

JESUS IS LORD!

PEOPLE OF HOPE

A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES ON MISSION

I SAW SATAN FALL
LIKE LIGHTNING

PEOPLE OF HOPE COMMUNITY CONFERENCE
JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 1, 2020

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J E S U S I S L O R D !

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY NIGHT 1/31

8:00 PM	INTRODUCTION
8:10	PRAYER
8:30	TALK #1
9:15	INTERCESSION
9:30	FINISH

SATURDAY 2/1

9:30 AM	PRAYER
9:40	SMALL GROUPS 1
10:00	TALK # 2
	REFLECTION
10:45	SMALL GROUPS 2
11:15	BREAK
11:30	TESTIMONY
11:40	TALK #3
12:30 PM	Q&A
1:00	LUNCH
2:00	PRAYER MEETING
3:30	END
	LORD'S DAY

OVERVIEW

TALK 1

KINGDOMS AT WAR

PRINCIPALITIES: CORPORATE SPIRITS

TALK 2

THE PERSONS OPPOSING US

PRIMARY TARGETS (PT 1)

TALK 3

PRIMARY TARGETS (PT 2)

The Place of Deliverance in the Work/Wonders of God

1. Extra-ordinary miraculous

God set up rules to run an orderly universe. He doesn't break his rules lightly. The more serious the rule, the less likely he is to break it, for example raising the dead or walking on water.

2. Physical Healing

Most physical healing is God speeding up the laws of nature, not breaking them. All through the Bible we see physical healing: cripples, blind, the deaf, etc., but physical healing is temporary. Death comes to us all.

3. Inner Healing

These are internal changes in the mind, emotions, attitudes, character. The kind of changes that help us to live for God, to triumph over sin and temptation, or to grow in virtue. God wants Christians to look like him! Peaceful, joyful, full of love. You can pray with confidence that God wants to do this! This is closely connected to deliverance.

4. Deliverance

It is a form of healing. ("healing all who were oppressed by the devil." Acts 10: 38) We can have great faith for this. God wants his people free from the power of Satan, now and forever.

5. The most important miracle, wonder, healing is salvation.

We can always pray with faith for this. It is God's will. He makes it possible for me to have eternal life, not just in my soul, but in my body. He did for all. He only physically healed some.

I. TALK 1 Part I: Kingdoms at War

A. Overview of what we will do

1. Goal: to bring us into a deeper understanding of what Jesus has done for us, especially regarding the work of the devil.
2. To engage in setting us free: note this will be an ongoing process
3. Don't just take notes. Identify your battles.
4. Expect God to act!

“St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle! Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into Hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who roam about the world seeking the ruin of souls.”

B. The right attitude to this series: Satan is defeated

C. Why believe that Satan exists

1. Consider your own experience
2. People of all cultures try to define the existence of evil that is clearly external to them but works on them and “in” them.

3. Christians from all backgrounds

“The fact that the devil is called God's adversary and ours ought to fire us in our unceasing struggle against him. If we have God's glory at heart, as we should have, we ought to contend against the one who is trying to extinguish it and do so with all our strength. If we are loyal to Christ and his Kingdom, we must wage irreconcilable war with the one who is plotting its ruin. Again, if we care about our salvation at all, we cannot agree to any truce with him who only wants to destroy it.” (John Calvin, in his Institutes of the Christian Religion)

4. There are hundreds of Catholic sources. The last two popes among them...

“Whatever the less discerning theologians may say, the devil, as far as Christian belief is concerned, is a puzzling but real, personal and not merely symbolical presence... He is a powerful reality a baneful superhuman freedom directed against God's freedom. This is evident if we look realistically at history, with its abyss of ever-new atrocities which cannot be explained by reference to man alone. (Pope Benedict XVI)

We should not think of the devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech or an idea. This mistake would leave us to let down our guard, to grow careless and end up more vulnerable. If we become careless, the false promises of evil will easily seduce us.” (Pope Francis in Gaudete et Exsultate)

5. St. Peter the Apostle

“Be sober and self-controlled. Be watchful. Your adversary the devil, walks around like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Withstand him steadfast in your faith, knowing that your brothers who are in the world are undergoing the same sufferings. (1 Peter 5:8)

