



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Hope in the Darkness (Forces of Darkness pt 2)

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Prayer

"Thank you God for sending Jesus to conquer the enemy once and for all. Continue to walk with me and teach me how to walk in that freedom and the authority that has been given to me. Amen."

Message Theme

Fear And Depression - No More

Key Truths

We need to know who our enemy is so we can know how to stand against him.

Part of the kingdom of God is having to deal with the devil. We have the authority to cast him out in the name of Jesus. When he went to the cross, Jesus led himself and us to triumph.

Ephesians 3:10 tells us that God wants us, the church, to demonstrate the enemy's defeat. Jesus did the work of overcoming the enemy and now we get to display the victory for the world.

In the garden when satan tempted Adam and Eve, Adam brought down humanity with him. God had given Adam dominion, then Adam gave that up to satan when he was tempted. But when Jesus died and rose again, he also brought humanity with him into freedom.

The devil comes to kill, steal, and destroy, when we resist him we are resisting his works.

1 John 5 tells us the world around us is under the power of the evil one. Why are there so many bad things happening in our world? Because the world is under the devil's sway.

In Mark 5, there is a man that had become demon possessed and cut himself off from other people. When he saw Jesus he ran up to him and threw himself at Jesus' feet. 6,000 demons were trying to get him to go the other direction but they could not because the devil can not make us do anything. When someone participates with the devil, the devil thinks he owns them.

As believers, we have been given a spirit of power, love, and self control.

Jesus commanded the demon spirits to leave the man and they fled into a herd of pigs and ran off a cliff.

Some signs of demonic activity:

- A withdraw from social interaction
- A tormented mental state
- Chronic depression
- Irrational fears and phobias

A demonic spirit tries to make someone what it is.

But Jesus conquered every demonic spirit for each and every one of us.

Practical Application

When we go to God in prayer, we should approach Him with a heart of gratitude and thankfulness. Like a parent who gives a child a gift, if the child is ungrateful there is little desire to give them anything else. But if the child responds thankfully for what they have been given, the parent is more likely to supply something else. What are some things or moments we haven't thanked God for recently?

Reference Verses

- 1 Peter 5:8
- Matthew 12:28-30, 8:16, 8:29
- Colossians 2:15
- Acts 2:24
- Ephesians 3:10
- Romans 5:17
- 1 John 3:18, 5:19
- Mark 5:1-20
- Isaiah 61:3
- Isaiah 26:3
- Psalms 137:1-6
- Philippians 4:6-8
- 2 Timothy 1:7

Declarations (to be spoken out loud)

“When I put on a garment of praise and begin to thank God, depression has to go. I have authority to command the enemy to flee. The devil only has a grip on me if I give him permission. The devil has no place in my life and no power over my family, body, or job.”

What's Next?

Now it's time to write down anything the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, Thank Him and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture Reference

Hope in the Darkness

2 Corinthians 2:11 NKJV ...lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...

James 4:7 NKJV Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

1 John 3:8 NKJV For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

John 10:10 NKJV The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

Matthew 12:28 NKJV But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Matthew 12:29 NKJV Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.

Colossians 2:15 CONY He disarmed the principalities and the powers which fought against Him, and put them to open shame, leading them captive in the triumph of Christ.

Colossians 2:15 Phillips ...Having drawn the sting of all the powers raged against us...

Colossians 2:15 Phillips He exposed them, shattered, empty and defeated, in the final glorious triumphant act.

Colossians 2:15 DEANNE He set Himself and us free from all the spirit powers of evil on the cross. He put them to open shame and triumphed over them.

Colossians 2:15 NOLI He despoiled the infernal dominions and realms. He dragged their rulers as captives in procession, and through His cross He let us all to triumph.

Acts 2:24 NKJV ...whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

1 Peter 3:19-20 NKJV ... by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

Revelation 1:18 NKJV I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

Colossians 2:15 JOHNSON And by His resurrection, Christ demonstrated the emptiness of every earthly power when God acts. You have the kind of triumph in life because of your relation to God through Christ.

Colossians 2:15 CRESS He won the victory over powers and rulers. He showed that they had no power at all.

Colossians 2:15 LOVETT He openly displayed Jesus' triumph over satan, disarming him and his entire band of spirits down to the last demon.

Ephesians 3:10 NKJV ...to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places.

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith...

Romans 5:17 AMPC ...the free gift of righteousness [putting them into right standing with Himself] reign as kings in life through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

Matthew 8:16 NKJV When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick...

Matthew 8:16 WILLIAMS ...Many who were under the power of the devil.

1 John 5:19 AMPC We know [positively] that we are of God, and the whole world [around us] is under the power of the evil one.

Mark 5:1-12 NKJV Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. 7 And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore[c] You by God that You do not torment me." For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains.

Mark 5:13-20 NKJV And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.

So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region.

And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.

2 Timothy 2:26 NKJV ...having been taken captive by him to do his will.

Isaiah 61:3 NKJV To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness...

Isaiah 26:3 NKJV You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV For God has not given us a spirit of fear...

Psalms 137:1 NKJV By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down, yea, we wept When we remembered Zion.

Psalms 137:2 NKJV We hung our harps Upon the willows in the midst of it.

Psalms 137:3-4 NKJV For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, And those who plundered us requested mirth, Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" How shall we sing the Lord's song In a foreign land?

Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Matthew 8:29 NKJV And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV For God has not given us a spirit of fear...