<u>Series</u>: Victory in Jesus <u>Title</u>: Victory over the Devil <u>Text</u>: (Eph 2:2-3)

We Have Three Enemies that use the Power of Sin On Us:

(Eph 2:2-3) Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

The World - *World* (Vs 2a) **The Devil** - *Prince of the Power of the Air* (Vs 2b) **The Flesh** - *Flesh* (Vs 3)

<u>The World</u>: fights us w/ Failures, Circumstances, Struggles World uses enticements to excite our Flesh & Steal our love

<u>The Flesh produces</u> an inner Conflict, Fight for CONTROL (Gal 5:17) For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. It is a constant battle between SELF & the SPIRIT of God.

The Steps to Victory over Each Enemy:

Identify Your Enemy.(World, Flesh, Devil)Understand Your Enemy and His Tactics.Realize God's Provision for Victory Through Christ.Translate Victory into your Own Life Experience.Today I want to talk to you about Victory over our Devil!

You Can Have Victory Over the Devil: I. <u>Identify your Enemy</u>: I know the Devil exists.

(Jn 12:31) *The Prince of this World* (2 Cor 4:4) *The God of this World*

He's Alive – I have seen his power 7 OT books, 19 NT books refer to him. (Ezek 28:11-19) Tells us his story. (Rev 12:4) Tells how he took 1/3 of the angels with him. (Is 14:12-17) Tells us his fall – Pride! (1Pet 5:8) Tells us where he is today! Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Tells us He is Our Adversary.

II. Understand Your Enemy:

We have to understand our Enemies Tactics in order to Anticipate their Attack.

Satan Attacks Christians:

He cannot have them, so he must incapacitate them before they do any harm to his kingdom.

Every soul that believes on Jesus, through our testimony, Satan loses.

Satan's Attack is referred to as SIFTING

(Luke 22:31) And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

Imagine Jesus saying to you. Satan wants YOU! Satan has asked for you specifically by name. Satan has asked multiple times for you that he might *Sift* you. *Sift* ~ that he might try you, that he might test you. <u>*Illus:*</u> Like a neighbor kid comes and knocks at god's thrown room door and asks? Can Johnny come out and play?

Imagine what that means - *Satan hath desired to have* <u>You</u>! Satan asks for you by name!

This is a crazy thought. - Here is a prayer of Satan. Here is Satan's Prayer Request.

How would you feel about that?

Does that excite you? Are you happy to have *his* interest? Or were you hoping to go through life, kind of on the down low from Satan.

Have you ever Fallen Spiritually?

Not loss of Salvation, but Failure to act in faith? Failure to say no to the flesh, and Yes to the Spirit? If you have never failed to act in faith when there seems to be no hope; *then hold on your day of sifting is coming.*

(2 Cor 2:11) Refers to Satans Weapons as Devices

A. Satan uses Temptation:

(James 1:13-14) Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: (So we know it is Satan) Temptation is the enticement to satisfy a God-given desire in is God-Forbidden way.

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.Everyone is Tempted because they are human, even Jesus.

As a Human being, Jesus had natural desires like you & I. Satan tempted Eve & Jesus by enticing them to satisfy legitimate desires in an illegitimate way.

Satan uses our own Lusts against us:

The Lust of the Flesh:Discontented with What you Have.The Lust of the Eyes:Desiring What You Don't Have.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. (A Dead Life) Sin always Destroys & Distorts.

God has provided a valid means of satisfying every desire He created.

(James 1:16) *Do not err, my beloved brethren.* (don't fool yourself) *No one goes without opposition. Satan has nothing but time and hate.*

B. Satan Uses Wiles: Crafty Deception

Satan attacks our Thinking. - The War rages in our Minds. Ideas & concepts are mighty weapons, influencing the destiny of nations.

1000's thoughts come into our minds everyday w/our control. Where do they all come from?

(James 1:13) tells us God doesn't tempt us. (Gal 5:24) tells us @ salvation our flesh was crucified. Then why do these thoughts still parade across our minds?

Satan has become a subject matter expert on humanity, having had over 6000 yrs to study.

Satan knows how to implant the right thought @right time.

- (Matt 16:15) Jesus asks the life altering question.
- (Matt 16:16) Peter is the 1st to answer it correctly.
- (Matt 16:17) Jesus Confirms that the Holy Spirit has led him to the Truth.
- (Matt 16:21) Jesus reveals His Crucifixion plan.
- (Matt 16:22) Satan implants a thought in Peter's Mind.
- (Matt 16:23) Jesus confirms it is from Satan.

Peter obviously Accepted & Entertained that thought from Satan & become Satan's mouthpiece.

The Implanted Thought from Satan, working in conjunction with Peter's Desire to be a leader in the new Regime, found expression outwardly in Peter's actions.

At that moment, Peter was in Cooperation with Satan.

<u>Satan is a Liar</u>: (John 8:44) Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Christians can accept Satan's thoughts, speak Satan's words, & express Satan's Actions. (Acts 5) Ananias & Safira.

