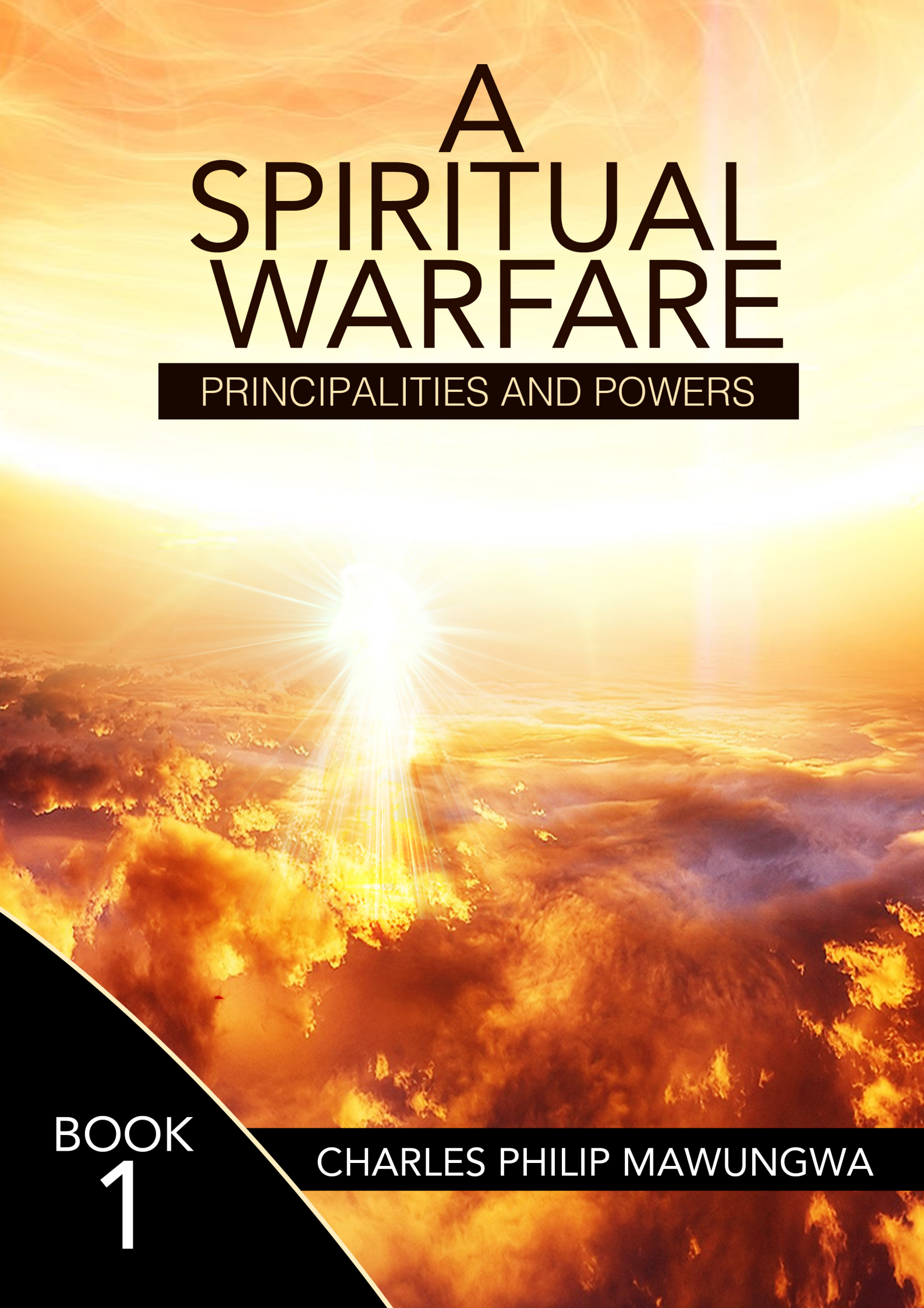




A SPIRITUAL WARFARE

PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS

BOOK
1

CHARLES PHILIP MAWUNGWA

A Spiritual Warfare
-Principalities and Powers-

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Authors Note:

This is a bible based teaching on the battle against fallen angels.

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FOREWORD

When you get saved, your only duty is to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit and grow in knowledge of Christ. But as you grow in the spirit, you will begin to notice that there is a war in place and the church is at the centre of this warfare.

Ephesians 6:12 is our key verse in this book and in it, Paul is telling the Ephesians that we as believers are engaged in a battle, and this battle is waged against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Hence it is "A spiritual Warfare."

But what are these Principalities? Who are these Powers and world rulers of darkness, and why are they located in heavenly places? In this book we shall dig deep into the scriptures to identify what this war is about, who these spiritual enemies are and what our role as the church is.

SPIRITUAL HIERARCHY

Paul in his letter to Ephesus uses words like Principalities, Powers, Thrones and Dominions so casually yet in our modern times we don't really know what they are. If we are fighting a battle against spiritual forces of darkness, then it's most crucial that we understand how authority functions in the spirit. We must unravel spiritual hierarchies and see where we as Christians are positioned and what we must do to overcome.

First and foremost it is vital to understand that every order of ruler ship in existence was created by Jesus Christ.

Colossians 1:16

for all things in heaven and on earth were created by him “ all things, whether visible or invisible, whether thrones or dominions, whether principalities or powers “ all things were created through him and for him.

Note it says, visible and invisible. Paul had never met the church at Colossae in person, yet in his first letter he uses words like Principalities, Powers and Thrones without explanation. His readers understood what these were, because they were common hierarchies in ancient political structures. If I was writing today and I said, we are battling against presidents, senators and judges in the spirit, my audience would get me immediately.

So in order to fully understand what these spiritual orders are, we must first understand the words as they were used in everyday life. Paul tells us that there are visible, and invisible thrones, dominions, principalities and powers. So by looking at the visible structures, we can then understand the spiritual structures.

THRONES

Greek Word: **Thronos**

Thrones are where kings sit when judging and is therefore the highest level of ruler ship and authority.