6. St. Paul

“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” (Eph. 6:11)

7. Mary Magdalene. Her testimony was that she was delivered

Now when he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. (Mark. 16:9)

D. Jesus inaugurates a new era

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. (1John 3:8)

Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to pronounce the name of Jesus over those who had evil spirits...the evil spirits answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?” And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them...and overpowered them... (Acts 5:3)

And they went into Capernaum; and immediately on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the

Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching! With authority he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” (Mk 1:21-28)

And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, “Never was anything like this seen in Israel.” (Mt 9:33)

1. Who is this Jesus?

*Then a blind and dumb demoniac was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the dumb man spoke and saw. And all the people were amazed, and said, “**Can this be the Son of David?**” But when the Pharisees heard it they said, “It is only by Be-el'zebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons.” Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand; and if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? **And if I cast out demons by Be-el'zebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore, they shall be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.** (Mt 12:22-28)*

2. Can this be the Son of David? Prince of Peace. Isaiah Prophesied this!

*Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, **upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom**, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. (Is 9:7)*

E. “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name! And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy.” (Luke 10 :17-19)

1. Lightning doesn't fall like rain.

2. The real sign that the Kingdom has come is the authority he gives us over Satan

II. TALK 1 Part 2: Principalities: Corporate Spirits

A. The Scripture

*For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the **principalities**, against the **powers**, against the **world rulers** of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places (Eph 6:12).*

*The **prince of the kingdom of Persia** withstood me twenty-one days; but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, so I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia and came to make you understand what is to befall your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come. (Dan 10:13)*

He disarmed the principalities and powers and made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in him. (Col.2:15)

B. You are a Nation at War

1. Background

You are a nation at war... What use is there in building an island of peaceful ease while all around you war rages? Either I will take your ease from you, and give you in exchange for it a place in the battle, and with it my everlasting favor, or the enemy will take you from your ease, and give you in return for it punishment and terror. There is no other alternative. You are a nation at war, and the war will grow and draw you in, whether you wish to join or not.

You are a nation at war, and there is no escaping the battles that are to come; they will touch every one of you. They will engulf you whether you acknowledge my word or hide from it. I have given you warning, and now I warn you again. The call to war has gone out, and it is irrevocable.

Train your people for war and battle, for hardship and difficulty. Prepare them for what will inevitably overtake them in the days ahead. As soon as they are able to hear it, tell them of the days through which they will have to live. As soon as they are able to bear it, put them under a burden of service. As soon as they have been trained for it, give them a place in the combat. As soon as they can receive it, teach them that their possessions are mine, and see that they are placed at my service. You are a nation at war. War is not far off, it is here. Teach and act and train and live as if you were at war. (1976)

2. We began to take deliverance more seriously and saw people freed as we prayed for them.
3. The corporate nature of the spiritual warfare: God was addressing us as a nation.
4. As the Sword of the Spirit, we are in a battle together as covenant communities.
5. You, as a community together, are in a battle. Your fight, here in this city against the principalities assign specifically to you. We will pray about that today.

C. Authority

There is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. (Romans 13:1)

1. You have authority through baptism, and confirmation into the army of God
2. Fathers have authority over their families. It is given by God
3. Coordinators have authority given by God and by you via covenant.

Morning discussion groups

- What you heard that was most helpful
- Questions you hope will be addressed. (Please submit these to the speaker.)
- Are there other community-level spirits to deal with?

III. TALK 2 Part I: The Persons Opposing Us

A. Let's Keep the Right Attitude

B. Satan Has a Plan for Your Life

"Simon, Simon, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren." (Luke 22:31-32)

2. Others

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the proceeds of the land?" (Acts 5:3)

Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. (Pet. 5:8)

Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by giving heed to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons... (1Tim. 4:1)

C. Who are we dealing with?

1. Knowing something about who you are fighting helps!
 - a) The most significant or common. Demons, unclean spirits, Satan, Lucifer, the devil, the evil one, Father of lies, the accuser
 - b) Others we won't look at so closely: Your adversary (1Pet.5:8) The ruler of this world (John 12:31) The dragon and that old serpent (Rev 12:7-9) A demon of dumbness, Beelzebul, the prince of demons (Luke 11:14-15) A spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:11) Lucifer (Is 14) etc.