Satan is a Deceiver:

Satan Deceives the Lost by Blinding them to the Truth:

(2 Cor 4:4) In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Satan Deceives the Saved by creating Counterfeits:

(Matt 13:24-43) False Christians: Wheat & Tares. (2 Cor 11:13-15) False Teacher/Apostles/Angel of Light. (1 John 4:3) False holy spirit.

III. Satan Uses Our Pride: (1 Jn 2:16) Pride of Life

Satan Tempts our Pride to serve the Lord in the Flesh:

(Rom 14:23c) for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

When we do, we are Cooperating with Satan. (Matt 6:2,5,16) *they have their reward*. Serve to be Seen as Spiritual There is no heavenly value to the Kingdom of God. He knows we will get frustrated & quit altogether.

Satan Tempts our Pride with Discouragements:

Satan waits for a <u>Hurt or a Fear</u> to create Anger & Frustration. Satan uses the Fiery Darts(Lies) to influence our thinking.

An established manner of thinking, a compulsion, a set of responses, uncontrollable habits that are contrary to God.

This is referred to as a STRONGHOLD.

(2 Cor 10:5) Casting down <u>imaginations, and every high</u> <u>thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God</u>, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

If our <u>Anger & Frustration</u> is not resolved properly, He builds a Resistance in us to the influence of Holy Spirit.
(Eph 4:26-27) *Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: 27 Neither give place to the devil.* That "PLACE" is a Fortress referred to as a "Stronghold" Satan now has a place in our lives to attack us from.

We think that this only comes from dabbling in the Occult,

but we also give PLACE to the devil in our...

Bitterness: (Heb 12:15) root of bitterness springing up.. Unforgiveness: (2 Cor 2:10-11) Unconfessed Sin: (1 Jn 1:9) Bad Attitudes & Bad Feelings Toward Others: (2 Cor 13:4-5) Envy & Strife: (James 3:14-16) Pride: (1 Tim 3:6) Unbelief: (Rom 14:23) Rebellion: (1 Sam 15:23) Entertaining Suggestions from Satan: (Gen 3:1) Evil Companionship: (1 Cor 15:33) Misconceptions of Spiritual things:

It all begins with entertaining thoughts that are contrary to God's Truth. If it is not cast down, we will think on it & be influenced by it

III. Realize God's Provision for your Victory:

<u>We Have Jesus</u>: (1 Jn 3:8) For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

We Have the Holy Spirit: (1 Jn 4:4) Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

<u>We Have the of Word of God</u>: (1 Jn 2:14b) *the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.*

IV. <u>**Translate Christ's Victory into your own Experience:**</u> We Gave Satan the beachhead, we have to take it back!

Remember who you are fighting: (Eph 6:12) *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.*

Reclaim the Areas we surrendered to Satan.

When we accept ideas that are contrary to God, we grant Satan access to our minds.
Stop Excusing it! Everybody has these problems so... SO YOU WERE NEVER MEANT TO LIVE THIS WAY!
You cannot Negotiate with him, he wilt be satisfied with the little you have given him,

If you do not take back what Satan has been given, He will continue to take more!

(2Cor4:2) But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty

Renunciation means ...

Burning all bridges to the Old Life. Refusing every lie that exalts itself against God's Truth. Forsaking all involvement in non scriptural practices. Rejecting any lingering effects, appetites, emotions, where Satan has been given room to operate.

Renunciation is more than turning over a new leaf!

Its more like burning down the whole Tree! A Clean break & Forsaking of the Old Life.

Renunciation is a public statement to God & Satan.

Name each area individually. Repent & Renounce. Memorize scripture on each one of these. Speak it out loud when confronting temptation. Like Jesus did when tempted (Matt 4:1-11)

(James 4:7a) Submit yourselves therefore to God...Obey God on everything He commands in Scripture.When our conscience is void of offense toward God, Satan has no power over us.

(James 4:7b) ...*Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.* Resist the Devil at every thought presented.

Suit UP, it ain't Over till we hear the Angels Sing:

(Eph 6:11) *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

(Eph 6:13) Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Defensive Weapons: (Eph 6:14-18) <u>Belt of Truth:</u>

(Rom 8:31-32) What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

(Rom 8:33-34) Only God can judge me, and he already has and the verdict is in!!!!

(Rom 8:1) No Condemnation!

Breastplate of Righteousness: Right Living

(Rom 12:21) *Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.*

Shield of Faith:

(Rom 8:34) Jesus is @ Right hand of the Father praying for me!x (Rom 8:37) We are More than Conquerors

Helmet of Salvation: Check up from the neck up! Swap the Stinkin' Thinkin' (Phil 4:8)

<u>Offensive Weapon</u>: The Sword of the Spirit. The Word of God

(1 Jn 2:14) I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

Prayer is a Weapon!

(Eph 6:18) *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*