Luke 22:30

that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Revelation 20:4

Then I saw thrones and seated on them were those who had been given authority to judge.

Daniel 7:9

I saw until thrones were placed, and one who was ancient of days sat: his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames,

So if we as Christians overcome the world, we shall also sit on the throne of Christ.

Revelation 3:21

He who overcomes, I will give to him to sit down with me on my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father on his throne.

As far as we know from the scriptures, in heaven, we currently have 24 elders who occupy the position of thrones, and their thrones are in God's throne room.

Revelation 4:4

Around the throne were twenty-four thrones. On the thrones were twenty-four elders sitting, dressed in white garments, with crowns of gold on their heads.

In the natural, there was one main throne, and Ceasar sat on it as emperor king. Just as God sits on his Throne. However, Ceasar had placed Herod and his brother as kings of Judea and Galilee under him. So they had been given thrones, they could sit as kings judging under their king of kings Caesar.

DOMINIONS

Greek word: **Kuriotes**

This is derived from Kurios which means Lord.

Kuriotes means Lordships.

When mankind was created, he was given a position of dominion over God's physical living creatures.

Genesis 1:28

God blessed them. God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

This Lordship is different from Thronos in that man did not necessarily sit and judge animals, or necessarily interfere with their everyday lives. We still have this dominion over animals in that we have power over them, we can name them, we can use them for our own purposes, we can destroy them or we can tame them.

We can't necessarily command animals to do our will, but they cannot resist our will. For example if I want to ride horses, they may not necessarily want to be ridden, nor do we command cows to farm for us, or donkeys to pull our carts, however we can make them all do what we want. Spiritual positions of dominions function in the same way. When a spirit has dominion over another spirit or a

particular area, he has power over them, to bend them to his will, as we have power over animals.

When Adam fell in the garden, two things were given Dominion over mankind: Death and Sin. However, Jesus came to free us from their dominion.

Romans 6:9

knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no more has dominion over him!

Romans 6:14

For sin will not have dominion over you. For you are not under law, but under grace.

So every person who is not born again is dominated by sin and death. This means though they may not want to sin, they cannot resist it and though they may not want to die, death will still have its way with them.

Rom 7:18 -20

For I am conscious that in me, that is, in my flesh, there is nothing good: I have the mind but not the power to do what is right.

For the good which I have a mind to do, I do not: but the evil which I have no mind to do, that I do.

But if I do what I have no mind to do, it is no longer I who do it, but the sin living in me.

So dominion is given not just to beings, but also to systems of operations to principles, and laws.

PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS

Principalities

Greek Word: ***Arche***

Powers

Greek Word: ***Exusia*** which means Authority

PRINCIPALITIES...

Arche means First, Beginnings, principal.

When Julius Ceasar took rulership of Rome, he was given the title of The First Citizen...

In the same way that a person who is best at anything is considered number 1 and is given honour.

Let us get into the Bible, and see how Principalities and Powers operated in everyday life. The translators of the bible were not consistent in their use of this word, so I will put the original Greek word in bold.

Luke 20:20

*They watched him, and sent out spies, who pretended to be righteous, that they might trap him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the power (**Arche**) and authority (**Exusia**) of the governor.*

The terms interpreted as Power and Authority are Arche and Exusia which literally means the Jews intended to place Jesus under the Principality and Powers of the Governor...

A person who had Principalities and Powers (Authorities) under him was called a governor. This term governor is not used the same way today. It is the same term interpreted as Prince in the Old Testament.

Matthew 2:6

*'You Bethlehem, land of Judah, are in no way least among the princes (**hegemon**) of Judah: for out of you shall come forth a governor (**hegemon**), who shall shepherd my people, Israel.'*

The same word interpreted as PRINCES is the same word interpreted as GOVERNOR in the same verse; "Hegemon". The best example we have of this is Joseph, who was a governor in Egypt and answerable only to Pharaoh, the throne.

Luke 12:11

*When they bring you before the synagogues, the rulers (**arche-principalities**), and the authorities (**exusia - powers**), don't be anxious how or what you will answer, or what you will say;*

In the Roman times, Principalities were also called magistrates, we see by the same verse in the KJV

Luke 12:11 (KJV)

*And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates (**arche-principalities**), and powers (**exusia**), take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:*

So these Magistrates were the first position of power in the government, they had direct control over an area, and if you wanted to do anything in that area you needed their permission.

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

Let me give a few examples that bring to light how this spiritual order is set.

Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Powers.

A modern day example of a Throne would be a president who is also a commander in chief. Under this President (Throne) would be different dominions such as the police commissioner with dominion over implementation and upholding of laws, the army general with dominion over military and defence etc. Now in every district or town, you have an officer in charge, in other countries they have sheriffs. This officer in charge or sheriff of a district is your principality. He has certain authority within his jurisdiction. Such that even when a police officer from another district comes, he cannot do certain things without permission from the sheriff. Even organisations who come to aid people would need his approval. He has police officers under him, and these are the powers.

A simple example is a school: A school is headed by a Principal (**Arche-principality**) if I want to enter that school and do anything that relates to the students, I need the principal's approval. He has direct control over that school to allow or disallow things, and to actually decide who is promoted, who gets punished, and to set rules in his school, as long as they are within the constitution.

This understanding alone helps us to understand how the enemy can stop us from receiving certain answers to our prayers.

Let's get deeper.

So this Greek word **arche** which is translated as principalities, is the same word that the Jews used to describe the princes in their Greek translation of the book of Daniel.

Dan 10:12 -13 (KJV)

12. Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.

*13. But the prince (**arche-principality**) of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.*

Before Daniel even knelt down to pray, before he even fasted, God had answered his prayer and sent an angel with the reply. However God's angel was held back by the principality of the kingdom of Persia. This prince of Persia is not a human being but a fallen angel who stood as a principality over the kingdom of Persia.

Let me quote from the Bible in Basic English.

