

THE LORD'S PRAYER DELIVER US FROM EVIL

PART 1 - LOST & RESTORED DOMINION

SUNDAY – JUNE 25, 2023

BUT, I DON'T WANT TO DO SPIRITUAL WARFARE!

➤ Do you have to be part of the battle?

➤ How many know the story of Wilmer McLean

- Wilmer was a farmer in Virginia.
- He was a peaceable gentleman, who resented the start of the Civil War.
- Really, Wilmer wanted no part of any war and couldn't understand why he couldn't just sit out on the sidelines.
- There was one small problem - Wilmer's small farm was located in a beautiful, but strategic place called the Shenandoah Valley.
- In the Spring of 1861, two armies decided to meet and began the bloodiest war in history at a small creek that ran through Farmer McLean's property - The name of the Creek, Bull Run!

BUT, I DON'T WANT TO DO SPIRITUAL WARFARE!

➤ According to James R. Edwards in his Book, "The Divine Intruder,

- *"McLean was not at all sure why the armies were fighting, but he was quite sure he did not want them fighting on his property. If he could not change the course of the war, he at least did not have to be part of it. McLean decided to sell out and go where the war would never find him."*

- **McLean sought out what he considered the most obscure place in all the country, or so he thought.**
- **He purchased an old house in an obscure town named Appomattox Court House, Virginia.**
- **Four years later General Grant was pursuing General Lee through Virginia. In Appomattox County, Grant sent a message to Lee asking him to meet and sign a truce. The place where they met to sign the peace that ended the Civil War was Wilmer McLean's living room!**
- **The peaceable farmer who wanted no part of the war saw the Civil War begin on His farm and end in his new house four years later!**

BUT, I DON'T WANT TO DO SPIRITUAL WARFARE!

- I think many of us Christians are like farmer McLean.
 - We are peaceable people who want NO part of war.
 - Whether we want it or not - we are part of a spiritual war.
 - Sometimes I tell people that I am looking for a small ranch in the middle of nowhere, where Janice and I can all hide out and wait for the Lord's coming.
 - Be assured - Wherever we live, if we choose to live for Christ, the battle will find us!
 - It is only people who are already held captive by the enemy, or those who pose no threat to Satan's Kingdom that don't experience the heat of battle.
 - How many of us have felt like Farmer McLean?

BUT, I DON'T WANT TO DO SPIRITUAL WARFARE!

➤ **Sometimes what we are experiencing is NOT spiritual warfare**

- **Battling our own sinful nature**
 - **This is a battle of our will and emotions**
 - **It involves the renewing of the mind**
 - **It may feel like we are battling demons – but in fact, we are battling with our own heart and mind**
 - **We have not yet begun to deal with Powers and Principalities in the Heavens**
- **Sometimes stress can feel like spiritual warfare**
 - **Panic Attack, Depression, and Fear can all be part of stress**
 - **Part of spiritual maturity – Learning not to Confuse our own emotions with God's leading!**
 - **Discerning the root – physical, spiritual, emotional**

GOD GIVES MANKIND DOMINION

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day - ESV

DEFINING MANKIND'S DOMINION

- Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion (This is one of the same words used in Eph. 6)
 - Be fruitful and multiply - Others in God's image (A powerful gift)
 - Fill the earth and subdue it (bring under subjection)
 - God was sharing His dominion and authority with mankind!
 - He had Adam NAME the animals (author-ity)
 - It was perfect – But still needed to be conquered and discovered
 - This was a joy God hoped to share with mankind

DEFINING MANKIND'S DOMINION

- God's gift to Adam & Eve was lavish!
 - God gave mankind dominion over the entire planet - under His authority
 - The serpents' lie – You will be as God – Knowing Good from evil
 - Adam and Eve's rebellion moves them out from under God's authority
 - Dominion is lost to the serpent

DOMINION LOST

Gen. 3:14 The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” – ESV

- The first prophecy of a Savior
 - Satan’s hatred of woman
 - The woman’s seed not seed of man and woman
 - Satan has had a special enmity against women ever since
 - This is the beginning of spiritual warfare
- Who is Satan’s seed?
 - Evil people?
 - Or is it literal offspring? If so, who is it?
 - Angels or The Antichrist – A man indwelt by Satan

MAN KIND LOSES DOMINION TO FORCES OF DARKNESS

- Satan and his rebellious angels now have a legal right to dominion – authority to rule
 - This was a covenantal (legal) transaction
 - Satan begins to bear bad fruit and multiply evil
 - Satan begins to fill the earth and subdue it - Here he partners with mankind given to evil.
 - His demonic kingdom continues to war against humanity – especially women!

