

Agathos Ministries

Hosted at the Guardian Academy
2782-E Sweetwater Springs Blvd.
Spring Valley, CA 91977
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SPIRITUAL WARFARE Prolog

SW: SFaRfSoABT: _____

Spiritual Warfare: Spiritual Force are Responsible for Some or All Bad Things.

Some believe that demons, or Satan himself, is responsible for individual wrongs.

This is based mostly upon Ephesians 6:12:

“For we _____, not against _____, but against _____, against _____, against the _____ of the darkness of this world, against hosts of _____ in heavenly places.”

Wrestle, Flesh and Blood, Principalities, Powers, Rulers, Spiritual Wickedness

Does that say that demons are responsible for our wrong thoughts and actions? Some think that it leads to that conclusion, and they teach accordingly, believe accordingly, and live accordingly...BUT

James 1:14-15 - *“Every man is tempted when he is drawn away by _____ and enticed. Then when _____ has conceived, it brings forth _____, and when _____ is finished, it brings forth _____.”*

His Own Lust, Lust, Sin, Sin, Death

The Bible is saying that our sin is OF _____. That’s good news! Why? Because...

Our Fault

FiP,BiW: _____

Fault is Power, Blaming is Weakness

Just to drive the point home, **James 1:16** adds: “_____ my beloved brethren.”

Do Not Err

Despite how often the Bible holds us responsible for our own sin, some people think that wrong behavior is evidence of “Spiritual Warfare” - a “demon” of shopping, of smoking, of drinking, of money problems. Some people believe in generational strongholds, that something done by your ancestors explains your problem today. You are not responsible, a demon is or Satan Himself is.

What about Ephesians 6:13? Let’s look at it again, this time with 6:11 and 6:13...

Ephesians 6:11-13 - *“Put on the whole _____, that you may be able to stand against the _____ of the _____. For we _____, not against _____, but against _____, against _____, against the _____ of the darkness of this world, against hosts of _____ in heavenly places. Therefore put on the whole _____, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”*

Armor of God, Stand, Wiles/Schemes, Devil, Wrestle, Flesh and Blood, Principalities, Powers, Rulers, Spiritual Wickedness, Amor of God.

Is the AoG _____ literal armor or metaphorical armor?

Armor of God

The rest of the passage tells us that it includes T: _____, R: _____,

P: _____, F: _____, S: _____,

S:TWoG: _____.

Truth, Righteousness, Peace, Faith, Salvation, Spirit: The Word of God

If the “Battle” in Ephesians 6:12 is as metaphorical as the Armor of God, what does it mean?

W/B:P: _____ - This was the Greco-Roman Wrestling of the day, a contest in which the goal was the pin the opponent.

Wrestle/Battle: Pale

FaB: _____ - Means Physical or People. So it is a Wrestling Match, but not against People. They were not fighting against people. So what were they fighting?

Flesh and Blood

P:A: _____ - First in a Series, Principle, Politically, Principalities are ruled by Princes. That’s where the word Principality comes from. But it is also the root word for Principles. We are fighting wrong principles.

Principalities: Arche.

P:E: _____ - Ability to do what one pleases, or make others do a thing by virtue of authority. To exercise authority, one must have have right to authority.

Powers: Exousia

RoDotW: KStA: _____
“Rulers” is sometimes used of human rulers, but Rulers of Darkness more commonly refers to the Angel of Death or Satan, to Supernatural Rule Makers. Darkness here is Spiritual Darkness, which, for us, would mean “being in the dark” on Truth at the GRPO level. “The World” means “this age” or “this system.”

Rulers of the Darkness of the World: Kosmoskrator Skotos toutou Aion.

RMR,aRMiaR: _____
Rulers Make Rules, a Rule Maker is a Ruler

HoSWiHP:PPEE: _____
Hosts is an Army or a Large Group. Spiritual is GRPO. Wickedness is knowingly wrong missing the bullseye. Heavenly Places is Heaven or Celestial. This would be a large force of wicked GRPO being passed off as Divine Truth, claiming that Heaven is governed by this wickedness.

