

# Spiritual Warfare & Jim Logan Helping Others and Deliverance

---

## Sermon Summary: More than Conquerors

---

*Sermon Preached on May 1990*

### Introduction: The Unshakeable Love of God

---

The pastor begins by reading from **Romans 8:31-39**, a powerful passage about the security of the believer's salvation and God's unwavering love.

- **Scripture Reference: Romans 8:31-39**
- **Context:** The Apostle Paul concludes a major section of his letter to the Roman church by posing a series of rhetorical questions to emphasize that nothing can stand against a believer for whom God has sacrificed His own Son.
- **Pastor's Commentary:**
  - Paul asks, *"If God be for us, who can be against us?"* This establishes the foundation of our confidence. Since God gave His most precious gift, His Son, He will surely give us everything else we need.
  - No one can bring a charge against God's elect because God Himself is the one who justifies. No one can condemn us because Christ is the one who died, rose again, and now intercedes for us at God's right hand.
  - Paul lists numerous hardships—tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, sword—and declares that none of them can separate us from Christ's love.
  - The pastor initially suggests that our *response* to these trials could separate us from God's love but quickly corrects himself. He clarifies that nothing can truly separate us from God's love itself. However, a negative response to life's struggles can hinder our *awareness* and *experience* of that love. If we turn away, God still loves us, but we lose the sense of His presence and grace.

- The phrase “more than conquerors” (**Romans 8:37**) is an example of God’s overflowing nature, similar to “exceedingly abundantly above all” or “more grace.” It signifies a victory that is overwhelming and complete through Christ.
- The final verses list cosmic and spiritual forces—death, life, angels, principalities, powers, etc.—and conclude that no created thing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

## An Aside on Halloween

---

The pastor takes a moment to address a question about Halloween, prompted by a newspaper article he received. He shares personal experiences and offers guidance on how Christian families might approach the holiday.

- **Who God Is:** God is Victor over all forces of darkness. Jesus Christ is not just a Savior but a Victor who can save children from the influence of evil, such as violence and drugs.
- **How We Are to Live:**
  - The pastor notes the strange irony of Christians enthusiastically participating in a holiday that is considered one of the most important days for Satanists. He references an experience in Chattanooga, TN, where Anton LaVey (founder of the Church of Satan) held a major service on Lookout Mountain on Halloween night, creating a climate of fear.
  - He also recounts a story of a missionary widow in Aruba who was urged by locals to not be alone on Halloween, as they believed it was the night the souls of the dead walked the streets. This illustrates the holiday’s dark spiritual roots in other cultures.
  - **Application for Today:**
    - a. **Be Discerning:** Every family must decide for themselves how to approach Halloween. Paul warns us not to judge others who hold different convictions (**Romans 14**).
    - b. **Educate Yourself:** The pastor recommends reading books (mentioning one by Dobson or a similar author) that detail the origins and significance of Halloween to make an informed decision.
    - c. **Provide Creative Alternatives:** Instead of traditional trick-or-treating, he suggests churches and families host “creative alternative” parties. He describes successful parties his church held with fun games, candy, and excellent children’s films, which resulted in unsaved children

coming and accepting Christ. The goal was to make the alternative so appealing that children preferred it over going door-to-door.

- d. **Use it as an Opportunity:** If giving something out, consider gospel tracts. He praises a full-color tract from Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) depicting a boy in full armor fighting a dragon, which explains the reality of our spiritual enemy and points to Jesus as the Victor.

## Helping Someone in Spiritual Bondage

---

The main topic is how to help someone who is losing in spiritual warfare. The pastor outlines a process for helping a person break free from bondage.