Dan 10:12-13 (BBE)

12. Then he said to me, Have no fear, Daniel; for from the first day when you gave your heart to getting wisdom and making yourself poor in spirit before your God, your words have come to his ears: and I have come because of your words.

*13. But **the angel of the kingdom of Persia** put himself against me for twenty-one days; but Michael, one of the chief angels, came to my help; and when I came he was still there with the angel of the kings of Persia.*

Daniel was in Persian territory when he sent his request to God, but the principality in charge of Persia had the authority to deny permission to God's angel such that the angel of God could not enter his territory. Ultimately after 21 days as Daniel continued in persistent fasting, God sent Michael to help the angel of the lord enter into Persia by force. So from Daniel's case we can get an understanding of what Paul meant when he said we battle against Principalities, and Powers in the heavenly places.

Going back to our school example: you are a student at school and you call your father to send you some books and your father sends a messenger with those books. When the messenger comes to your school, he can be denied permission by the principal. Such that he may even have to return to your father with the books. The principal is not your Father but as long as you are in his school premises he can choose who he denies or allows access to the students. And he will have school security which would be his *POWERS* ready to throw the messenger out at his request.

This case scenario is in the Old Testament so we need to trace this story of principalities from the very beginning, into the present day.

A HISTORY OF PRINCIPALITIES

What exactly is the story behind these principalities, where did they come from and how did they end up in their places? Lets go into the bible and trace their journey from the time of Adam to now.

These principalities are the angels that have direct oversight on what happens on earth, and have authority to decide which angels can pass through into their territory and which cannot. Nothing can happen in their territory without their permission.

These principalities, were set there by God, and given their authority by God, However they fell. Jude explains:

Jude 1:6

And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

The word interpreted as "first estate" is arche, where we get Principality.

So the angels who came down in genesis 6 were actually Principalities, angels who had direct oversight over human affairs. And when they fell, their estates were left open. God then destroyed the earth with water, after the flood, Nimrod arose and nations were born. God divided the world into many nations. Paul makes this point to the Greeks of Athens.

Acts 17:26

From one man he made every nation of the human race to inhabit the entire earth, determining their set times and the fixed limits of the places where they would live,

Before the Flood we had no nations and boundaries, just the human race, and most likely fewer Principalities were needed, however after the flood God brings many nations from a seed of seventy people. For reasons I know not of, God ultimately ended up with only one nation that was under his control all the rest were now under principalities who were in allegiance to Satan.

Moses explained...

Deuteronomy 32:8-9

8 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the children of men, he set the bounds of the peoples according to the number of the children of Israel.

9 For Yahweh's portion is his people. Jacob is the lot of his inheritance

God then assigned Michael, as the Principality who was in charge of Israel:

Daniel 10:21

But I will tell you that which is inscribed in the writing of truth: and there is none who holds with me against these, but Michael your prince."

Daniel 12:1

"At that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people..."

God then told the one nation that he had chosen as his inheritance, that he would choose one territory where he would put his name.

Deu 14:23

And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there

Initially this place was Shiloh, but ultimately God chose Jerusalem, that his presence would dwell there and thus his name found in his house.

1Ki 11:36

And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light always before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there.

The bible also tells us about the principalities who had charge over the other nations.

Babylon:

Isaiah 14:4-15 (BBE)

(4) That you will take up this bitter song against the king of Babylon, and say, How has the cruel overseer come to an end! He who was lifted up in pride is cut off;

(13) For you said in your heart, I will go up to heaven, I will make my seat higher than the stars of God; I will take my place on the mountain of the meeting-place of the gods, in the inmost parts of the north.

(14) I will go higher than the clouds; I will be like the Most High.

(15) But you will come down to the underworld, even to its inmost parts.

Tyre:

Ezekiel 28:12-15 (BBE)

(12) Son of man, make a song of grief for the king of Tyre, and say to him, This is what the Lord has said: You are all-wise and completely beautiful;

(13) You were in Eden, the garden of God; every stone of great price was your clothing, the sardius, the topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the emerald and the carbuncle: your store-houses were full of gold, and things of great price were in you; in the day when you were made they were got ready.

(14) I gave you your place with the winged one; I put you on the mountain of God; you went up and down among the stones of fire.

(15) There has been no evil in your ways from the day when you were made, till sin was seen in you.

However, when the children of Israel sinned they were placed into exile, and according to the prophecy that Jeremiah had given, they were taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. Babylon itself was being ruled by a fallen angelic principality as we read in Isaiah 14.

2Ki 23:27

And the LORD said, I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there.

2 Kings 24:10-15 KJV

(10) At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.

(15) And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon, and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his officers, and the mighty of the land, those carried he into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.

Daniel was one of these captives who was carried to Babylon, and so now the whole nation was now operating in the jurisdiction of the fallen angel whom Isaiah referred to as the king of Babylon. However, seventy years later the Persians took over the city of Babylon and killed Nebuchadnezzar's grandson who was now king.

Daniel 5:28-31 BBE

(28) Peres; your kingdom has been cut up and given to the Medes and Persians.

(30) That very night Belshazzar, the king of the Chaldeans, was put to death.

(31) And Darius the Mede took the kingdom, being then about sixty-two years old.

When the Persians then over took Babylon and set it under their territory, the principality who was in charge of Persia, now also had control over Babylon and over the children of Israel.

Daniel 10:1-2

1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, even a great warfare: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.

2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three whole weeks.

If Daniel had been in Jerusalem, this would have been easy, but because he was in Persian territory, the angel of the lord could not come and minister to Daniel without first passing through the prince of Persia but the Principality of Persia denied him entry.

Daniel 10:13

However, the prince of the kingdom of Persia was opposing me for twenty-one days. But Michael, one of the leading princes, came to help me, because I was left there with the kings of Persia.

He had a legal right to do so.

Anyways, the prayer had been made by a Jew, and Jews had Michael as their principality, so Michael needed to come and hold that place by force, and then give the angel of the lord access to Babylon.