Hosts of Spiritual Wickedness in Heavenly Places: Pneumatikos Poneria en Epouranios

IF THE PROBLEM WAS SPIRITS, WHY ARE THE EPISTLES ABOUT TRUTH?

They were correcting a wrong GC: _____.
God Concept.

They were correcting wrong RB: _____.
Religious Beliefs.

They were correcting wrong P: _____.
Principles.

They were correcting wrong WoDwP: _____.
Ways of Dealing with People.

If the problem was Spiritual Warfare, then why were the Epistles written for correction?

Why weren't the Epistles written to train the leaders in Spiritual Warfare?

WHAT IF IT IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE?

James 4:7 - “_____.”

“Resist” is withstanding or putting up a fight. “Flee” means he needs to run away from you - that he must seek safety by escaping from you.

Resist the Devil and he will Flee

Ephesians 6:11 - “_____.”

“Wiles” is methodeia - schemes, deceptions, tricks.

Stand Against the Wiles of the Devil

Ephesians 4:27 - “_____.”

“Give Place” is like deeding real estate. The implication is that if the Devil is a problem for Christians, it is because Christians “provided a place” for him. Which is Our Fault and FiP.

Neither Give Place to the Devil

THREE LEVELS OF “SPIRITUAL WARFARE”

1. TN: _____: When it is not Spiritual Warfare, it is Principles.
The Normal

This is a common area in which we have “Spirit Problems” (GRPO), and diagnosing the problem as “Supernatural Spiritual Warfare” is dangerous and counter-productive.

2. TDNM: _____ - Either Normal or SuperNormal, but it does not matter because no matter the Results are the Same AND the Solution is the Same.

The Does Not Matter

This is another common area in which it whether or not there really are spirits involved is irrelevant. Why happens and why it happens is the same. What you do about it is the same.

3. TSN: _____ - When it IS Spiritual Warfare and it does matter.
The Supernormal

This is far, far rarer than the “Spiritual Warfare” crowd might like to believe, and it can be scary.

GIVING POWER TO THE DEVIL

There is a Devil. He has an agenda revealed in Isaiah 14:12-14. He wants to be like God.

Ascribing to Satan and demons powers they do not have glorifies them and helps Satan's agenda.

Why would Christians do that? Because Christians are as human as anyone else. They do not want it to be their fault. They want the magic. They do not want to have to learn and change. They do not want to be responsible for the results they produce. When does it start? When does it end?

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SPIRITUAL WARFARE 1 of 3

Demon: AES _____
 An "Evil Spirit"

Many people believe that Demons inspire virtually every bad thing anyone does. Some claim demonic strongholds from generations ago or Demonic forces behind such things as Shopping, Smoking, Drinking, Money Problems...

Are Demons Real? OC _____ **How Do We Know? TBSTE:** _____

Of Course! The Bible Says They Exist

BUT Many People GTtMC: _____

Give Them Too Much Credit!

According to Many Theologies, DFazGOD! _____

Demonic Forces are Equal to or More Powerful Than GOD!

How do we know that's what they believe? TSS! _____

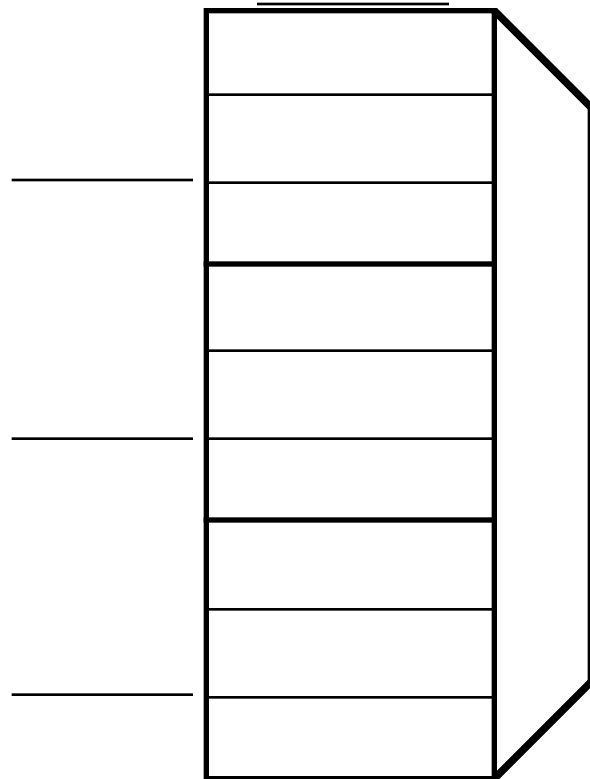
They say so!

They just do not realize they are saying so. *"Of course Pastor divorce rates are equal to nonChristian divorce rates! That's spiritual warfare!"* If that's true, the power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Pastors, them following actual Biblical Principles, and the intimacy of their relationship with Christ is TOTALLY thwarted by demons!

It is a throwback to the TFI _____ **that GEOiS:**

Totally FALSE Idea, God's Equal Opposite is Satan!

Our Architecture of Man Model:



Sin: MtB: _____

Sin: Missing the Bullseye

"Evil" Spirit: AStMtB: _____

A Spirit that Misses the Bullseye

Spirit: RPO: _____

Religion, Principle, Others

So, with this understanding, we get the idea that an "Evil Spirit" can be:

WGC: _____

Wrong God Concept

WRB: _____

Wrong Religious Beliefs

WP: _____

Wrong Principles

WGBBo: _____

Wrong Global Beliefs of Others

This can render some more "supernatural" principles and books far more useful. If we simply insert our understanding into their use of "demon" or "the enemy" it illuminates a great deal - and helps us understand why prayer does not seem to work in a great many cases.

Agathos Principle: YDYP: _____

You Do Your Part

ASSUME that an "Evil Spirit" problem is a

HSP: _____

Human Spirit Problem

Spirit Level: God, Religion, Principles, Others

If the Problem is Spritual Warfare, then the Solution is Prayer. **Simple Test: P:** _____
"I pray that if this is an actual demon, that it be quieted by the power of the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ. If it is something I need to deal with myself, Lord, let it remain."
If you pray the Simple Test Prayer and the issue does not temporarily evaporate, it is safe to assume the problem is not a disembodied evil spiritual consciousness, but, rather, a problem in

YOS(GRPO): _____
Your Own Spirit (God, Religion, Principles, Others)

Definition of a Problem: SYCS: _____
Something You Can Solve
If there is NO Solution it is: _____ it's a _____
Not a Problem, Fact of Life

DtPtStP: _____
Define the Problem to Solve the Problem

What's Wrong with Assuming Spiritual Warfare? Let's look...

Fact: Pastor Marriages are Worse than Lay Person Marriages and WAY worse than Secular Marriages, and they end at the same rate as both!

Chosen Definition of the Problem: Spiritual Warfare.

Easiest Way to Have a Good Marriage: Avoid becoming a Christian. Avoid Christian leadership.

Way to Win Spiritual Warfare: Warfare Prayer/Deliverance. Intimacy with God. Righteousness.

Who does that better as a group than Clergy? If Clergy cannot win the Spiritual War, what chance to the rest of us stand? If they have all these resources for this war - why are they not winning?

Logical Result: Avoid Christianity. If one enters Chrstianity, minimize involvement because it results in spiritual attack. Minimize spiritual growth because it results in spiritual attack.

OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE...

Fact Pastor Marriages are Worse...

Chosen Definition of the Problem: They are doing something wrong and need to change.

Easiest Way to Have a Good Marriage: Insight: Find Out What Really Works. Application: Do it.

Growth: Become the person that normally and naturally does the things that really work.

Way to Stop Doing Something Wrong and Change: Keep gaining Insight, Application and Growth.

Logical Result: Keep gaining Insight, Application and Growth.

Does Spiritual Warfare Exist? OC _____ - the Bible says it does.
Of Course!

