

Series - The Gospel for All

The Gospel for the Fearful

Ephesians 6:10-20

Guilt, Shame and Fear Cultures

-The world cultures divided into these major categories

Fear / Power describes animistic cultures where people afraid of evil and harm pursue power over the spirit world through magical rituals. Today they are dismissed as superstitions but at the same time embraced by media and most people. They believe that the world is filled with visible and invisible forces to be feared. There are unseen spirits, demons, and gods that are behind the scenes impacting the seen world

	Guilt	Shame	Fear
Metaphor	Courtroom	Community	Combat
God	Lawgiver and judge	Father and Patron	Ruler and Creator
Sin	Lawbreaker	Disloyalty	Idolatry
Christ	Sacrifice	Mediator	Conqueror
Salvation	Forgiveness	Honor/Face	Peace/Freedom
Mission	Truth	Community	Power

Satan's biggest lie is this - "there is no Satan or demons."

If we believe that: **1. We do not believe the Bible** where Satan is named 36 times and the devil 29 times. Every book of the New Testaments names him.

2. We do not believe in Jesus who spoke of the devil 25 times and battled him by casting out demons through the power of God

What Fear / Power cultures have right

1. There is an unseen world with God, Satan, heaven and hell
2. There are curses and strongholds that hinder the work of God
3. There is a spiritual war going on in the world today.

What is not necessary for those who believe in the true God

1. To live in fear and uncertainty
2. To seek to appease the spirits
3. To manipulate the spirits to favor us

How are we to Stand - **Ephesians 6:10-20**

I. Know the Enemy

10-12

A. The Call to Stand

Be strong = Basic training in the Lord

Power = strength, muscle, Might = reserve power

B. The Armor

Use the weapons provided

To **Stand** firm against the schemes (plural) of the enemy

Our call is to make disciples but we must stand firm in faith

C. To Recognize the battle

Not against flesh and blood - men

Against spiritual forces - darkness, wickedness

Satan is called: Prince of this world **John 12:31**

God of this world **2 Corinthian 4:4**

Prince of the air **Ephesians 2:2**

The enemy **1 Peter 3:8**

The accuser **Revelation 12:10**

Like an angel of light **2 Corinthian 11:14**

II. Master the Equipment

13-17

A. Stand - resist or stand firm

B. Use all the armor

Truth - integrity before God - **John 14:6**

and man **Ephesians 4:25.**

Righteousness - Being righteous in Christ - **1 Corinthians 1:30**

- Doing what is right - **Romans 12:21**

Witness - the Gospel - **2 Corinthians 5:20**

Faith - **Hebrews 11:6**

Salvation - **Acts 4:12**

Word of God - **Hebrews 4:12**

III. Connect with the Energy

18-20

A. Prayer

All kinds of prayer - Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication

All the time - with the Lord **1 Thessalonians 5:16-17**

In the Spirit - According to His will - With His help

B. Perseverance - **Luke 18:1, Romans 12:12**

What Jesus has already done!

He has defeated Satan - Freeing us from fear **Hebrews 2:14-15**

He has disarmed Satan- Giving us power for victory **Colossians 2:14-15**

Questions we need to ask ourselves

1. Do I believe there is a spiritual war going or not?
2. Do I live as a soldier or a tourist?
3. Do I use the armor and power God has provided?

Sign up today for the Weekend Retreat -- September 29- October 1