Genesis 6:1 Then the people began to multiply on the earth, and daughters were born to them. **2** The sons of God saw the beautiful women and took any they wanted as their wives. **3** Then the Lord said, “My Spirit will not put up with humans for such a long time, for they are only mortal flesh. In the future, their normal lifespan will be no more than 120 years.”

MANKIND LOSES DOMINION TO FORCES OF DARKNESS

4 In those days, and for some time after, giant Nephilites lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes and famous warriors of ancient times.

5 The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. 6 So the Lord was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. 7 And the Lord said, “I will wipe this human race I have created from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them.” 8 But Noah found favor with the Lord.

- Nephilites/ Nephilim – The Fallen Ones
- These s fallen ones are mentioned 18 times in the Old Testament
- Interesting almost all ancient cultures have a history of these fallen ones
- Their appearance is directly tied to God’s wrath and destruction of the FLOOD
- They appear after the Flood until David’s Generation
- The spirits of Nephilim – Demons that have no home on earth nor Heaven

SATAN'S SEED

- Who is Satan's offspring?
- Is this literal or figurative
- I believe it is literal
- Time to go beyond Sunday School – The sons of God (bene Elohim and the daughters of God)
- Nations apportioned according to the bene elohim
- The offspring belonged neither to Heaven or to earth – Their spirits seek a body wandering the earth
- Different from the angels held in chains
- Different from the angels of Satan in Rev 12 that will war in the Heavens
- Tertullian and early church fathers – demons spirits of offspring of angels and women
- Consistent with war on women
- Even possibly Paul's concern about submission of women and head coverings

JUSTIN MARTYR

“The angels transgressed this appointment, and were captivated by love of women, and begat children who are those that are called demons;

and besides, they afterwards subdued the human race to themselves, partly by magical writings, and partly by fears and the punishments they occasioned, and partly by teaching them to offer sacrifices, and incense, and libations, of which things they stood in need after they were enslaved by lustful passions; and among men they sowed murders, wars, adulteries, intemperate deeds, and all wickedness.” - Justin Martyr (A.D. 160)

ATHENAGORAS

“These angels, then, who have fallen from heaven, and haunt the air and the earth, and are no longer able to rise to heavenly things, and the souls of the giants, which are the demons who wander about the world, perform actions similar, the one (that is, the demons) to the natures they have received, the other (that is, the angels) to the appetites they have indulged.” - Athenagoras (A.D. 175)

ISAIAH 24

21 So it will happen in that day,
That the Lord will punish the host of heaven on high,
And the kings of the earth on earth.

22 They will be gathered together
Like prisoners in the dungeon,
And will be confined in prison;
And after many days they will be punished.

23 Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed,
For the Lord of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,
And His glory will be before His elders.

EPHESIANS 6 – FOUR TIMES – TAKE YOUR STAND!

- **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.
- **13** Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground,
- and after you have done everything, to stand.
- 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, **15** and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

RESULTS OF LOST DOMINION

- All creation subject to rebellion and decay
 - Romans 8:19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. - NIV

MANKIND LOSES DOMINION TO FORCES OF DARKNESS

- A conquering spirit (Nimrod at Babel)
 - Mankind under Satanic influence imagines a world without God's rulership
 - Instead of one united mankind under God's dominion –
 - God divides the nations into 70 language/ nations
 - There are competing kingdoms, wars, struggles, etc. until the end of time
 - At the End of Days - Satan imagines an Antichrist Leader and False Prophet that will lead all nations astray
 - An economic, religious, governmental dictatorship