The Screwtape Perspective. (*The Screwtape Letters*, a book by C.S.Lewis) See it from Satan's Side...
Pastor's Marriages are messed up. Satan knows they are messed up because they have misunderstood God's Word and they simply do not know Principles. They have set up goals and expectations for marriage that cannot possibly be achieved the way they are trying to do it. Satan sees that many, many Christians have a total Process-Result Disconnect. Satan's problem is that the real solutions to the issue will cause the Pastors and by their good teaching, ALL God's People to learn, grow, become better and more powerful Christians, be better Pastors, better Leaders, and they will all keep growing, getting stronger! BUT... IF Satan can convince them that the "real problem" is "Spiritual Warfare" - then he can accomplish a great many things all at once.

1. The Church gives Satan so much credit that the presence of demons can totally thwart the Holy Spirit, and Satan is the ruler of the demons, and if the demons can fight God to a standstill...
2. The Church affirms that the result of "doing it right" (what they think is God's Way) is to face opposition by demonic forces so powerful that the Church can be stopped dead in its tracks.
3. The Church interprets the very failure of their principles as "proof" that they are doing it "God's way" because that's why "they came under attack" - and actually do MORE of the wrong thing.
4. The Church will become worse Christians - because they are out of harmony with God's ACTUAL Way and God's ACTUAL design - and they will defend the wrong way as God's Way!
5. Satan keeps his enemy ineffective in their lives, their work, and in their relationships.
6. Pastors will Teach and Leaders will Lead the wrong way, and the Church will MISunderstand God, MISunderstand God's Way, and teach that "doing it God's way" means demons will oppose you.
7. If someone DOES try to do it the wrong way, believing it is "God's Way" - they will make the exact same mistakes and compound the problem - so Satan wins in more families!
8. Outside Observers will see that "God's Way" does not work - and Satan gets to keep his people.
9. The Next Generation will be more cynical, and many will reject God - and Satan gets a generation!
10. Satan gets them fixated on praying against him - when HE IS NOT DOING ANYTHING!

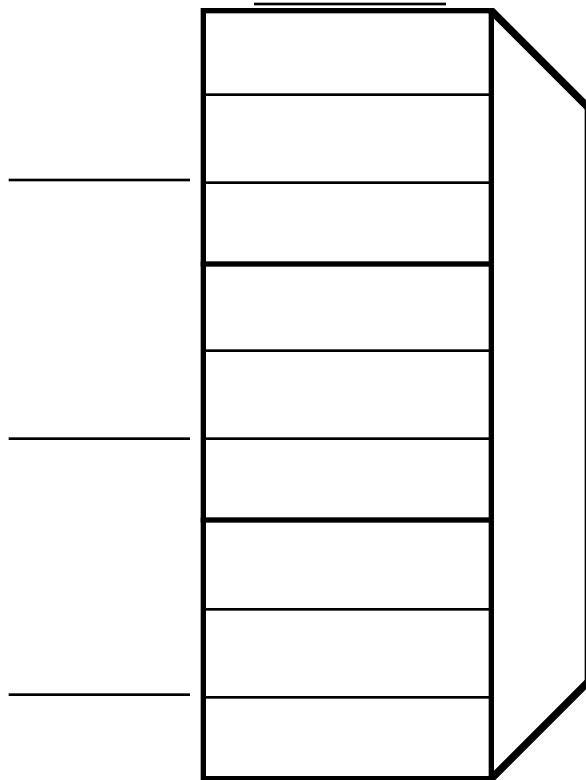
*In Principle Problems, the "Spiritual Warfare Assumption" works for the Devil.
Here's a question... WHO is "Doing the Devil's Work?"*

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SPIRITUAL WARFARE 2 of 3

The DOES NOT MATTER Level of “Spiritual Warfare.”



Two Diseases. HSP&DSP: _____

Human Spirit Problem and Demonic Spirit Problem

Symptoms are Exactly the Same: LiR

Living in Reaction

What we call emotionally driven, negatively motivated behavior.

