

CHECKOUT FOR LESSON SIX

To complete this lesson I will: (check when completed)

PREPARATION

- 1. Prepare to give from memory Galatians 2:20.
- 2. Read and study James 1 - 5 and Proverbs 1 & 2 using "My Daily Time With God" sheet. Make application of responses to God's Word.
- 3. Take notes on the Pastor's sermon. Use the Message Outline.
- 4. Complete all material in Lesson Six, "Spiritual Warfare."

TO BE COMPLETED WITH DISCIPLER

- 1. Briefly review main points of Lesson Five. Check your understanding of the Spirit-filled life. Discuss application.
- 2. Quote from memory Galatians 2:20.
- 3. Discuss your Bible Study and Prayer Time and any applications or answers to prayer.
- 4. Discuss notes taken on Pastor's sermon.
- 5. Review Lesson Six emphasizing the authority of the believer in Christ.
- 6. Go over "Checkout for Lesson Seven". "Preparation" assignment is to be completed before we meet next time.
Date _____ Time _____ Place _____
- 7. Close in prayer using your "Much Prayer-Much Power-Much Praise" prayer sheet.

Dynamic *DISCIPLING*

Lesson Six

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Growth comes with conflicts, but God has promised that ***“in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”*** Romans 8:37. We are to walk in the Spirit and live by faith. James 4:17 says, ***“Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn’t do it, sins”***. The Christian life is warfare! Satan, our great enemy, is constantly tempting us to sin, and live in disobedience to God.

In this lesson we will learn that Satan, though defeated, has a strategy to fight against us by tempting us to sin. God is aware of our temptation and fears and has provided all we need to overcome temptation. We will learn to live by faith.

THE SOURCE OF TEMPTATION

The Bible explains that there are three forces - Satan, the world, and the flesh - which are constantly waging war against us.

SATAN

You are in a spiritual battle. It is important to know your enemy.

Read Revelation 12:7-10

What names are given to the enemy? _____

What is he doing? _____

Why should you be alert? 1 Peter 5:8 _____

Read Ephesians 6:10-18. What is our struggle against?

What is our defence? (v.13) _____

List the various pieces of armour (v.14-17) _____

What offensive weapon has God given us to use against Satan?

(v.17) _____

In our war against Satan and his evil forces, what are we always to do? (v.18) _____

THE WORLD

What are the temptations that come from the world? 1 John 2:15-17

What should we do when tempted in these things? Colossians 3:1,2

Jesus says to expect these trials but to take courage. Why?

John 16:33 _____

THE FLESH

Paul, after he received Christ, found himself to be in warfare. His flesh struggled and fought against his new Christ-life within. Know that your flesh remains unchanged. It is incapable of doing good. Accept God's estimate of it and follow His plan concerning it.

What did Paul say happened to his old sin nature? Romans 6:6

Who now lives in us? Galatians 2:20 _____

What is our new position? Ephesians 2:6 _____

How then should we live? Romans 6:11,12 _____

Galatians 5:16,17? _____

Remember, Christ in you is greater than Satan! (1 John 4:4)

GOD IS AWARE OF YOUR TEMPTATION AND FEARS

Read Isaiah 41:10-13. God says **“Do not fear”**. What does God promise you? (v.10) _____

What concern is causing you to lack faith in God at this time?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. What does **“temptation common to man”** mean to you?