Because God had destroyed the one place that had his name on earth, it left Satan with absolute control over all the kingdoms of the earth. His principalities now ruled everywhere including Jerusalem. And it seemed as though Satan had won. By the time Jesus comes to the scene, the Jews were now under Roman rule. Satan comes and parades his authority to Christ.

Luke 4:5-8 (ASV)

(5) And he (The Devil) led him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

(6) And the devil said unto him, To thee will I give all this authority, and the glory of them: for it hath been delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.

(7) If thou therefore wilt worship before me, it shall all be thine.

(8) And Jesus answered and said unto him, It is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Satan says, this authority over the kingdoms of the earth had been delivered to him. Who gave Satan all this authority? It was Adam. When God created Adam he gave him all authority on earth, to rule it as he saw fit. But when Adam submitted to the word of the serpent, he became a slave to Satan.

Romans 6:16 BBE

Are you not conscious that you are the servants of him to whom you give yourselves to do his desire? if to sin, the end being death, or if to do the desire of God, the end being righteousness.

So when Adam obeyed the serpent, he was in fact delivering up his authority to Satan, and that is how Satan's fallen angels ended up taking over as principalities over all the kingdoms of the earth. Jesus refused to worship Satan but instead chose to lay down his life for mankind, and by his blood he paid the price for Adam's sin, and as the last Adam, he took back the authority that had been lost. So after his resurrection, Jesus calls the eleven apostles and proclaims:

Matthew 28:18 BBE

(18) And Jesus came to them and said, All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.

Now the authority which our father Adam delivered to Satan, is now found in Christ Jesus. Hallelujah! At his resurrection, Jesus was then positioned above all principalities and powers.

Ephesians 1:20-21 KJV

(20) Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

(21) Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

So Christ was then given a position of authority above all principalities and powers.

However I want you to note something here, even though our Lord defeated Satan and has taken a position that is above all principalities and powers, he has not in actual fact removed the fallen angels that were sitting as principalities. The same fallen angels are still sitting in heavenly places exercising the same authority they had over different regions of the world.

Ephesians 2:2 KJV

*Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince (**Arche-principality**) of the power (**Exusia**) of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*

1 John 5:19 BBE

We are certain that we are of God, but all the world is in the power of the Evil One.

1 John 2:15-17 BBE

(15) Have no love for the world or for the things which are in the world. If any man has love for the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

(16) Because everything in the world, the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but of the world.

(17) And the world and its desires is coming to an end: but he who does God's pleasure is living for ever.

Anyways, so ultimately we come back to our key verse, this time it should be much clearer.

Ephesians 6:12 KJV

(12) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Why would Jesus take all authority and then leave these spiritual forces of darkness still ruling the world? This question brings us to the next section, which is on the duty of the church.

EVIL IN THE HEAVENS?

In this section we will search the scriptures for answers to the following questions:

- 1. Where exactly are these Fallen Angels operating from?*
- 2. How do they affect the progress of God's people?*
- 3. What is the duty of the Church towards them?*

There is this common notion that Satan and his angels are based in hell, and they torture people there. Well! I don't know about that, but from what we have in scriptures, Satan and his angels are still based in the heavens. I know it sounds like a strange notion but many scriptures say that. As you go through the scriptures from genesis to revelation, you will find Satan and his evil spirits either on earth or in heaven.

Job 1:6-7 KJV

(6) Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.

(7) And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

1 Kings 22:19-22 BBE

(19) And he said, Give ear now to the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord seated on his seat of power, with all the army of heaven in their places round him at his right hand and at his left.

(20) And the Lord said, How may Ahab be tricked into going up to Ramoth-gilead to his death? And one said one thing and one another.

(21) Then a spirit came forward and took his place before the Lord and said, I will get him to do it by a trick.

(22) And the Lord said, How? And he said, I will go out and be a spirit of deceit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Your trick will have its effect on him: go out and do so.

Even in the New Testament, as shocking as this may sound, the spiritual forces of darkness, are located in the heavens.

Ephesians 6:12 (NET)

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens.

Other versions say high places, and others say heavenly places.

The Greek word used there is ***epouranios***, from *epi* meaning upon, and *ouranos* meaning heaven. This is the same word used in Mathew 18:35 when Jesus says "My Heavenly Father" and in Hebrew 9:23 when it says, "the heavenly things".

Ephesians 3:10 KJV

(10) To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

But where exactly in the heavens are they?

HOW MANY HEAVENS ARE THERE?

God created more than one heaven.

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

I don't know how many heavens there are, but the canonized scriptures we were given, have revealed Three Heavens and there is one of those three which has been left without description.

1. The third heaven is where Paradise is...

2 Corinthians 12:2, 4

2 I know a man in Christ, fourteen years ago (whether in the body, I don't know, or whether out of the body, I don't know; God knows), such a one caught up into the third heaven.

4 how he was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Paradise is where the saints shall go and stay with the Lord for a while.

Revelation 2:7

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. To him who overcomes I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of my God.

This third heaven is where Heavenly Jerusalem is located, and where Christ entered at his ascension, and where John was called to see The Throne room of God.

Revelation 4:2-3

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit. Behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and one sitting on the throne

3 that looked like a jasper stone and a sardius. There was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald to look at.

2. The bible also describes The First Heaven

Genesis 1:6-8 (KJV)

6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

So this first heaven is also called the sky

Genesis 1:8 (NET)

God called the expanse "sky." There was evening and there was morning, a second day.

So The Sky is the first heaven, and in this heaven we find the stars, The Sun and the moon.

Genesis 1:14-18 (KJV)

14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

You will see this throughout the scriptures

Deuteronomy 4:19 (KJV)

And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

Deuteronomy 4:19 (NET)

When you look up to the sky and see the sun, moon, and stars, "the whole heavenly creation" you must not be seduced to worship and serve them, for the Lord your God has assigned them to all the people of the world.

So we now know the first heaven and the third heaven, but concerning the second heaven the bible remains silent.

Now concerning the fallen angels which are in heaven, they can't be in the Third because that's where Paradise and God's throne is set, they can't be in the first Heaven because the first heaven is a physical heaven, so it must be the second heaven. But maybe to get this we need to answer the next question.

HOW DO THESE HEAVENS OPERATE ?

In order to understand how these heavens operate, we have to employ a principle that the bible gives us. The things which are INVISIBLE can be perceived by looking at that which is VISIBLE...

Romans 1:20

For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even his everlasting power and divinity; that they may be without excuse.

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that the worlds were set in order at God's command, so that the visible has its origin in the invisible.

It is only by Faith that we can have this understanding, so by this principle, we can have a good understanding of the purpose of three heavens, and how they function in relation to each other by looking at what God has established in the visible world.

We shall look at

1. The threefold function of the Temple.
2. The threefold function of the Human Being
3. The threefold function of Eden.

A Threefold function of the Temple.

The bible teaches us that Moses was instructed to build the temple of God as a copy of how heaven itself is designed.

Hebrews 8:5 BBE

(5) Being servants of that which is a copy and an image of the things in heaven, as Moses, when he was about to make the Tent, had special orders from God: for, See, he said, that you make everything like the design which you saw in the mountain.

Hebrews 9:22-24 BBE

(22) And by the law almost all things are made clean with blood, and without blood there is no forgiveness.

(23) For this cause it was necessary to make the copies of the things in heaven clean with these offerings; but the things themselves are made clean with better offerings than these.

(24) For Christ did not go into a holy place which had been made by men's hands as the copy of the true one; but he went into heaven itself, and now takes his place before the face of God for us.

So by studying the prototype on earth, which is Moses Temple, we can understand the structure and function of the heavens. The temple had a threefold structure, and from the scriptures we have seen that heaven also has a threefold structure.

The temple had three sections.

The Outer court-The court of the gentiles is the part of the temple that the 'unclean' people had access to, it is the one the nations could see. It typed the first heaven.

Revelation 11:2 KJV

(2) But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.

Then the tabernacle itself had two divisions:

Hebrews 9:2-3 BBE

(2) For the first Tent was made ready, having in it the vessels for the lights and the table and the ordering of the bread; and this is named the holy place.

(3) And inside the second veil was the place which is named the Holy of holies;

The Holy place is where the priests ministered everyday. This Holy Place represented the Second Heaven.

The Holy Of Holies is where the Presence of God was, above the Ark of The Covenant (symbolic of God's throne). This Holy of Holies, typed the Third Heaven.

Let's look at The Human Being.

1Co_6:19 (KJV)

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

A man Has Body, Soul and Spirit.

1Th_5:23 (KJV)

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Body is the part of us that has direct interaction with God's physical creation, it is the outer court, the court of the gentiles, and it functions as the first heaven.

The innermost part of a man is the Spirit, This is where the Holy Spirit comes to dwell, this is where the throne of God is set in your heart, it is entirely spiritual while the body is entirely physical. This part of you called the Spirit types and functions as the third heaven.

The same typology can be found in Eden, the Garden of Eden, and the middle of the Garden, where the tree of life was. Once you see this parallel it is easier to understand how the three heavens function.

So why Three?

Let's start with the Temple of Moses which was a pattern of what he had seen in Heaven.

The most holy place, was very spiritual, and the outer court was very carnal, these two could not be mixed, could not interact at all, so there was need for a middle court, a sanctuary, a holy place that acted as a bridge.

This sanctuary had access to both the most holy place, and to the outer court. It could take the things that God was saying in the most holy place and present them to the outer court, and also take what was happening in the outer court, and bring it into the most holy place.

This intermediate place was necessary to unite the two opposing parts of the temple. In the same way your spirit and your body are made of totally different substances and cannot directly interact with each other, so you have a soul.

The soul acts as a bridge between the spirit and the body.

Your Spirit speaks to your soul and your soul can convey this message to your body and vice versa. The Soul has direct oversight, and control of the body, but the soul also has access to the Spirit, and can understand what the spirit is saying...

Let me give the example in a natural Zimbabwean order...

The Cabinet, is where the heads of Government sit, this is where the constitution is drafted... THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS IN THE SPIRIT, THE THIRD HEAVEN, THE MOST HOLY PLACE of Moses Temple which had the Ten Commandments and the book of the Law.

Then we have the police and authorities who work, not directly with the constitution, they work with Laws that have been created based on the constitution and enforce them on the citizens.

THIS WOULD BE THE SOUL, THE SECOND HEAVEN, THE SANCTUARY of Moses where the Priest Ministered.

Then you have the Citizens, who are subject to the authorities...
THIS IS THE BODY, THE OUTER COURT, THE FIRST HEAVEN.

So in God's perfect creation,

1. The Spirit of Man carried the Will of God; his constitution.

The third heaven is where God would declare his will for his creation. Jesus would write the constitution so to speak.

2. The Soul has free will, but must conform it's free will to align with the will of The Spirit, and operate the Body in line with the constitution of the Spirit.

The angels in the second heaven, acted as a bridge, to convey that which is heavenly, and implement it on the physical world. They had free will, but were meant to subject themselves to the constitution of the third heaven, and present it in a way that humans understand.

When Adam fell, this was when His Soul decided to act in direct opposition to what the Spirit was saying, the soul rebelled against the Spirit in order to serve the body. The soul subjected itself to the will of the body, the spiritual subjected itself to the carnal.

The second heaven is like the soul of the heavens. In the same way, we have angels who left their positions in the second heaven and instead of bringing God's will to human beings, they were made subject to human carnality.

Jude 1:6

You also know that the angels who did not keep within their proper domain but abandoned their own place of residence, he has kept in eternal chains in utter darkness, locked up for the judgment of the great Day.

It is in this second heaven we have angels who are called Watchers.

Daniel 4:13-14

13 I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven;

14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches:

For Satan, the second heaven is the most strategic position he could take because from there he has access to both the third heaven and the earth. When Adam's soul became disconnected to his Spirit by reason of rebellion his body eventually died.