### The Warning Against Giving Satan a Foothold

- **Scripture Reference: Ephesians 4:27** - *"neither give place to the devil."*
  - **Context:** Paul is teaching about new life in Christ, specifically addressing anger.
  - **Pastor's Commentary:** This verse is a warning to Christians. The phrase can be translated as not giving Satan a "beachhead" or "foothold" *in* your life. It is an internal position of advantage that we grant the enemy.
- **Scripture Reference: 1 John 5:18** - *"We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not."*
  - **Context:** John is contrasting the children of God with the world under the control of the evil one.
  - **Pastor's Commentary:**
    - **"Sinneth not"** means a believer does not *habitually practice sin*.
    - **"Keepeth himself"** means to *guard* oneself, like a watchman guarding a city.
    - **"Toucheth him not"** means the wicked one cannot *grab ahold of or grasp* him.
  - This verse serves as a warning: the believer's lifestyle is not one of habitual sin. By guarding ourselves, we prevent Satan from gaining a grasp on us.

### The Steps to Bondage

The pastor describes a downward progression from a single act of sin to complete bondage.

1. **Temptation & Act of Sin:** A believer is tempted and gives in, committing a single act of sin. This is the first step down. Confession and repentance can bring them back to the top level.
  2. **Practice of Sin:** If the sin is not confessed, the enemy attacks in the same area again, and the person begins to *practice* the act. It is no longer an isolated incident but a recurring struggle.
  3. **Habit Patterns:** Continued practice leads to the formation of *habit patterns*. The sin is becoming a way of life, creating deep ruts.
  4. **Bondage:** Eventually, this leads to the bottom level: *bondage*. At this stage, the person is no longer free and often needs outside help to break free.
- **The Way Out:** When bondage is broken through prayer and counsel, the person does not instantly return to the top. They move back to the level of *habit patterns*. They now need ongoing help and discipleship to break those “strongholds” and work their way back up to freedom. Jesus came to set us free.

## Practical Steps for Helping Someone Break Free

---

The pastor provides a framework for counseling someone in bondage.

### Key Point 1: Confirm Their Salvation

- Before attempting to break a curse or cast out a spirit, you must confirm the person is a genuine believer.
- **Who God Is:** God, through Jesus Christ, is our only protection from the enemy.
- **Pastor's Example:** He shares a story of a woman in Ghana who was under a curse. He refused to break the curse until she committed her life to Christ, explaining that without Jesus, she would have no way to keep the evil spirits from returning. When speaking to non-Christian high school students about satanism, he is clear that the only way out is through Jesus Christ.

### Key Point 2: Identify the Problem Areas

- It is crucial to understand what ground has been given to the enemy. How did he get a foothold?
- **How We Are to Live:** We can use tools like a “check sheet” to help identify areas of sin or spiritual vulnerability. The pastor mentions check sheets developed by Neil Anderson (author of “The Bondage Breaker”) and Fred Dickerson of Moody Bible Institute.
- The goal is to discover what the person is hurting from. He uses the CEF training example: when a child comes forward, a counselor should ask, “What

do you want the Lord Jesus to do for you?" rather than assuming they want to be saved. This allows the person to voice their true need.

### **Key Point 3: Identify Strongholds**

- Look for mental patterns of thought that have become barriers to freedom. These are arguments and thought patterns established over a long time that oppose the truth of God.

### **Key Point 4: Determine if They Truly Want Help**

- This is one of the most difficult but most important things to discern. Does the person genuinely desire to be free? True freedom requires a deep, personal desire for change.
- The foundational requirement for experiencing spiritual freedom is absolute sincerity.
- Many individuals, particularly youth, desire the removal of negative consequences from their actions but are unwilling to commit to genuine lifestyle changes.
- To walk in true freedom, a believer must be entirely serious about addressing the root of their issues rather than merely treating the symptoms.

## **Preparing for Deliverance: A Shift in Approach**

---

### **Binding the Enemy**

- The pastor's current approach to spiritual warfare and deliverance begins with binding the enemy from any open manifestations, which contrasts with traditional deliverance methods.
- **Specific prayers for protection include:**
  - Removing forces of darkness from the counseling room.
  - Severing communication between any internal demonic influences and outside forces.
  - Smashing and breaking any schemes the enemy has raised to hold the person in bondage.
- The pastor notes that severe spiritual bondage rarely involves just one demonic influence.
- **Biblical Examples:** Mary Magdalene was delivered from seven demonic spirits, and the Gadarene demoniac had a legion (between six and ten thousand spirits).