Caught Exactly the Same Way. OPE:

Overly Powerful Event

Event that amplifies emotion or leads to wrong GRPO.

Grows Exactly the Same Way. OPM:

Overly Powerful Memory

You hold on to the OPE with OPM

Cured Exactly the Same Way. FoO&FoS

Forgiveness of Others and Forgiveness of Self.

Let Go of the OPM, Which Eliminates the Effect of the OPM, Which Ends LiR.

SP: _____
 is enough of a diagnosis, because whether it is just a Human Spirit or a Demonic Spirit DNM:

Spirit Problem, Does Not Matter

Remember, just because the Bible uses the word “demon” “devil” or even “Satan” does not mean it is talking about a literal spirit entity. Take a look at just a couple of examples...

John 6:70 - “Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a _____?”

Devil

Mark 8:33b - “[Jesus] rebuked _____, saying, Get thee behind me, _____.”

Peter, Satan

Was Judas literally a devil or demon? Was Peter literally Satan? Of course not - but Judas acted like it, and, in that moment, Peter was doing the exact thing that Satan would have done.

If it comes from your own Spirit or your own Heart, or it comes from a demon, this is still true...

Proverbs 23:7 - _____

“For as he thinks within his heart, so he is.”

The Heart is the HP: _____ of S: _____

Hidden Part, Self

There is a “Heart Part” of S:RPO, S: WME, B:ASB.

One Important Theory is that Demonic Forces can operate by _____.

Right

In Job 1, Satan needs God’s permission to deal with Job, his finances and his family.

Ephesians 4:27 says “Neither give place to the Devil” - Implying we GIVE those rights.

The idea is that whatever demonic forces can do, they do because they have a right to do that thing to that person under those circumstances... BUT there is another aspect to this! **D:** _____!

Design

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SPIRITUAL WARFARE 3 of 3

REMINDER ON DEVILS, DEMONS AND SATAN

DD&S _____ do not always mean a literal
DDorS _____

Devil, Demon and Satan, Devil, Demon or Satan

Jesus referred to one of the Twelve as “a devil” and said to Peter “Get thee behind me Satan” which shows us how the word can be used to talk about a person or about Satan-like actions.

There are some interesting implications in this - about how "vexed by a devil" or “opposed by Satan” might be a problem with a bad person - or with our own “devil like” behavior. Also, “Satan” is a word that means “adversary” - and sometimes it can be used as an anthropomorphism for “adversity” just like Proverbs calls Wisdom a “she” and treats the abstraction like an entity for purposes of the discussion. It helps us put the following verses in a different light:

Mark 4:15 - “*And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.*”

Acts 5:3 - “*But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back [part] of the price of the land?*”

2 Corinthians 2:11 - “*Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*”

1 Thessalonians 2:18 - “*Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.*”

WHAT THE BIBLE DOES SAY DEMONS CAN DO

_____ is not a Biblical term. The proper term is _____.

Demon Possessed, demonized

I,D,E,&D: _____

Ill, Dumb, Epileptic and Demonized

D _____ probably refers to some form of **I** _____

Demonized, Insanity

The Bible does give examples of demons who have made people ill, unable to speak, epileptic, or have “demonized” people. (Matthew 8:16, 10:1, 12:45, Mark 1:27, 3:11, 5:13, 6:7, Luke 4:36, 6:18, 7:21, 8:2, 11:26, Acts 5:16, 8:7, 19:12.)

Demonized, or “has a devil” may imply insanity. Jesus was accused of having a devil and being “mad” (John 10:20 for an example), which may be literal or an idiom. The usage in John 10:20 seems to imply a disconnect from reality.

SS,VP: _____

Supernatural Strength, Violent Power

We have the example of Legion (Mark 5, Luke 8) and the demon abjured by the Seven Sons of Sceva (Acts 19:14-16). Both had supernatural strength, breaking chains and defeating others seven against one.

WHAT THE BIBLE DOES NOT SAY DEMONS CAN DO

Where in the Bible does it give us examples or tell us the demons can...???

