

Defeating Spiritual Enemies Session 5 – Defeating Doubt

I. Review/Intro

A. Previous Weeks

1. Session 1 – Defeating Discouragement
2. Session 2 – Defeating Fear
3. Session 3 – Defeating the Voice of the Enemy
4. Session 4 – Keep your Armor On

II. Every soldier needs to have knowledge of their enemy

A. The characteristics of our enemy

1. Thief
2. Liar
3. Deceiver
4. Destroyer
5. Murder

B. **2 Corinthians 2:11 (KJV)** – *Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*

Devices = Gr – noema – a mental perception or thought/ an evil purpose, – here = Satan’s thoughts, plans or evil purposes toward us.

C. Ephesians 6:11 (KJV) – *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

1. Wiles = Cunning arts/deceit/craft – *to lie in wait – Satan lies in wait to deceive, trick, steal and to destroy us*
2. Satan has an arsenal of weapons – collection
 - a. Discouragement
 - b. Fear
 - c. Lying words/thoughts

III. **Doubt**

A. **Jesus spoke about Doubt**

Mark 11:23 (KJV) – *For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.*

B. Luke 12:29 (KJV) – *And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.*

C. **Peter Doubts**

Matthew 14:31 (KJV) – *And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt*

Note: Doubt is represented as an enemy of faith – that comes to steal the victory that God makes available to us!

IV. How Satan uses Doubt

A. Satan always casts doubt

Cast Doubt = to cause someone or something to be viewed with doubt – uncertainty - to cause to question – to cause people to feel uncertainty – *Uncertainty is in contrast to faith!*

B. Satan casts doubt by focusing our attention on the problem vs the answer.

Peter considered the storm and the waves – doubt

C. Doubt Defined =

1. Doubt is not unbelief – *unbelief is a willful choice to not believe*
2. Doubt is to waver – *to waver between faith and unbelief*
3. **James 1:6-8 (KJV)** – *⁶But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. ⁷For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the LORD. ⁸A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*
 - a. This man is not in direct unbelief – He believes in God enough to ask the Lord for something
 - b. It is possible to be a believer and still doubt
 - c. Doubting is to waver between two opinion
 - d. Doubt is unstable –
4. Consider – **Luke 12:29 (KJV)** – *And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.*

Doubtful Mind = meteorizo – by a metaphor – ships tossed about on the deep by winds and waves

- To agitate or harass with cares
- To make one anxious

5. Most believers do not deal with the enemy of unbelief but instead the enemy of DOUBT –
 - a. Many believers become unstable in their minds when trouble arises
 - b. Believer can become anxious
 - c. Believers can become agitated
6. James clarifies the enemies intended result of DOUBT

James 1:7 (KJV) – *For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the LORD*

Results/ victory is hindered by doubt

Defeat is inevitable when doubt is allowed to take residence.

V. Defeating Doubt

A. We have an armor

1. The listed armor in Ephesians 6
 - a. Truth
 - b. Righteousness
 - c. Peace
 - d. Faith
 - e. Salvation
 - f. The Word of God

2. The armor is knowledge of these things/ the word of God
 - a. Knowledge in its proper use wins battles
 - b. Ignorance and victory to not work together

B. Satan's primary means of promoting Doubt

1. Thoughts – *Doubt Filled Thoughts*
2. Ideas – *Doubt filled Ideas*
3. Suggestions – *Doubt filled suggestions*
4. These are the WILES of the Devil

C. We use our armor to defeat Satans; thoughts, ideas and suggestions.

D. Jesus uses his armor

Matthew 4:3-4 (KJV) – ³*And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.*
⁴*But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

1. