Section 2 - WHO IS MAN?

Art

A special creation of God meant for mutual enjoyment / God & man An artwork of God Himself Eph 2:10 Psalm 139

Steward/Governor

A being that is 3 in 1 as God is 3 in 1 - made to be governed by God and then <u>govern</u> in God's Kingdom. Steward of all the Master/King has given us.

Child - We are children loved by our Father God who takes good care of us. We loved despite what we do to perform.

SECTION 3 - WHO IS SATAN?

Poser - who wants to be God

Intruder - who wants to steal, kill & destroy

The battle we're in is real. Too many Christians don't realize it but there's a battle for your life, a struggle between good and evil, God and the devil. So who is "the devil" and where did he come from?

Satan was Lucifer an angel of light

Satan was known as the angel of light - Lucifer was his name in heaven. The Bible indicates that he was made of worship instruments - that music came out of him and that he lead the music in heaven - at least as far as we can understand from scripture.

REFERENCES

- Is 14:12–17 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!
- You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north;
- I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'15 But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit. 16 Those who see you will stare at you and ponder over you: 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, 17 who made the world like a desert and overthrew its cities, who did not let his prisoners go home?'

LK 10:18 Jesus affirmed this reality ... ¹⁸ And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

Satan is a poser who wants to be worshiped so God removed him from heaven. LK 10:18 | IS 14:12-17 | REV 12:7-10 Satan wants to be God.

Satan wants to be worshipped. Even though God designed him for worship music to flow through him, he wanted worship to flow to him. All worship leaders, pay attention to this, please. You are on a slippery slope when you start to want to be worshiped instead of simply wanting Jesus to be worshiped. I know guys who have stepped away from the stage for a while because their heart became contaminated with pride. They couldn't stop the thoughts of wanting to be seen, praised, adored for their musical talents. So in humility, they stepped away for a season. Friend, it's better to own it and admit your need for a break than to continue on and make the "worship" section more about you than about Jesus. Guard your heart for out of it flows the wellspring of life." PS (REFERENCE)

Satan wants to be worshiped. He wants allegiance.

But here's the reality. In the Lord's prayer, we find Jesus give Father God the glory that only HE deserves! "Our Father who resides in HEAVEN, hallowed be YOUR name!"

I could give you hundreds of verses on worship but I'll give you just a few so you understand that God and God alone is to be worshiped - which satan didn't like.

Only the Lord deserves worship

Psalm 148 | Romans 1:24-25 | Revelation 7:9-12; 19:1-7

- The LORD created everything to worship Him. Before God all people are on level ground; rich, poor, young, and old, everyone should worship the LORD because He alone is God! He reigns as King, Artist/Creator and Father over the earth.
- While some people refuse to worship God, the LORD is still their Creator, the Artist, the one who made them and is worthy of worship, honor and glory forever.
- Worship is eternal. In heaven a multitude from all nations worshiped the LORD.
 The sound of worship fills all of heaven.

When Jesus is teaching us to pray, He illustrates that we should first worship, even if only for a moment, we need to recognize the hight of God and the depth of man.

Satan is an Intruder.

Satan intrudes into our relationship with our Creator and he does that as a Thief, Liar & Murderer

Jesus said this about him in JN 10 that "The thief comes to steal, kill and destroy"

I want to give you just one more passage so you understand what we're up against but also so you understand that the war has already been won, even though you are feeling the frustration of the battle. We are trapped in time,

remember. God is not. So as you read this passage in a moment, keep in mind that prophecy is outside of time so passages like the one we're about to read in Revelation can speak of a time period 6,000 years ago then jump to a time period in the future. Which is what I believe happens in the following text.

REV 12:7-14

⁷ Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸ but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹² Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them!

But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!" ¹³ And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴ But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. ESV

So I know that the last paragraph is confusing - suddenly we're talking about a woman being given wings and flown to the wilderness to escape the Dragon? WHAT?

That's a metaphor for the church - the woman is often a metaphor for the church - this isn't the only time in scripture when that word picture is given. The woman - the church - stay with me now - is birthing the image of God with every new believer that awakens to sonship and gives their heart to Jesus! Satan, as we established earlier, does NOT like that. He wants to be worshiped! The last thing he wants is another person to realize who God is and begin to worship him. Cool thing is, people are getting saved all over the world all the time and there's nothing satan can do to stop it!