CYF: _____ Only Job 1, in a challenge issued by God - and Satan could do nothing until God gave him clearance. Yet, many people assume that their finances are attacked by demons.
Consume Your Finances

DYF: _____ Only Job 1, in a challenge issued by God - and Satan could do nothing until God gave him clearance. Yet, many people assume that their family is attacked by demons.
Destroy Your Family

PWA: _____ - In 1 Chronicles 21:1 it says “Satan Provoked David” - so does that mean Satan can make someone do something they would never, ever do? In 2 Samuel 24:1 it says “God Provoked David” about exactly the same thing! The answer is found in two places: Job 1 and Genesis 1:1. Who was responsible for the harm to Job?

Provoke Wrong Actions

God's Agenda: _____

To Prove Job Would Pass the Test

Satan's Agenda: _____

To Prove Job Would Fail the Test

Genesis 1:1 Principle: D: _____ - 2 Samuel 24:1 says that the Anger of the Lord burned, telling us that David was breaking God's Rules. Anger means "One of My rules has been broken." Rule Breakers Break Rules. David was breaking God's Rules already, so he continued along that path and broke this rule. It's Cause and Effect. Design

GB: _____ - There is talk in the "Spiritual Warfare Community" about Generational Bondage. The idea is "The Sins of the Father are Visited On the Children" and it just flows down the generations. Who does the BIBLE say does this? If you look at Exodus 20:5, 34:7, Numbers 14:18, and Deuteronomy 5:9, Four Times it says that GOD does it. God does not intervene supernaturally to punish generations, nor does He intervene supernaturally to force people copy the sins of their parents... BUT there IS a Genesis 1:1 Principle at work here!

Generational Bondage

CONSEQUENCES OF "DELIVERANCE"

D:CoD,DfA: _____

Deliverance: Casting Out Demons, Deliver from Addiction

The goal is to get rid of demons, get rid of addictions, or get rid of Living in Reaction behaviors. BUT, if it IS really demons, there is an additional issue to consider...

Matthew 12:43-45 - *"When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth [it] empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last [state] of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation."* So if you are going to address a real demon problem, you MUST address the "Rights Issue."

DOING "DELIVERANCE"

WP:IWStWiRNMWIF: _____

James 4:7 - *"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."*

ICSwWP: _____

Impulse Control Solved with Will Power

Will Power is Most Powerful when the Will is fully Submitted to S:GRPO, Gen1:1.

BCFoG: _____ - Stories abound of Accusation, even as simple as "he looked at me like he knew everything I had ever done wrong." If you can be made to feel Guilty, be very wary of anything that may be a real demonic encounter. Be Completely Free of Guilt

AR: _____ - Presume "Deeded Real Estate" and look for areas of Unforgiveness. Then either do Forgiveness AND Self-Forgiveness, or Lead Someone Through It.

Address Rights

ADRE: _____ - Intentional Calling on Spirits.

Alternative Deeded Real Estate

Solution: JLIg,R&SF: _____

Just Let It Go, Repent and Self Forgiveness

P&F:IP/CP: _____

Prayer and Fasting: Intercessory Prayer/Combat Prayer

Affirm your own rights as a Christian - be "cleansed by confession" and "prepared with repentance" and make sure you have the faith to deal with the encounter without fear. Cleanse the body, too, and spend the time you do not spend eating praying over the situation. **Matthew 17:21** - *"Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting."* **Mark 9:29** - *"And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting."* If you do not already know how to do this kind of prayer, this is not a topic to be covered in one sermon. Pray in Groups.

WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER TRUE SUPERNATURAL POWERS?

CtC: _____ - Refer the matter to someone with knowledge and experience.

"Call the Cops"

Dangers of Amateur Play: Four Pastors onsite at a ritual place. "Poking the Dragon a Little."

Making the problem worse (1+7!). Falling into a trap. Damage to Your Faith.

*Do not pick a fight you do not know you can win!
Arrogance in this area is phenomenally dangerous!*