## The Old Methodology: Confrontation and Its Dangers

- Traditionally (as taught in many seminaries like Moody, Trinity, and Columbia Bible College), deliverance involved forcing a spirit to manifest, speak, and reveal its “assignment” and the “ground” (or legal right) it had in a person’s life.
- **The Danger:** The traditional method allows spirits to take over the body temporarily, often resulting in severe violence. While sudden “power encounters” are sometimes necessary in evangelistic settings to show the power of Christ to unbelievers, it is highly disruptive in a counseling setting.
- **Example:** A missionary wife, heavily involved in ministry, fell under the severe control of dark forces, leading to rampant infidelity. Her husband, a Bible college graduate who previously mocked the idea of Christians facing demonic problems, realized the reality of spiritual warfare and sought help to see his wife set free.

## The Paradigm Shift: Reclaiming the Ground

- Instead of interrogating demons to find out what “ground” they hold, the pastor now asks the *individual* what ground they have yielded through their choices.
- By having the believer repent and take back that ground, the enemy’s legal right is removed. Praying against the enemy afterward results in a peaceful, marvelous freedom.
- **Exceptions for Children:** Exceptions to the non-manifestation rule are sometimes made for young children, as their bondage is often inherited (ancestral) rather than earned through personal sin.
- **Example:** A 9-year-old boy, whose mother struggled with a murderous spirit urging her to kill him, had reciprocal spirits of perversion and murder urging him to kill her. Through Christ’s authority, these spirits were swiftly commanded to leave.

## Illustrative Stories & Warnings about Occult Influence

---

The pastor shares counseling experiences to illustrate spiritual realities and the urgency of discerning and resisting demonic influences.

### Safety and Protection in Counseling

- A counselee later revealed they had brought a gun; the pastor noted God’s protection during the session.
- The receptionist experienced unsettling events in the waiting room; the team now prays daily for peace and safety.

## Occult Manifestations and Counterfeit Guidance

- **Midwifery Concern:** Some midwives allegedly “impart spirit guides” to newborns before handing them to the mother.
- **Church Nursery Vigilance:** Claims that some hired nursery workers have passed on “spirit guides” to children.
- **Programs and Practices:** Sylvan/Silver Mind Control is described as imparting two “spirit guides” to participants, including missionaries who later struggled with demonic oppression.
- **Testimony Reference:** Johanna Michaelsen’s story in “The Beautiful Side of Evil” highlights deception in “white magic” and psychic surgery.
- **Counterfeit “Jesus”:** Multiple counselees reported a “spirit guide” named “Jesus Christ,” causing confusion. The pastor stresses discernment and doctrinal clarity to expose a counterfeit spirit.

## Guidance for Modern Believers in Today’s Culture

- **Discernment in American Contexts:** Be alert to secular programs or “spiritual” practices that introduce spirit guides or occult frameworks under therapeutic or educational guises.
- **Church Stewardship:** Vet nursery workers, volunteers, and ministries for sound doctrine and safe practices; maintain prayerful vigilance in church spaces.

## Step-by-Step Procedure for Freedom

---

### Step 1: Identifying Occult Involvement

- Counselors ask if the individual has ever been involved in the occult, spiritism, or related games.
- **Example:** Many youth (even missionary kids) have admitted to praying to Satan out of frustration when God withheld something they wanted. The pastor warns that Satan never gives a “free lunch”—there is always a terrible price to pay.

### Step 2: Renunciation

- The individual must verbally renounce the enemy: “I renounce you, Satan, all your works and all your ways.”
- **Scripture Mentioned:**
  - **Romans:** Referenced as a foundational text for theological truth and standing in faith.