The phrase "time, times, and half a time refers so the 7 years when Christians are given escape from the tribulation. That's my personal belief regarding that scripture. But we'll talk more about end times things in another sermon. I want to focus on the two paragraphs before that.

Notice how Michael is an arch angel - by the way, we only know of 3 angels names Michael, Gabriel and Lucifer. Michael and Gabriel, good guys. Lucifer, bad guy. Notice "there was no longer any place for them in heaven"

Do you know that God won't tolerate rebellion and sin and sickness! In His heaven, it is PERFECT! Get this - you and I are promised a seat at the table there! WOW! Because of

what Jesus did to defeat the dragon, you and I are given eternal life in perfect peace in God's perfect heaven! Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection from the grave are the proof you need that God is able to save!

Again, why won't God tolerate that rebellion and confusion in heaven? He didn't tolerate that rebellion in heaven because He alone is God and worthy of worship - it's who He is as Artist, King & Father.

SLIDE:

Who is God? Artist | King | Father

Who is Satan?
Poser | Intruder

Who is Man? Image of God (Art) | Governor/Steward | Child/Heir

The battle you feel in life is often a signal to you of the eternal reality in this slide on the screen - the good and evil battle that rages until the devil is thrown into the lake of fire for good in the coming age.

Until then, we content for healing, for restoration, to live in the victory of what Jesus paid for! Jesus gave the church the spiritual gifts - also called gifts of the Spirit - I call them "grace gifts" to bring heaven to earth. The grace gifts in operation defeat the curse of sin brought on by the intruder, satan and cause us to live as the man God intended - the art of God - stewarding and governing and His Kingdom as a rightful heir - owning all that He owns.

Healing / Kingdom Coming Testimony >

Dave Rosenberger - Dave is one of our Family Pastors at Rock of Grace. He volunteers as a pastor with us - being a vital member of our prayer team and leads discussions and does many ministry calls and visitation for us.

Dave was attending a special service, one of those outdoor "revival" services, tent and all. During worship, a man behind him prophetically knew that Dave's back was in need of healing. Dave wasn't standing funny or holding his back, the man simply responded to the Holy Spirit's nudge to ask Dave "Can I pray for your back?" Dave replied "Yes!" In a moment, Jesus healed my friend's back! He hasn't had pain since!

He just told me this story last month. Now, it's August and he just notified the entire staff that he is still healed and feeling great!

Satan is an intruder! He wants you in pain. He wants you defeated! He wants you depressed and he often attacks your mind!

Someone needs to hear this today. Satan is the one who lies to you and beats you up and gets you to compare yourself to others and their talents so that you won't use your talent for the Lord. Satan is the one who gets you all worked up, fearing failure, comparing yourself to others and in that he stifles you and your gift. All of Creation Romans 8 says, is waiting for YOU to realize who you are as child of God and to begin to act like it!

Satan will stop you from being the good steward that uses your gift to honor God by tormenting you with lies. Look this is a sermon for another day but I gotta tell you that when he does the A B C on you then you know there's a SPIRITUAL battle taking place.

There's a battle for you and your gift! What do I mean the A B C D. In the stewardship parables that Jesus gives during his mini sermons, we see that the wicked servant A) Accuses God B) Blames others and C) Compares The Gift D) Does Nothing

Some of you have leadership gifts that you are not using to build God's kingdom because you have listening to the lying voice of the intruder - the liar - the thief! Demonic voices have tormented you and insisted that you keep quiet and that you don't use your gift!

Some of you have singing and music gifts that you are not using because you have been listening to the Dragon's voice.

Some of you have entrepreneurial gifts that you are not using yet because you've been listening the Dragon's voice.

He's got you accusing God of not giving you a gift like others. He's got you blaming others. He's got you comparing yourself to other and ultimately he's got you don't nothing with the gift.

