

Set Free Ministries

May 2011 Update



"Bringing God's healing and freedom to hurting people worldwide."

Dear Friends of Set Free Ministries,

Due to a number of determining factors, our update this month isn't actually going to be an "update" on what is going on at SFM, but rather a word of warning from Executive Director Dean Vander Mey about how to be on guard against the tactics of the adversary.

Please stay tuned for next month's update to hear what is happening at SFM!

When All Hell Breaks Loose

By Dean Vander Mey

There are times in life when "all hell breaks loose" for every believer in Jesus Christ. And I mean that literally.

From Genesis to Revelation, the Holy Scriptures reveal a cosmic spiritual battle that is being waged over the souls of mankind. (Gen 3:1, Ephesians 6:12, Rev 12:12 are proof) Our adversary Satan is constantly spawning plans to take you & your family out and he patiently waits for opportune times to do it. (see Luke 4:13)

Several years ago the Lord allowed our family to disciple & mentor a professed former satanic high priestess through a healing journey that would include all of us learning much about long-suffering, perseverance, as well as holding onto to faith, hope & love.

We spent a few 1000 hours with her in team ministry over a 2 year period and learned much about our Lord's amazing grace to seek and save the lost. Jesus is still setting captives free!

We also learned a few things about how the occult world wages war against effective believers, leaders & pastors in our communities. The occult has a strategic plan in place called "4 D's" of destruction for the church of Christ.

This former satanic high priestess shared with us that demons were summoned through their sacrificial satanic rituals to then attack effective Christians in 4 very specific ways, each beginning with the letter D.

The 4 D's of Spiritual Warfare

Division: “A divided house cannot stand.” (Matt 12:25)

Be Warned: Satan spawns dissension & disunity in the Body of Believers.

Satan's #1 goal is to create division within the Body of Christ. He does this in numerous ways but often times through unsuspecting believers in Christ as they react or respond in the flesh ways and not the spirit of Christ. Apostle Peter is a clear example of a believer in Christ responding in the flesh and being used by Satan himself. Jesus rebuked Peter and said, “**get behind me Satan.**”

Satan will first try to divide our marriages and then focus his efforts on dividing the Body of Believers. The facts are in and it's not good news. 52% of Christian marriages will end in divorce today. It is also known that there are over 24,000 denominations or splits within the church of Christ since Martin Luther wrote his 95 thesis.

What's amazing about all these divisions is that many of them are lead by spiritual shepherds who get puffed up in the knowledge of God (or lack thereof) and head off into the weeds with their new theologies... with the flocks following behind them.

If you study some of the more widely known divisions in the Body of Christ, you will often times find a very charismatic leader who cherry picks his theology to lead in new paths. Most of these men use the Bible to persuade but only tell ½ truths, which are whole lies.

Deception: “The Serpent deceived me and I ate.” Gen 3:13

“That ancient serpent called Satan who leads the whole world astray.” Rev 12:9

Be Warned: A deceived person does not know they are deceived!

Satan's strategy with Eve was to use questions to begin the process of deception. “**Has God really said?**” If you ask the wrong questions you get the wrong answers! Satan tempts man to question God's Word so he will then formulate new ideas about truth using his human reasoning skills. This is very dangerous ground and has proved deadly for billions. Proverbs 3:5 says “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on our own understandings.”

When Satan told Eve she would not die if she touched the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil it was a ½ truth. She did not fall over dead immediately after she bit the fruit, but she would die spiritually and one day physically.

We are also fully warned in scriptures that in the last days there will be many deceivers and false teachers who will spring up leading many astray. They will have smooth words containing truth mixed with lies. Do not listen to them. **2 Timothy 4:3 says a time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrines instead to suit their own desires they will gather for themselves a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.**

These preachers have smooth words but distort truth to fit what the masses want to hear. They preach a different gospel that does not save, from such turn away.

Distraction: “But Martha was distracted with much serving.” Luke 10:40

Be Warned: Satan loves to create religious distractions among believers!

It's the perfect plan spawned in hell. Get God's people to work so hard at their religious activities that they wear themselves out and begin to fight among themselves. Such distractions keep us from spending quality & quantity time with Jesus.

I have heard it said “if the enemy can't slow you down he will tempt to speed you up!”

This is a distraction, a temptation to get one to respond in the flesh to spiritual matters.

Let us always remember the words of Jesus **“I am the vine, you are the branches, apart from me you can do nothing.”**

Vine branches don't “squeeze out” fruit, they simply abide in the Vine. Anything we say or do apart from Christ will be shown for what it is- wood, hay & stubble...only worthy of fire. Let us not get distracted from the mission of Jesus Christ that was affirmed in Luke 4:18 when he revealed himself as the Messiah and proclaimed why he came:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, He has sent me to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, the recovery of site for the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed. To proclaim the acceptable year of our Lord.”

Let us get back to the mission of Jesus Christ and not be distracted with lesser things.

Discouragement: “See, the Lord your God has given you the land, go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your fathers, told you. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged.” Deut 1:21

You can know you're under spiritual attack when there's fear or lack of courage. This will lead to discouragement. When a believer is discouraged his faith is lacking thus making him powerless to believe the promises of God.

The context of this verse from Duet. 1 was after God commanded Moses that they have stayed long enough on the mountain, to break camp and go take the land he had promised. Instead of obeying, they hesitated and once again used human reasoning skills and said **“let us send men ahead to spy out the land.”** This seemed good to Moses so he caved in and listened to human reason. The 12 spies came back and 10 were full of fear because of what they saw. They were discouraged. They were also deceived & distracted.

You see Satan seeks to discourage the beloved people of God so they no longer operate in faith. Satan knew full well that without faith it's impossible to please God. (Hebrews 11:6)

If we bite the bait of Satan, then we may find ourselves wandering about in the wilderness for 40 years left with nothing but complaining and murmuring against God.

Only 2 men and their families, out of several million Israelites, got to go into the promised land of Israel- Joshua & Caleb. They had faith in God's word and the courage to walk in it.

If Satan can get you divided, deceived & distracted from God's purposes and goals, you will end up very discouraged. If Satan's schemes work and you bite this bait, God's plans will go forward but without you. You will become a P.O.W.

**Remember to check out our
NEW WEBSITE!**

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