In the same way, when the second heaven became disconnected from the third, no longer taking orders from God, the earth began to die. It became corrupt as a result. So when Jesus came to save the souls of mankind, re-claiming ownership of our souls, It follows that he also reclaimed ownership of the second heaven, the soul of the heavens.

Let's get into scriptures

So Jesus is now in the Third Heaven having purified all things with his blood.

Hebrews 9:23-24

23 It was necessary therefore that the copies of the things in the heavens should be cleansed with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

24 For Christ hasn't entered into holy places made with hands, which are representations of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

At his resurrection he took back all authority in the heavens and on earth...

Matthew 28:18

Jesus came to them and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.

In order to understand the role of the Church, and your place in all this we need to understand God's eternal purpose.

Because Satan's fall corrupted, not just the earth, but also the heavens, God intends to destroy both the heavens and the earth.

2 Peter 3:7

But the heavens that now are, and the earth, by the same word have been stored up for fire, being reserved against the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

The very fact that God intends to destroy the heavens is a sign that they were corrupted.

GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE

God's eternal purpose is that all these things which have fallen must be lined up back to his will, by being made subject to Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:9-10

9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in him

10 to an administration of the fullness of the times, to sum up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens, and the things on the earth, in him;

We as the Church have been given an inheritance in these things.

Ephesians 1:11-12

11 in whom also we were assigned an inheritance, having been foreordained according to the purpose of him who works all things after the counsel of his will;

12 to the end that we should be to the praise of his glory, we who had before hoped in Christ:

So we must inherit places of authority on earth, and also in the second heaven, to repossess that which was lost.

FOLLOW CLOSELY

Paul's Prayer for the Ephesians was that they fully understand what this inheritance was, because generally as Christians we don't get it, it comes by revelation through prayer.

Ephesians 1:17-19

17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you spiritual wisdom and revelation in your growing knowledge of him,

18 since the eyes of your heart have been enlightened " so that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what is the wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

19 and what is the incomparable greatness of his power toward us who believe, as displayed in the exercise of his immense strength.

Paul wants you guys who have been saved to pray for wisdom that you may understand this inheritance, and also THE POWER God has given us to exercise strength. This POWER that God has given to you and me is the same that Christ used to get seated in the heavenly realms.

Ephesians 1:20-21

20 This power he exercised in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms

21 far above every rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

So when all things were placed under Christ, they were also placed under the Church, because The Church is his body...

Ephesians 1:22-23

22 And God put all things under Christ's feet, and he gave him to the church as head over all things.

23 Now the church is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

So if Christ has authority over Principalities and Powers and Dominions, Then so do you, because you are in him.

Ephesians 2:6-7

6 and he raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

7 to demonstrate in the coming ages the surpassing wealth of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

God specifically wants to use us his church, to remove and prove to these principalities and powers that God's wisdom is above all.

Ephesians 3:9-11

9 and to enlighten everyone about God's secret plan, a secret that has been hidden for ages in God who has created all things.

10 The purpose of this enlightenment is that through the church the multifaceted wisdom of God should now be disclosed to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly realms.

11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,

This was God's secret plan. That is the eternal purpose of God. In order to understand what The Church must do, we look at the Type.

DUTY OF THE CHURCH

Israel was a type and shadow of the church.

Act 7:38

This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina...

So by looking at it, we can understand what the Church needs to do. When God took the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan he did not tell them their inheritance was inhabited by giants.

God had done all the work in saving Israel from Egypt, plaguing the nation and destroying the armies of Pharaoh without the Israelites lifting a finger. God had delivered them by himself through Moses. However when they came to their inheritance in Canaan, each man would have to pick up his sword and claim what belonged to him.

Moses was typing Christ who did all the work to redeem and deliver us, but just as with the Israelites, our inheritance is in the hands of giants, and we have been given each man a sword.

Numbers 13:32-33

32 Then they presented the Israelites with a discouraging report of the land they had investigated, saying, The land that we passed through to investigate is a land that devours its inhabitants. All the people we saw there are of great stature.

33 We even saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak came from the Nephilim), and we seemed like grasshoppers both to ourselves and to them.

What the Israelites did not fully understand is that while the inhabitants were giants, spiritually the giants had already been defeated...

Exodus 23:2

I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

The victory had been won spiritually by the angel of the Lord, but It was up to Israel to reveal in the physical a victory that had been accomplished spiritually. This angel of the Lord was typing Christ, who went before us and defeated these principalities and powers spiritually, by taking away their authority.

Colossians 2:14-15

14 wiping out the handwriting in ordinances which was against us; and he has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross;

15 having stripped the principalities and the powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Moses initially sent 12 men to get a taste of this inheritance,

Numbers 13:2

"Send men, that they may spy out the land of Canaan, which I give to the children of Israel. Of every tribe of their fathers, you shall send a man, every one a prince among them."

The Hebrew word for send there, is the Hebrew equivalent of the Greek Apostle.

In the same way Jesus chose for himself twelve apostles to get a taste of the kingdom first and then proclaim it to everyone else.

After forty days, Moses' twelve apostles came back with the fruit of the land, but however gave a bad report concerning the giants.

After forty days from the resurrection, the apostles of Christ stood before the nation of Israel at Pentecost, showed them the Holy Spirit, the fruit of the Kingdom of God, and gave a good report about our Canaan. Hallelujah

In as much as the Israelites were given a responsibility to drive out the Canaanites and claim their inheritance, so Jesus Christ has given us the responsibility to drive out demons and all unclean spirits, to claim our inheritance...

Matthew 10:7-8

7 As you go, preach, saying, 'The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!'

8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, and cast out demons. Freely you received, so freely give.

Mark 16:17

These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons;

If we do not take this commission seriously, and we fail to cast out these spirits from our inheritance, if we appease them and find ways to co-exist with them, God will make them a thorn in our flesh, and they will have power over us.

