

## Recognizing the Dance of the Devil

The time has come to realize that there is a great contest between good and evil. The contest is between God and Satan. Man often gets caught in the middle. We find God speaking in Job 41:1-34. In this Scripture, we find Satan, Leviathan, described as a great dragon and he is the enemy of God and man. Psalms 74:14 refers to Leviathan and is a symbol of Satan. Scripture is figurative of the defeat of Satan.

The Leviathan spirit is a major area of spiritual warfare. We will never be victorious thru spiritual warfare if we do not spend time in God's Word. Spiritual warfare requires preparation and the realization that "Greater is He (God) that is within us than he (devil) who is within the world." The Leviathan spirit operates heavily in disruption, misunderstanding, and twisting communication between people, governments, nations, etc. It can keep a believer from fulfilling God's goals for them, drag down their motivation, and bring procrastination. It brings division in families, on jobs, in churches, etc. This spirit brings fear, discouragement, lies, delusion, deception, hindrances, arguments, strife, envy, and on & on. It can also bring the spirit of pride – that a person does not need God. Pro 6:16-19 says *"<sup>16</sup>These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: <sup>17</sup>A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup>A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, <sup>19</sup>A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren."* The entire chapter of James 3 also addresses this topic, especially the following verses:

*"<sup>5</sup>Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. ... <sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. <sup>15</sup>This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. "*

Every believer is called to be an Ambassador for Christ. The enemy enters to bring discouragement and if the believer is not strong in the Word, they will enter into the battle emotionally rather than spiritually. When this happens, they will lose. When people get angry, hurt, discouraged, etc. they begin to battle in their mind. However, going over situations and/or nursing and rehearsing past disappointments and hurts will not reverse things. Also we cannot depend on our past accomplishments to bring future success. It is a two way street. Change comes from inside out, from spiritual to the mind – only relationship with God will bring victory. This is not about getting even – that is the Lord's business. It is about standing in and on The Word.

When believers go forth into their call the enemy enters and speaks to them about how they are not qualified. Many times the enemy uses family and friends to enter into the opposition. So where is the church in all of this? Many churches never address spiritual warfare but focus on God's love, grace, and mercy. Many churches avoid inconvenient and uncomfortable messages because such messages, though necessary, are unpopular.

Let's look at the United States today with violent protests in the streets, vulgarity, lawlessness, screaming mobs bringing accusations, spreading gossip, giving unfounded opinions. Is this "one Nation under God?" Not hardly! It is so bad that if we get physical and emotional we will become spiritually paralyzed. We as human beings cannot subdue Satan. The mistake we make is entering into the battle physically and emotionally and not into the spirit, the supernatural. Human beings continually battle in their minds. We must recognize this and move into the supernatural, spiritual realm with God. We can look further into the nations and see & hear of the wars, millions dying as leaders and governments seek power and control bringing violence and abuse.

Some of the rise of the Leviathan spirit is due to the decrease in the face-to-face communications. More and more of our communication is done through technology and writing.

So what can the Body of Christ do? Pray not only in the understanding of their language, but in the Spirit. We can take the authority given us by God thru the sacrifice of Christ and use it. We must remember it is not against people, but against the sin and opposition to the Word of God.

In summary, we are all individuals, with different views of the world. There are differences in culture, language, attitudes, traditions, etc. This can create relative truth (truth as we see it). Absolute truth is God's Word. When we operate in relative truth, it can create an opening for the Leviathan spirit to operate. Standing on God's Word will defeat this enemy.