2. **Demon(s)** (77 occurrences in the NT)

3. **Unclean spirits** (20 occurrences in the NT)

4. **Satan** (36 occurrences in the NT)

His allies: the flesh and the world. We won't be dealing with them much but our battle is like modern warfare, on three fronts: land, sea and air, the world the flesh and the devil. The world" as an area of Satan's influence and control (see: Jn.12:31; 14:30; 15:18-19; 16:11). As is the flesh (Eph. 2:2ff).

*Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and **Satan**, the deceiver of the whole world—who was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. (Rev. 12:7-9)*

5. **The devil** (35 occurrences in the NT)

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (Matt.4:1)

Diabolos (slanderer) is very close in meaning to accuser.

6. **The accuser**

Rev.12:10 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 brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

7. Evil one (9 occurrences in the NT)

I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one. (1 John 2:14.)

8. Murderer, Father of Lies

He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:44)

You have heard that it was said to the men of old, 'You shall not kill; and whoever kills shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother shall be liable to the council, and whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be liable to the hell of fire. (Mt 5:21-22)

D. His Primary Weapons Are Verbal

1. Lying

2. Temptation

And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." Mt. 4:3.)

- a) The tempter (epeirazó), a noun. isn't used a lot but temptation is a key verb in describing the devil's activity.
- b) Satan asks rhetorical questions as he did with Eve.

c) He suggests:

3. He accuses us to our face and before God. (Rev 12)

4. Snatching the word of God: “Pray for your sister...” OK, later...

When any one hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in his heart; (Mat 13:19)

E. How we do deliverance: much like Jesus did

1. We have authority and we should exercise it

The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name! And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy.” (Luke 10 :17-19)

2. Cast Out, expel

And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons (Mk 16:17).

a) ekballo (ek-bal'-lo) expel

Possession and demonization

The Greek word for the work of the devil is demonization. The word “possession” comes from the King James and is not a good translation. It gives a false understanding. Demonization simply means: under the influence of the demonic.

3. Speak the Word of God to the Devil just as Jesus did.

And the tempter came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God’” (Matthew 4:3-4)

4. Speaking the truth: Satan does not have the power

*The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to **demolish** strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).*

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 wiles of the devil. [12] For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.[13] Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. [14] Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth... and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Eph 6:10-14)

See appendix 1: this is a great little list on doing Scriptural warfare

5. Rebuke¹ and silence

And Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet, and come out of him!” (Mark 1:24).

a) Rebuke: epetimesen (censures or passes judgment)

b) Silence: phimoó to muzzle

6. Submit to God and resist the devil

¹ Jude 1:9 is often interpreted poorly. But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you. We don’t really know what the dispute over Moses’ body was. Michael the Archangel did not pass a judgment that was reserved to God (a blasphemous judgment). He said, “The Lord rebuke you.” We can say the same. The passage does not say we cannot rebuke Satan.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you (James 4:7)

anthístemi (anti, “opposite/against” and hístemi, “to stand”)

F. Discernment of spirits:

As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” And this she did for many days, but Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. (Acts 16:16-18)

IV. TALK 2 Part II: The Primary Targets (part 1)

A. The Mind is the primary battleground.

1. Speech/thought is the primary method
2. Often we do not notice we are under attack. It is subtle

B. Action: ending the lies.

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them (Eph 5:11).

Experiencing wrong thoughts occasionally is temptation. Struggling with any in an ongoing way likely means Satan has his grip on us. Identify any of these lies that you hear regularly:

1. God doesn't love me.
2. What I have done is unforgivable. (In my own judgment.)
3. I can't tell anyone about this sin, experience, or temptation. I'm too ashamed.
4. I'll never get over this.
5. You'll never succeed, learn, be happy... (Curses)
6. I can't resist this temptation, so I might as well give in.
7. What's just once more.
8. This sin won't hurt anyone.
9. I've got to protect myself, I'm not being selfish.
10. No one really likes me/loves me.
11. I don't belong (here).
12. No one would like or love me, if they saw what I'm really like
13. Life is too hard, just end it... people would be better off without me.
14. I'm not good enough...I'll never be good enough.
15. It's too hard to be a Christian and follow God.
16. I should just let go and do what I want.
17. I'm a good enough Christian; no improvement is needed.
18. I'm better than others are and superior to them.
19. Don't trust authority... people are just trying to control me.
20. I have a right to be resentful and bitter.
21. I am ugly
22. I hate myself
23. I'm a terrible person (brother, sister, Christian example, leader, etc.)
24. I can't evangelize anyone.
25. My prayers make no difference.
26. God won't provide for me. (Especially a marriage partner.)
27. God won't bless me. Why would he want to?
28. I'm missing out by following God. FOMO

The primary way we end the power of lies is exposing them for what they are. The truth sets us free.

C. Discussion

- a) What lies have had a hold on you? Share them. Bring them into the light and talk about them, especially any new ones.
- b) Speak the Word of God, the truth to one another.

V. TALK 3: The Primary Targets (part 2)

A. Maintaining the right attitude

B. The second most common point of attack: your will.

1. Judas did something profoundly, willfully wrong

2. Guarding our will

a) Do you justify evil in your mind?

b) What was an attack on you mind is now an attack on your will

3. Unforgiveness

But anyone you forgive, I forgive. What I have forgiven — if I have forgiven anything, has been for your sake in the presence of Christ; 11 that no advantage may be gained over us by Satan: for we are not ignorant of his devices (2 Cor 2:10-11).

C. The third most common point of attack: your emotions

1. The Gerasene demoniac

And when Jesus had come out of the boat, there met him a man with an unclean spirit, who lived among the tombs; and no one could bind him anymore, even with a chain; for he had often been bound with fetters and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the fetters he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out, and bruising himself with stones (Mk 5:1-5).

2. **Doubt** (a mental and emotional thing) “Nothing is going to happen” plays in your head and “hopelessness plays in your feelings. Right from the start.

3. **Guilt** usually related to sin. If you have confessed the sin but still struggle with the guilt?

4. **Anger**

5. **Fear**

Spirits often work in tandem: multiple spirits or working on the mind, will and emotions together. (It is often helpful to know where it is most centered.)

D. The fourth most common point of attack: your appetites

1. These are also often in tandem with the flesh
2. Appetite definition: An inner desire for something or someone. An appetite is not an end in itself. Appetites always have a focus (a terminus) that will fulfill it.

3. Distraction is a key problem!

*From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a **hindrance** to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men." (Matt. 16:21-23)*

- a) Distract/seduce, addict, destroy

*Satan, who **seduces** (leads astray) the whole world; (Rev 12:9)*

- b) Beware of the snare of the devil. (1 Tim 3:6)

*And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can **destroy** both soul and body in hell (Matt. 10:28).*

E. The fifth most common point of attack: your body

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke (Mt 9:32-33).

*And there was a woman who had had a **spirit of infirmity** for eighteen years; she was **bent forward** and could not **lift herself**. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.” And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made **straight**, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.” Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom **Satan bound** for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?” (Luke 13:11-16)*

F. The sixth most common point of attack: a physical location.

G. The seventh most common point of attack: other human beings

H. Q&A

Appendix 1: Useful Scriptures in Deliverance prayer

The Sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. It is an offensive weapon to use in spiritual warfare. The following truths from Scripture are very useful in praying with someone.

- If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free (John 8:32).
- If God is for us, who can be against? (Rms. 8:31)
- For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rms. 8:38-39)
- I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (Phil 4:13)
- There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (Rms. 8:1)
- If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 Jn. 1:9)
- Now the God of peace will quickly crush Satan under your feet. (Rms. 16:20)
- Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! for it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’” (Matt. 4:10)
- We are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (Rms. 8:37)
- The weapons of our warfare are not worldly but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every proud obstacle to the knowledge of God, and to take every thought captive to obey Christ (2Cor. 10:4).
- Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out... (John 12:31)
- 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 brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. (Rev.12:10)
- In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you. (2Chr.20:6)
- He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son (Col. 1:13).
- Sanctify them in the truth (John 17:17).
- Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. (Ephesians 4:25)
- If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed John 8:36).

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom (2 Cor 3:17).