That's not a small deal. That's a big deal! You've let the THEIF come into your mind and steal the joy of using your grace gifts and it's time you to tell him NO and you rise up in faith and do what you were made to do!

Jesus does a little compare and contrast between him and satan.

Jesus said about Satan in JN 10:7-11

⁷ So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. ¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep

NOW WE'RE GOING TO GET TO THE FAVORITE PART OF MY SERMON! WHEN THE KINGDOM COLLISION TAKES PLACE! WHEN GOD'S KINGDOM INVADES EARTH'S REALITY. A MIRACLE IS WHEN HEAVEN'S REALITY INVADE'S EARTH'S PROBLEM.

Again, who is satan? He is the intruder, the poser, the liar. He is the prince of the air Ephesians says.

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And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the <u>prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience</u>— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

ESV

There's good and evil and as you might have guessed, the good comes from God who has revealed His goodness through His Son Jesus!

Demonic Spirits | What are they and what do we do about it?

When people are out of control because a demon is a work, what is happening? Let's read a passage or two then we'll discuss it.

Acts 5:12-16

¹² Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³ None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴ And more than ever believers were added to the Lord,

multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were <u>all</u> healed!" ESV

I want to read the KJV of verse 16

"There came a multitude round about Jerusalem and them that were vexed with unclean spirits." KJV Vexed - original Hebrew word there means tortured, annoyed, harassed and afflicted. I personally believe many who roam the streets and are labeled "mentally ill" are actually demon possessed. I don't believe ALL mentally ill patients are possessed. I believe some are and are simply misdiagnosed. Why? You only diagnose someone with the labels and ailments that you're aware of. Many doctors and people aren't aware of the fact that demons exist - that good and evil exists - that there's a real heaven and a real hell and satan doesn't want to know the love and purity and holiness of God.

It matters that you know the truth about demons and demonic activity because scripture says "My people die for lack of knowledge" Hosea 4:6

Today, you have been informed! =) Today, you can know that while the demonic realm is real, Satan, who used to be Lucifer, is real and is the enemy of your soul, you can also be fully aware that...

Jesus has the power to set you and ANYONE free and anyone free from demonic torture - racing, fearful minds and out-of-control-behavior.

We're going to look at 3 or 4 different passages today when Jesus encountered someone influenced by demons and learn from His response as Jesus is always our example.

Know this

Demon Possession is different than demonic Oppression.

Demon possession is when a demon takes over a body and a mind and has *control.* Demon in that sense is a disembodied spirit that influences someones body or mind and seemingly has control.

Demon oppression is when people are influenced by a demon (but not controlled entirely). A demon is torturing them - ruling their mind by filling it with fear, illogical fears and irrational worry - even paranoia that causes them to sabotage relationships - relationships that God intended to be a blessing.

People suffer from this all around the globe. To disagree with that is to be simply naive to it's reality. Many countries have witch doctors in just village after village, demanding respect and even grossly immoral actions to appease them.

In America it's not that we have less demons, it's just our demons have make-up and good manners. Someone can have good manners and be living in alignment with demonic doctrine.

From my experience, I have only seen two demon possessed people - people who were out of their mind and out of control.

I can see that people who are demon possess can When the demon manifests and wants to

Keep in mind on this sermon topic - self control - God wants to empower you to be self-controlled and even better, led by the Holy Spirit of God. The voice of God can speak to you and prompt you to do helpful, kind, sacrificial and loving things. The voice of satan will prompt you and invite you to do selfish, manipulative, divisive things.

In MT 15:22-28, a Cannanite woman cries out to Jesus "Have mercy on me Son of David!" She said her daughter was tormented by a demon. Understand the context here. Jesus was coming through Cannan (the land of promise to the people of Israel) They're on the promised land of their ancestors... yet this woman's daughter was tormented by a demon.

I was searching for passages when demons where represented in the Gospels and came across this and it hit when I saw that word "Cannanite." Here Jesus is traveling through Cannan. If you remember - this is the land of promise! Her daughter was suffering mentally while physically living in the land of promise.

Did you know that you can be living in the blessing of another man's prayer - another generation's faith - and still be tortured in your mind.