- **Revelation 12:11** (likely intended by the pastor's reference to Revelation 10): "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony."
- **Application:** This step is about the believer making a definitive stand for the Lord Jesus Christ, declaring they want no darkness or demonic influence in their life.
- **Example:** A missionary couple in Alaska was experiencing spiritual harassment—hearing the crunch of snowshoes around their isolated cabin every night, but finding no footprints. They were instructed to pray against it and stand in spiritual authority. Once they did, the manifestations ceased completely.

### Step 3: Guarding Against Deception

- The first major area to address in counseling is deception. The prayers used in this ministry are not "magic words," but are deeply rooted in the Word of God and vetted by theological seminaries.
- **Application:** God desires truth in our inner being. Believers must pray for a "hearing heart" so that neither the counselor nor the individual is deceived by the enemy's lies during the process of seeking freedom.

### Step 4: Affirming Identity and Evaluating Trauma

- The process involves exploring the individual's foundational beliefs about God and themselves by having them read aloud a written doctrinal affirmation of identity in Christ.
- **Why Speak Truth Aloud:** Verbalizing truth counters internal lies such as "You'll never be free," by replacing them with truth like "Jesus Christ is my Victor."
- **Example:** A conservative minister admitted demonic oppression. During reading, he was choked by "invisible hands" multiple times. The pastor prayed for release so the minister could proclaim his identity in Christ.
- **Example of Uncovering Trauma:** A youth pastor viewed God the Father as aloof, a projection of his hatred for his earthly father. When asked about God the Son, he bluntly stated, "I'd rather not talk about Him," which revealed a demonic presence that subsequently resulted in a physical attack.

### Step 5: Bitterness vs. Forgiveness

- **Diagnosis:** The pastor identifies bitterness as a major cause for a Christian's ongoing demonic struggles.
- **Who God Is:** God is a Forgiver. The Bible's central message is forgiveness, demonstrating how God forgives and calls His people to forgive. Refusing

forgiveness contradicts the Gospel's core. He is also Just and will discipline His children who refuse to forgive.

- **Key Scriptures:**

- **Matthew 18:23–35:** The parable of the unforgiving servant.
  - **Context:** A servant forgiven an immense debt refuses to forgive a small debt owed to him.
  - **Pastor's Commentary:** The master “**delivered him to the tormentors till he should pay all that was due unto him**” (Matthew 18:34). The pastor interprets “tormentors” as spiritual affliction permitted when a believer refuses to forgive. Jesus concludes, “**So likewise shall My Heavenly Father do unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses**” (Matthew 18:35).
- **Ephesians 4:32:** A call to forgive as God in Christ forgave you.
- **Romans 12:19:** “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”
- **Hebrews 12:15:** Bitterness “defiles many.”
- **John 8:32:** “My truth will set you free.” Rejection of God's truth prevents freedom.

- **Practical Application:**

- Freedom ministry cannot progress if a counselee refuses to forgive; bitterness gives the enemy ground.
- **Process to forgive “from the heart”:** Pray, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal all persons who have deeply hurt you. The counselor records names. Specificity is required: name precise offenses to engage the heart. Common omissions that must be addressed are forgiving “myself” and “God.”
- When we verbally forgive (e.g., “Father, forgive my father for sexually abusing me”), God helps us process and let go of the pain. This is often accompanied by weeping, which is a sign of releasing long-held hurt.
- We must let go of the past (**Philippians 3:13–14; Luke 9:62**). Bitterness keeps one oriented backward. The pastor used a driving analogy: you can't drive safely by only looking in the rearview mirror.

## **Step 6: Hold Faith and a Clear Conscience**

- **Scripture: 1 Timothy 1:19** (paraphrased). Paul warned Timothy that to avoid spiritual “shipwreck,” he must hold on to **genuine faith and a clear conscience**.

- **Context:** Paul's instructions to Timothy in Ephesus, a city known for its demonic activity.
- **Application:** Some individuals, like Hymenaeus and Alexander, put away these essentials and were "turned over to Satan." Our faith cannot be separated from righteous living and a conscience that is clear of unconfessed sin. We must also take inventory of those we have offended and make a plan to make things right.