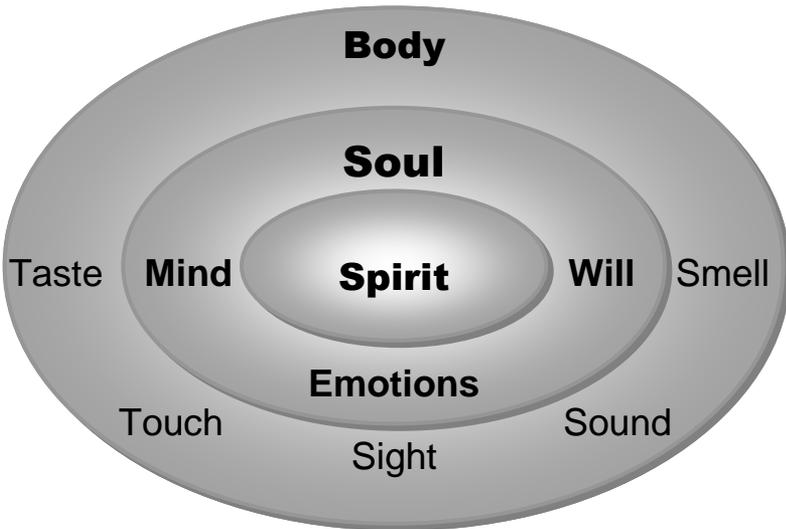
HOW GOD DIRECTS US

You are a three part being, made up of spirit, soul and body.
(1 Thessalonians 5:23)

As a result of receiving Christ:

- Your **SPIRIT** has been renewed by the Holy Spirit
(1 Corinthians 6:19, Ephesians 1:13)
- Your **SOUL** is being renewed day by day as you live by faith,
(Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Philippians 1:6)
- Your **BODY** will be renewed in resurrection, when you go to
heaven. (Philippians 3:21, 1 Corinthians 15:42-57)

HOW GOD DIRECTS US



As a Christian, God speaks to you through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

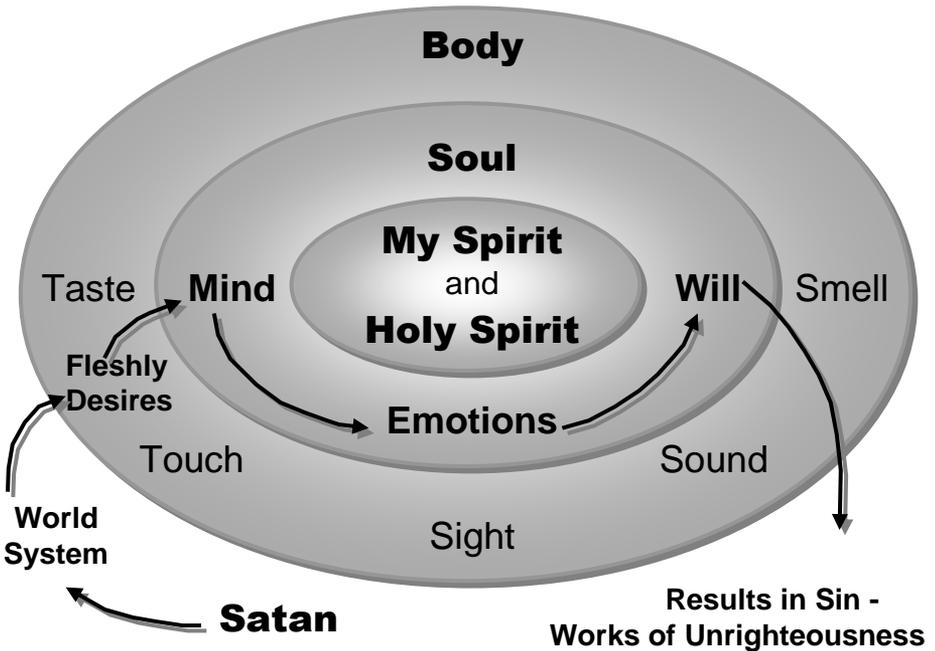


When you allow God to direct you by choosing to think according to His Word, your mind will be renewed (Romans 12:2). Your renewed mind will affect your emotions replacing fear and suspicion, etc. with love, joy, peace, etc. (Galatians 5:22, 23). In this frame of mind, you **will** (choose) to do actions (through your physical senses of taste, touch, sight, sound, and smell) that will result in good works. These actions, empowered by the Holy Spirit will please God and bring Him glory.

HOW DOES SATAN SEEK TO DESTROY US?

Progression of temptation

- a. Satan entices or draws us out from safety. He knows us and knows what will attract us as individuals.
- b. He works on us to get us to decide to sin. He cannot make us sin; he can only tempt us. We choose to sin or not to sin.
- c. When we choose to sin, Satan has succeeded in separating us from fellowship with God. This brings guilt and unhappiness into our lives.