You can be physically blessed - living in the blessing of what your parents prayed for and fought for spiritually - they made hard decisions that tested their integrity and resolve and here you are blessed to live in that promised land that they entered by faith and yet YOU are suffering in your mind and heart. You can be physically and financially blessed but suffer in your soul (mind, will and emotions). Demonic oppression is REAL and the dragon, satan, wants to STEAL the joy that God intends you to have! Don't let him do it! Declare the name and victory of JESUS CHRIST over your mind and emotions!

MT 17:14-18

¹⁴ And when they came to the crowd, a man came up to him and, kneeling before him, ¹⁵ said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he has seizures and he suffers terribly. For often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. ¹⁶ And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." ¹⁸ And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was healed instantly. ¹⁹ Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁰ He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Mt 17:14–20). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

How does Jesus respond to those who are demon possessed or oppressed?

He was compassionate and unafraid.

Keep in mind that we are Christ's ambassador - the messengers of Jesus. We are

Jesus just as approachable and kind and compassionate to the

This root word "vexed" means to be afflicted, harassed, tortured.

How do we need to respond to people who are possessed or oppressed?

What is a demon?

We simply can't know exactly.

2 Theories of Demons

They are fallen angels - when casted out of heaven.

They are disembodied spirits of a pre-Adam time.

I personally believe A. The Bible isn't explicitly clear regarding WHAT a demon is. But most pastors and theologians believe they are fallen angles. Again, 1/3 of angels gave allegiance to Satan when he was cast out of heaven. Some pastors however, believe they are from a pre-Adam time. I don't believe that but hey it doesn't change the fact those pastors are my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Demons are the powers and principalities ruling in the heavenenlies under the authority of satan.

You might say "Isn't satan in hell?"

No. He isn't. Scripture says he'll be cast into hell at the end of the tribulation. At the end of millennium he'll be casts into the lake of fire FOREVER the book of Revelation teaches us.

Ephesians 6:12

*Principaties - fallen angels removed from heaven by Father God.

Fallen angles under Satan's command.

What is a principality?

They have ruling power over a region - the don't control Christians but they can influence Christians, especially church-going people that only nourish their spirit-man on Sundays.

and I'm not saying I understand this completely. I'm not pretending to be an expert. But I will say that I believe the Bible is true that states that there are principalities in the heavenlies

Jesus is teaching on demonic activity when He teaches that the Spirit of Jesus should be invited into a person's life to fill that life with the SPIRIT of GOD once someone gets deliverance.

⁴³ "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, but finds none. ⁴⁴ Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when it comes, it finds the house empty, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there, and the last state of that person is worse than the first. So also will it be with this evil generation." ESV Mt 12:43–45

So demons are wanting to express themselves in the natural world. They rebel against the voice and person of Jesus so they want a vessel that they can speak through.

MT 12:44 is indicating a lot of things!

You might also need to know that sometimes you're listening to the messages of demons when

Some are violent (throw my son into the fire) Some are lying spirit - rebellious and manipulative

My Personal Experience

I'd like to share some of my personal with people suffering from demonic oppression and possession.

Do I need to be afraid of demons? No. Absolutely not. "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world."

When Jesus made this claim and this promise, He was indicating that greater is GOD who lives within you than he that rules the air - the culture - the ways of the world and systems of the world - satan who is called "The Prince of the Air" Biblically.

Paul is writing to Timothy, a spiritual son of his, someone he is mentoring for leadership and he says ...

2 Timothy 1:6-7 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

When it comes to the demonic realm or demons, you need to know that God can give you HIS Spirit and fill you with HIS love and that love drives out all fear that would come through a demonic voice!

God has not given you a spirit of fear but power love and a sound mind ..." God was telling young Timothy and us HAVE COURAGE! Gods love can clear rhe anxiety and fear in your mind that causes you to be paralyzed.

"Don't be intimidated ..." Paul is telling him!

You can be full of the Spirit of Jesus - this will inform you of whether someone is speaking from a place of manipulation and evil intent.

How can I discern the difference of God's voice & a demonic voice/thought?