### Step 7: Rebellion vs. Submission

- **Who God Is:** God establishes lines of authority in our lives (parents, etc.) for our protection.
- **Scripture:** The pastor referenced the principle from **1 Samuel 15:23**, which states, "Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft."
- **Application:** When we are in rebellion, the issue is defying God-ordained authority. This rebellious state makes a person an "open target for the enemy."

### Step 8: Pride vs. Humility

- **How We Are to Live:** We must live in humility. The pastor noted that pride is a significant stumbling block because a proud person "cannot resist the enemy."

### Step 9: Confessing Specific Sins

- **What God Does:** He offers forgiveness and cleansing when we confess our specific sins to Him, closing the door our sin opened to the enemy.
- **Scripture: Ephesians 5:12** (paraphrased) states that "it is a shame to speak of those things which are done in... secret."
- **Application:** We must "call it by name" before God.
  - **Prayer of Confession (paraphrased):** "Dear Heavenly Father, I acknowledge I have given in to fleshly lusts. I thank you that in Christ my sins are forgiven, but I have transgressed and given the enemy an opportunity. I come to acknowledge these sins and seek your cleansing... I now confess these sins to You and claim the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ for my forgiveness and cleansing. I cancel all ground the evil spirits have gained through my willful involvement in sin."

### Step 10: Dealing with Ancestral Sin

- **Who God Tells Us We Are:** As children of God, we have the authority to break ties with the sins of our ancestors. We have been "delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son."

- **Application:** This is often a difficult step. Dr. Fred Dickerson from Moody found that 95% of students he counseled for demonic problems had ancestral issues.
- **Prayer of Renunciation (paraphrased):**
  - “As a child of God... I here and now reject and disown all the sins of my ancestors.”
  - “I cancel out all demonic workings that have been passed on to me from my ancestors.”
  - “I cancel every curse... Christ became a curse for me when He died on the cross.”
  - “I reject any and every way in which Satan may claim ownership on me.”
  - “I declare myself to be eternally and completely signed over and committed to the Lord Jesus Christ.”
- **Commanding Spirits to Leave:** The prayer concludes with a command: “I now command every familiar spirit and every enemy of the Lord Jesus Christ that is in or around me to go to the pit [or ‘to go where Jesus Christ sends him’]... and remain there unto the day of judgment.”
- **Example:** A young man from a Bible college who had been violent found immediate peace after this process. The voices in his head stopped, and his physical appearance changed so dramatically that his parents started crying, saying, “Something wonderful has happened to you.”

## The Principle of the Roaring Lion

---

The pastor transitioned to an illustration to teach believers how to respond to the enemy’s attacks in their daily lives.

- **Scripture: 1 Peter 5:7-9**
- **Context:** We often quote **verse 7:** *“Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you.”* The pastor contrasted the English “casting” with the French translation, which pictures a dump truck letting its entire load slide off onto the Lord. However, we often miss the crucial context of **verse 8:** *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”*
- **How a Lion Hunts - The Roar is a Tactic:** One lion goes upwind and roars, causing prey to panic and run away from the sound—directly into the waiting ambush of the rest of the pride. They run to their own destruction based on fear caused by the roar.

- **Who God Is:** He is our place of stability and strength. He does not want us to be controlled by the fear the enemy creates.
- **How We Are to Live:** We have an adversary, Satan, who roars through circumstances, fear, and accusations. We are not supposed to run. Making decisions based on the “roar” of the enemy is to let him control our lives and run toward our own spiritual peril.
- **The Correct Response ( 1 Peter 5:9 ): “Whom resist stedfast in the faith...”**
  - i. **Don’t Run:** Do not make decisions based on the fear, pressure, and panic the enemy creates.
  - ii. **Stand and Resist:** We are to stand firm in our faith. When the enemy roars, we stand in Christ, clothed in His armor. We resist him, steadfast in our faith.
- **Final Encouragement:** When we face the enemy, we are not to face him in fear but to stand in the full victory Jesus provided on the cross. We are “more than conquerors” and will “always triumph in Christ.”