Satan, who is the source of all evil, cannot affect our spirit which is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, so he operates through the **world system** - greed, power, lust, fear and pleasure. He tempts us to choose to disobey God through our **fleshly desires**. Our senses can be aroused because we still have habits and memories of sin's pleasures. Our mind, which is in the process of being renewed, is still vulnerable and will at times believe Satan's lies. We are free to choose to live for our own glory and pleasure, but in so doing, we sin and bring dishonour to God. This, of course, pleases Satan who is the enemy of God.

HOW TO OVERCOME TEMPTATION

UNDERSTAND YOUR AUTHORITY

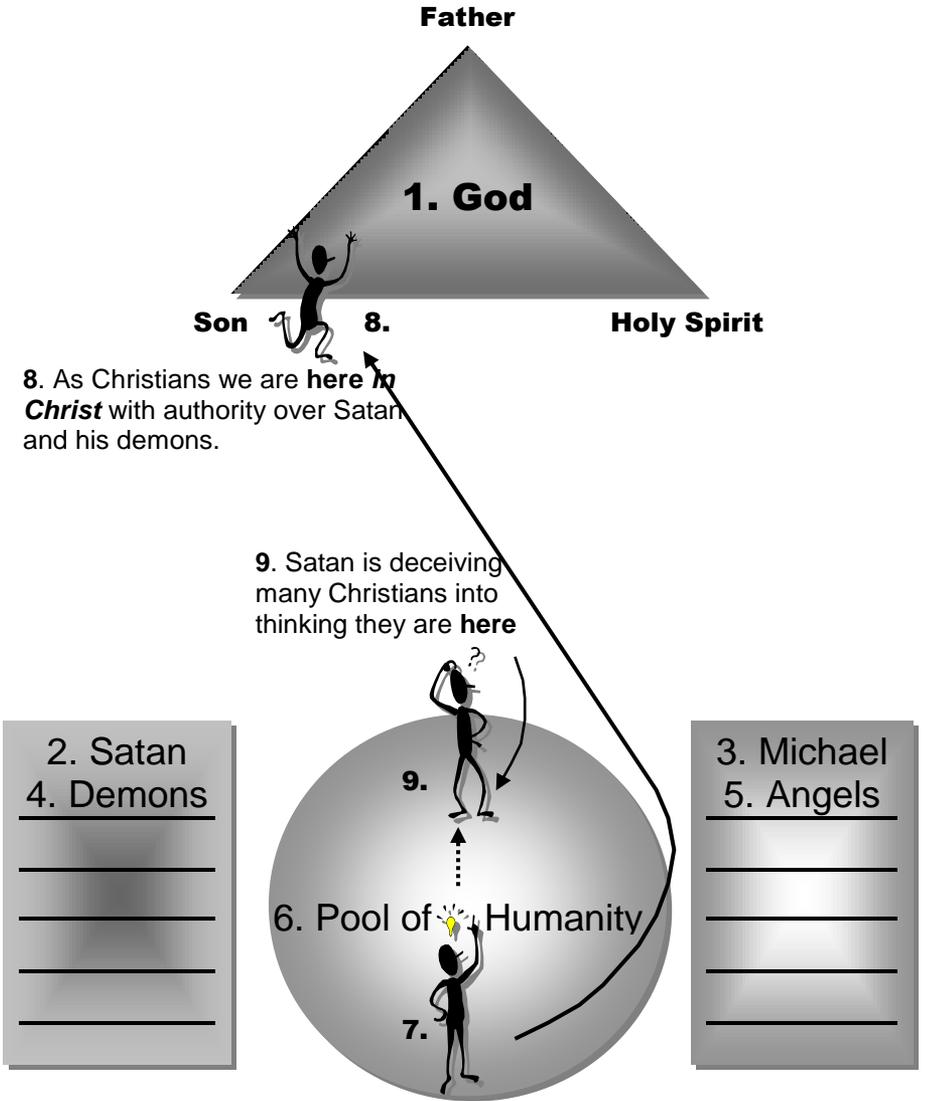
Being *in Christ* gives you tremendous authority over your enemy. Lucifer (Satan) was created by God as the most beautiful and most powerful of all created beings (Ezekiel 28:12-14). He was put in charge of all the angelic forces (Ezekiel 28:15). He became proud and led a rebellion in heaven (Isaiah 14:13, 14). Many of the angels joined Satan in his attempt to overthrow God (Jude 6). Satan, of course, was defeated and cast out of heaven (Ezekiel 28:16-18). The defeated angels (fallen angels or demons) were cast out of heaven with him and are waiting for the final judgement (Matthew 25:41). Their doom is certain. At this present time, they are restricted to this world (Ezekiel 28:16, Ephesians 2:2) and continue to try to lead others astray. If Satan can confuse you, a Christian, about your authority then you will not take your proper stand against Satan and his devious forces.