John 17 Jesus promise us - as you know it's my favorite passage to preach on - Jesus promises to give us "Another comforter" and that word in it's root form means - another one just like me. He is saying 'the Holy Spirit will come and be just like me. You"ll hear MY voice and know MY voice. Discernment is not just a gift; it's a promise! The voice of God will bring help to others. It will cause you to serve God by serving people. It will prompt you to pray and ask God about things. It will cause you to show love and compassion, empathy and grace.

The voice of the devil will tell you to be impatient, demanding, rude, condescending and out of control.

Worldy wisdom can come through very smart educated people. I love education. I read a lot of books. I love reading and education but be careful.

Paul says in his letter to the Colossians 2:6-15

⁶ Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,

¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the **rulers and authorities** and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. Col 2:6–15

See to it that no one deceives you with lofty wisdom that doesn't come from Heaven.

Listen sometimes a demonic influence can be disguised in a very smart person. Human wisdom and Heaven's wisdom are two different things. The prayer is "Our Father who art in HEAVEN, hallowed be Your name, Your Kingdom come and YOUR will be done..."

Someone can be very educated, well-spoken and seemingly wise BUT be motivated by evil, selfish motives - motives that bring division and strife, confusion and mistrust.

This is why we need discernment. This is why we need to pray. This is why having a discipline of prayer is important - you don't now what you'll run into in a given day but God does! Spend time in prayer in the morning with the Holy Spirit. When you do, you are putting on the armor of God. You're shield of faith is rising up. Your mind is being renewed.

When that happens - when someone has become full of demonic strife and they're bringing that to everyone but they're very smart - it can take a long time for it to show itself but in due time, it will. An evil spirit will always show itself in due time.

What is a leader required to do Biblically when someone is causing division and strife on a consistent basis

Jesus disarmed the demonic rulers and authorities by dying on the cross - paying the price for evil rebellion against God - the sin nature we're born into. He defeated that when He died and rose to new life!

Its' PAST TENSE. He already won the battle. We don't fight for victory. We fight from victory! When we pray, we are coming into agreement with the truth that JESUS HAS WON! Jesus IS victorious!

Notice it says also

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the <u>elemental spirits</u> of the world

Before Paul explains what God has done he explains who God is

God is slow to anger compassionate and long suffering. When you've been suffering under demonic attack OR if you've opened up your life to it by watching things you shouldn't watch, being entertained by evil things, then God is willing and able to forgive you and set you free today!

WRAP UP SERMON? TIME? ARE THEY WITH ME?

God the flesh and devil are at war with YOU! My idea? No. The Bible tells us this

The flesh

"I have a message from God in my heart concerning the sinfulness of the wicked: There is no fear of God before their eyes. In their own eyes they flatter themselves too much to detect or hate their sin. The words of their mouths are wicked and deceitful; they fail to act wisely or do good." Psalms 36:1-3 NIV

https://bible.com/bible/111/psa.36.1-3.NIV

The Flesh

This sin in us

God did something about it! God solved our problem!

Paul says when Jesus was "made alive" He beat sin and the punishment of sin (eternal)

To follow Jesus means we're learning who Jesus is and our new identity in Him.

We're made alive together! The Bible says!

Now it's no longer we and then Jews and Gentiles but ALL are made alive who trust in Jesus his cross and his empty tomb!

Vs 6 says that we're raised with Him! Made alive means he beat death Raised to life means a new age has come

When we understand this...

We begin to see life in two sections or two ages:

- 1) The age of sin and suffering and brokenness a fallen world *being redeemed* by Jesus living inside of Christians
- 2) And the age to come one of wholeness health, love and perfection the New Jerusalem

*As believers, we need to understand that we are fighting a battle now that Jesus won in the past that will be fully seen in the future. Speak Jesus! Worship the Lord & declare His authority from the position of identity - a child of God, a steward of His Kingdom and a Spirit-filled artist who expresses His beauty in the world!

We're in the age of suffering and brokenness, where Satan, the Dragon, the devil, is the prince of the air, allowed by God, permitted by God to bring temptation and pain to the earth. BUT we have the victory that came through Christ to bring HIS KINGDOM and HIS LOVE to change the circumstance we are in! We do that through prayer, through declaration and putting on the armor of God - salvation, the gospel declaration, the sword of the spirit, the righteousness, the shelf of faith....
EPH 6:10-18

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit,

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Eph 6:10–18). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

We know we're on our way to that new age - that age to come. This is our blessed hope!

Don't forget that the devil is an Poser, an Intruder and a Liar! ... that "The thief comes to steal, kill and destroy" but the rest of that verse, Jesus says "BUT I HAVE COME TO BRING LIFE AND LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY!"

You and I have victory over sin and evil intrusion! When we pray that and declare that over someone who is hurting, we are causing the Kingdom to come! We are agreeing with Jesus "Your Kingdom come. Your will be done!" It is God's will that you are healed!

WE HAVE Victory Over Evil

Insert my sermon on the demonic / who satan is and what his role is now and my thoughts on the demonic world /

Luke 10:1-21

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ² And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

- ⁴ Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' ⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. ⁷ And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house.
- ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' ¹² I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

Skip 13-15 - Jesus warns unrepentant cities and people there, then says

¹⁶ "The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me." ¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" ¹⁸ And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from

heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.

²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." ²¹ In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will." ESV

WE HAVE Righteousness Peace & Joy in the Holy Spirit

The Bible defines the Kingdom as being righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (REFERENCE) there Satan, God's enemy wants to steal your joy, tell you that you are NOT righteous

Work Restored - why your 9 to 5 is important / God instructed them to rule and subdue" before the curse of sin. Yes, sin caused work to be "cursed" and painful but it didn't change the intention of work - mean to glorify God and give us purpose and fulfillment - that we could create with Creator / govern with the Governor / Rule with the King The Idea is extending Eden... Our work matters to God. Our career affects the Kingdom and can bring the poor out of poverty - not just poverty of soul but fiscal poverty

Jesus was BOTH GOD AND MAN HE RESTORED WHAT WAS POSSIBLE FOR MAN

Not just in the primary sense of reuniting with a holy God - yes if course that's is first. But what else did the cross and empty grave accomplish? A lot I think!

I think Jesus reveals to us what He intends us to become!

When we pray, we are inviting the Kingdom to come.

When we pray, we are inviting the Kingdom of God to defeat the kingdom of darkness.

The Kingdom of God is unique.
The Kingdom of God is here and not yet.
It is fast and it is slow.

It's here and not yet.

Jesus said often "The Kingdom of God is at hand" and he'd always do this before doing a miracle. It's as if He was declaring the authority of God over the situation in the process

CLOSING

I'm going to invite you to come to the altar today - come up to a prayer team member on the sides here and let these ministry leaders pray with you. You should come up for one of two reasons: 1. You feel that you are tormented by a foul spirit and you want to call out to God for

help. God can and God will deliver you today. Alternately if you want to come pray on behalf of someone you feel is tormented in their mind or soul - if you know someone - a friend of yours or relative - is really struggling - come and stand in the gap for them. Make your request known to God, come boldly before the throne" scripture says & our team will come boldy to the throne with you and we will see God bring about restoration and deliverance!

Secondly if you want to bring the Kingdom of God into the darkness, come forward and pray with a prayer team member or just come up to the altar front and center and seek God by yourself here. If you want to move in more power and confident

Iv'e asked Will to sing Open The Eyes Of My Heart and then just lead us

Part 2 | Your Kingdom Come, Your Will Be Done

WE HAVE Victory Over Sickness

When Jesus said "the kingdom of God isn't something you see saying "there it is" it's in the midst of you."

The kingdom of God is so real that it's beyond a castle made of stone and edicts made by a human king. It's the attitude in which we live knowing that we're serving a King of righteouness and the Prince of Peace, therefore peace is on our lips and righteousness is in our hearts as we communicate with one another as it's citizens. The kingdom is all around and within. It's not made of stone but it is life itself!

Insert some of my sermon from 2019 "When God Doesn't Heal"

I personally believe that is IS God's will that you are healed. When we are not healed, it means we are given a chance to deepen our trust in God - our trust in His timing and His will and His ways. But I will always contend and believe for healing because that's what Jesus taught me to do when I read His Word.

Expound