



THE KING IN CONFLICT Pt 3: BREAKING THE POWER OF THE ENEMY!

JUNE 30, 2019

TEXT: MATTHEW 12:22

Back in November 2018 when we looked at Matt 9:32-34, we said:

1. The Bible's central message is the redemption of mankind through the blood sacrifice of the Son of God. Scripture is about the Father's merciful **rescue** of His human creations from sin, death, and hell by purchasing our lives through His Christ, Jesus the Messiah!
2. Alongside this central message, Scripture is also filled with other things, including the depravity of man, the call to love God and each other, moral laws, descriptions of God's wrath, and the nature of **Spiritual Warfare**.
3. This war began in the first book of the Bible and rages throughout the pages of Scripture: from Satan entering the Garden, "successfully" tempting Eve, to the angelic incursion in Genesis 6, introducing another level of evil and depravity into the human race, to the constant battles of God's people with idol worship (demons are behind such things according to Lev 17:7; Deut 32:16-17; 1 Cor 10:20) in which they often failed and were judged by God, to the incredible truth that there is spiritual warfare over **nations** as we glimpse in Daniel chapter 10 where an angel appears to Daniel and reports:

Daniel 10:12-13 (KJV) ...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 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.

...To the constant spiritual battles in the ministry of Jesus where time after time, He confronts Satan and a multitude of devils, to the apostle Paul encountering the same and having to cast out devils (Acts 16:16) and declaring this truth:

Ephesians 6:10-13 (KJV) Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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. 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.

Friends, the war continues!

Today, I'd simply like to say two things about this verse:

1. It illustrates a key component of Jesus' ministry: to break the power of the enemy!
2. Those who are "in Him" also have that victory!

JESUS BREAKS THE POWER OF THE ENEMY!

1. In our text, we see the love of God in Christ showered upon this poor fellow.
2. To be blind and dumb (either deaf, mute, or both) in this culture is to be ostracized and to have little means of supporting oneself and one's family.

3. Also, to many in the time of Jesus, infirmities would be a sign of the displeasure of God.
4. In this man's case it was the activity of a devil that caused his sickness.
5. The word here in Greek for devil is *daimonizomai*. It means to be under the power of an **unclean** spirit.
6. This poor man was bound by a devil with no hope of a human cure! But God!
7. Thankfully, there were people in his life who loved him enough to get him to Jesus, the enemy-breaker! Scripture says:

1 John 3:8 (KJV) He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Colossians 2:13-15 (NLT) You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. 14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. 15 In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

8. When Jesus was done, the man was restored...made completely whole! Friends...
 - **Rest** in the power of God in Christ! (Rev 12:10)
 - Remember that Jesus is a **healer**! (Acts 10:38)
 - Be encouraged that no matter what the enemy does, it can be **undone**, broken by the power of Jesus! He rules over them because He created them! (Col 1:15-16)

THOSE OF US IN JESUS CAN WALK IN VICTORY!

1. The enemy still seeks and roars, but be encouraged! Why?

1 John 4:4 (KJV) 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.

2. We can walk in victory by giving the enemy fewer places to get his foot in (Eph 4:27). How? **Faith** and **obedience**!

1 John 5:2-5 (KJV) By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. 4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

3. Remember the Enemy's end and know that we, in Christ, are victorious!

Revelation 20:10 (KJV) And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

2 Timothy 2:11-12 (KJV) It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: 12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him...

In Jesus, the power of sin, death, and hell is broken; there is Victory!

Amen!