Numbers 33:55-56

55 "But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then those you let remain of them will be as pricks in your eyes and as thorns in your sides, and they will harass you in the land in which you dwell.

56 It shall happen that as I thought to do to them, so will I do to you."

This is the reason why the body of Christ has fallen victim to demons, false prophets and fallen angels. We neglected our duty and found peaceful ways of coexisting with demons rather than casting them out now they have become a thorn in our side.

How Do we Fight?

Jesus speaks of the rise of falsehood that would come at the end and Paul says something interesting...

1 Timothy 4:1

But the Spirit says expressly that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons,

In the days of Paul, The Holy Spirit was EXPRESSLY (Distinctly and consistently) warning him of the times we are now living in. We are living in a time in which demons and fallen angels are working in a way that the apostles never saw.

Matthew 24:24

For there will arise false christs, and false prophets, and they will show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the chosen ones.

The first thing to understand is that the victory has already been won. Let me give a bit more background information. Satan's fall is in stages. Initially, Satan's fall was in terms of position. He lost his position in God's government. But before Christ came, Satan and his angels still had access to the third heaven.

Job 1:6-7 (WEB)

6 Now it happened on the day when God's sons came to present themselves before Yahweh, that Satan also came among them.

7 Yahweh said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Then Satan answered Yahweh, and said, "From going back and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it."

Before the coming of Christ, Satan had full access to walk among the Sons of God in the third heaven, coming before the throne of God.

Not Just Satan, even his fallen angels too.

1 Kings 22:19-21

19 Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of Yahweh. I saw Yahweh sitting on his throne, and all the army of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left.

20 Yahweh said, 'Who shall entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth Gilead?' One said one thing; and another said another.

21 A spirit came out and stood before Yahweh, and said, 'I will entice him.'

So when Jesus came, one of the things he did was to cast Satan out of the third heaven.

John 12:31-32

31 Now is the judgment of this world. Now the prince of this world will be cast out.

32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

Luke 10:18-19

18 He said to them, "I saw Satan having fallen like lightning from heaven.

19 Behold, I give you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will in any way hurt you.

Note that Jesus did not say Satan fell to the earth, He just fell from heaven.

As a result of this fall, Satan no longer has access to the throne of God, to speak on behalf of mankind, he can no longer condemn us before God.

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Also instead of Satan we have Jesus speaking on behalf of mankind, and instead of his fallen angels, we the saints can now come to the throne of God directly in all boldness.

1 Timothy 2:5 KJV

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace for help in time of need.

So though Satan was cast out and fell, Jesus cleared his presence from the third heaven, and placed us there, gave us positional authority over all of Satan's power.

And Jesus intends to use us, His body, to finally bring him down.

Ephesians 3:10

The purpose of this enlightenment is that through the church the multifaceted wisdom of God should now be disclosed to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly realms.

John sees this event in one of his visions:

Revelation 12:7-9

7 Then war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back.

8 But the dragon was not strong enough to prevail, so there was no longer any place left in heaven for him and his angels.

9 So that huge dragon the ancient serpent, the one called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world was thrown down to the earth, and his angels along with him.

Pay attention to the next verse, it shows that this casting down of Satan to the earth will be done through the faith of the saints.

Revelation 12:10-12

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, The salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the ruling authority of his Christ, have now come, because the accuser of our brothers and sisters, the one who accuses them day and night before our God, has been thrown down.

11 But they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die.

12 Therefore you heavens rejoice, and all who reside in them! But woe to the earth and the sea because the devil has come down to you! He is filled with terrible anger, for he knows that he only has a little time!

The accuser has been thrown down, they overcame him by the blood of Jesus, and by the word of their testimony.

It was the saints who cast him down.

This may confuse people. How is it that the bible says it was Michael and his angels who fought Satan, yet it was the saints that overcame and threw him down? We have a good example of this in the bible.

Daniel 10:12-13

12 Then he said to me, Don't be afraid, Daniel, for from the very first day you applied your mind to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard. I have come in response to your words.

13 However, the prince of the kingdom of Persia was opposing me for twenty-one days. But Michael, one of the leading princes, came to help me, because I was left there with the kings of Persia.

Even though Daniel was unaware of this, his twenty-one day prayer and fasting led to the ultimate battle between Michael and the principality of Persia. Because there was no way, in which Daniel would receive his request from God, without the Prince of Persia being defeated.

So Daniels prayer, initiated and sustained the battle. In the same way, the church has been given promises, and as they begin to claim and move into those promises, as they begin to operate in their authority, it will necessitate that Michael and his angels fight and remove these principalities, in order for you to receive what you are praying for.

The question becomes? Why are so many Christians living as victims when they have been given so much authority? This authority is not just for the prophets and pastors, it's for every believer and every believer is in this war. So why are we victims?

Let Paul tell us in his letter.

Ephesians 6:10-11

10 Finally, be strengthened in the Lord and in the strength of his power.

11 Clothe yourselves with the full armor of God so that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

A lot of Christians are failing to stand against sickness, witchcraft, demonic attacks and false prophets because they are not putting on the FULL armor.

We all have this armor given to us when we are saved, but we have to put it on. How does one do that?

Ephesians 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens.

Our thinking must first be adjusted, we must stop blaming and warring against human beings. Yes, they may be Satanists, Sorcerers or Witches but still they are not the enemy. We must know who the real enemy is and where he is.

Ephesians 6:13

For this reason, take up the full armor of God so that you may be able to stand your ground on the evil day, and having done everything, to stand.

Satan is merciless, if you don't put on the full armor you won't stand.

Ephesians 6:14

Stand firm therefore, by fastening the belt of truth around your waist, by putting on the breastplate of righteousness,

The belt is what holds your whole armour to your body, without the belt the armour will fall apart. Jesus is the truth and you need to know what Jesus is saying in every situation.

God has three answers when you face a battle: Run, Fight or Serve. Not every battle is the same.

Israel **ran** from Egypt, **faught** the Canaanites and **served** Babylon. There is a time for everything and only God knows which time is which.