AUTHORITY STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSE

(Refer to diagram opposite page)

1. God - supreme in the entire universe.
2. Satan - the most powerful created being.
3. Michael the Archangel - commander of the angels.
4. Fallen angels - demons.
5. Faithful angels - God's servants.
6. Pool of humanity.
7. One who has not yet received Christ as his Saviour and Lord. He may live a good life by human standards but he does not have **Eternal Life** and so is subject to Satan and his demons.
8. When we receive Christ, He is in us and we are in Him. We are seated in Christ in the heavenlies (Ephesians 2:6). Christ is far above all principalities and powers and evil forces (Ephesians 1:20-23) and you are in Christ. We have been promoted to the highest possible position (in Christ) - from rags to riches, from abject poverty to the child of the King of the universe. You have great authority, even over Satan.
9. Many Christians do not live as though they have such a high position. Satan is deceiving them into thinking that they are just better people now that they have become Christians. They may reason that it seems too presumptuous to live as God's Word says we should live. In their **humility** (disbelief really), they continue to **do the best they can for God**. Such a Christian is vulnerable to Satan. Even the lowest of demons can deceive him and take advantage of him.

The following diagram should help you understand your position in the authority structure in the universe.



God's Word says we are *In Christ*. Believe God. Live by faith.

LIVE BY FAITH

Read Hebrews 4:15,16. What can we do in time of temptation? (v.16)

What will result? _____

Faith is acting on the truth of what God has said. Why is faith so important?

Hebrews 11:6 _____

Read 1 Corinthians 10:13.

How does God provide help in time of temptations?

Could temptation ever overpower you? _____

As a Christian, you have a choice. Choose to live by faith!

APPLICATION

What specific way are you tempted in each of the following?

Lust of the flesh _____

Lust of the eyes _____

Pride of life _____

LIVE BY FAITH

Choose one of the above. In light of your need, what will you do this week to live by faith in God's promises?

“Live by the Spirit and you will not fulfil the lusts of the flesh”. Galatians 5:16

MY DAILY TIME WITH GOD

Week of _____ to _____ 20 _____

This Week's Memory Verse: (Review Each Day)

Reference _____

Day 1 Bible Reading Reference _____

Most Meaningful Verse _____

What Impressed Me Was _____

God is Teaching Me _____

My Response Is _____

Day 2 Bible Reading Reference _____

Most Meaningful Verse _____

What Impressed Me Was _____

God is Teaching Me _____

My Response Is _____

Day 3 Bible Reading Reference _____

Most Meaningful Verse _____

What Impressed Me Was _____

God is Teaching Me _____

My Response Is _____

Day 4 Bible Reading Reference _____

Most Meaningful Verse _____

What Impressed Me Was _____

God is Teaching Me _____

My Response Is _____

Day 5 Bible Reading Reference _____

Most Meaningful Verse _____

What Impressed Me Was _____

God is Teaching Me _____

My Response Is _____

Day 6 Bible Reading Reference _____

Most Meaningful Verse _____

What Impressed Me Was _____

God is Teaching Me _____

My Response Is _____

MESSAGE OUTLINE

Topic _____

Date _____ Speaker _____

Scripture Reference _____

List Main Points and Key Thoughts for Each

What Impressed Me Was _____

God is Teaching Me _____

My Response is _____