When Jesus was a baby, an angel had to come and advise that they should run away from Herod, because he was still a child. When he grew up they came and told him to run from Herod and he said, go tell that fox I must do my work. But there was a time he had to submit before herod, to be killed.

John 16:13

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. For he will not speak on his own authority, but will speak whatever he hears, and will tell you what is to come.

You must follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. That is how you fasten your armour together.

The breastplate of righteousness.

The breastplate covers your heart, we were and still are made righteous by the blood of Christ. But having been made righteous by his blood, we must walk according to that righteousness, and part of that walk involves a lifestyle of confession of sin.

1 John 1:7-10

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

8 If we say we do not bear the guilt of sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

9 But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous, forgiving us our sins and cleansing us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar and his word is not in us.

We should regularly apply the blood of Jesus and confess our sins as we walk in our journey, this is how we put on this breastplate of righteousness.

Ephesians 6:15

by fitting your feet with the preparation that comes from the good news of peace,

There is inherent power in the message of the gospel. The gospel of Jesus prepares us by telling us what Christ has done for us, and who we are as a result.

Romans 4:24-25

24 But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

We should be ready to walk according to this good news, it must become a reality that we live in. The devil has introduced so much confusion, such that we spend so much time debating on what the gospel is, he introduces doubt via so called revelations, they weaken our faith in the very basics of this gospel, making us unable to protect our feet.

A person who has his shoes on, is always ready to go. A person who does not have shoes, if you say, "let's go to town" they'll say, "give me some time I need to put my shoes on first."

We must have the basics of the gospel as a living reality to us, this makes us ready for any attack.

Ephesians 6:16

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

We must have faith, not in who we are but in who God is, our faith is a shield that allows us to walk into the battlefield without being harmed.

However, faith grows according to grace. We grow in faith.

Romans 1:17

For the righteousness of God is revealed in the gospel from faith to faith, just as it is written, The righteous by faith will live.

As we grow in faith, our shield becomes stronger. However faith only grows through trials.

James 1:2-4

2 My brothers and sisters, consider it nothing but joy when you fall into all sorts of trials,

3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

4 And let endurance have its perfect effect, so that you will be perfect and complete, not deficient in anything.

So one thing for sure, in order to strengthen your shield, in order to grow your faith, God will take you through various tests, various trials, in which it may seem like you are losing, but those problems teach you and help to strengthen your faith. His word becomes a reality.

Ephesians 6:17

And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

You must put on your salvation as a helmet, to protect your head. Do not allow false doctrine to weaken your faith in what Christ did for you on the cross. Do not doubt that Christ has made you a child of God, a son.

Satan will use circumstances and tribulations, and false doctrines to make you doubt your salvation, and thus leave your head exposed to attack. While all these elements are for defence, we have one weapon of offence given to us, the Word.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any double-edged sword, piercing even to the point of dividing soul from spirit, and joints from marrow; it is able to judge the desires and thoughts of the heart.

A lot of us are unable to defeat these attacks because we are ignorant of God's word. It is essential that we master the word, and use it as a weapon of which it is.

We grow in knowledge and understanding of the word of God, as we do our sword becomes bigger, stronger and sharper. Again Satan will pervert the word, in order to weaken your weapon. Take hold of the truth and use it as a weapon.

John 16:7-11

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth: It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I don't go away, the Counselor won't come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

8 When he has come, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment;

9 about sin, because they don't believe in me;

10 about righteousness, because I am going to my Father, and you won't see me any more;

11 about judgment, because the prince of this world has been judged.

Satan's judgement has already been given, he has been condemned, and when the Holy Spirit comes as he did, Satan's Judgement would be made manifest to the world.

That Satan no longer has power over you, must be a reality to you, it's there in the word, but it can never become real in your life, until you make it a reality to yourself, in your innermost being.

Ephesians 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

You must pray always in the Spirit.

Praying in the Spirit does not necessarily mean praying in tongues, because it is entirely possible to pray in tongues and do it out of your soul, in the flesh. A consistent prayer life is necessary, otherwise your armour is meaningless, and Paul says you must watch for the saints, persevere and give supplication for all the saints.

There comes a time when you begin to feel 'led' to pray for the body of Christ, that is a sign, and you must follow through. Praying in the spirit means you allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct you as you pray, whether in tongues or in your known language. You don't just start casting spirits for the sake of casting.

All this information is not the stuff for a baby Christian, it is the stuff of a mature Christian. But what is a mature Christian? A mature Christian has mastered the doctrine of Christ,

Hebrews 6:1-2

1 Therefore we must progress beyond the elementary instructions about Christ and move on to maturity, not laying this foundation again: repentance from dead works and faith in God,

2 teaching about baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

As pastors we should not keep laying this foundation over and over and over, at some point we must move our congregations to maturity.

Hebrews 5:13-14

13 For everyone who lives on milk is not experienced in the word of righteousness, for he is a baby.

14 But solid food is for those who are full grown, who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern good and evil.

These senses are not your physical senses, but your spiritual man. When you get to a point when you know without doubt what your Spirit is saying about every situation, then you are fully grown. This happens only when you have mastered the basics of God's word, The Spirit Man grows as you feed him with the word; the true word.

When we look at the word that is in you, it's not the word that you have heard or read in the bible. But how much of the true word, you actually believe with all your heart, that is the word that edifies you. When you are still uncertain, that word is not yet in your spirit. And if you believe and hold on to the wrong word, it's a poison to your Spirit.

As you move in this, when you engage this warfare in your heart, when you meditate on it, and put it in your Spirit. God begins to show you what you must do.

A lot of people, God will not lead them in these subjects because they haven't engaged it mentally and spiritually, and the Holy Spirit cannot guide you on things that you show no interest in.

I can't tell you to pray against this principality or that power, but I can encourage you to meditate and bring it before God, and he will as he prepares you, when you are ready, tell you what you need to do and how to pray.

AMEN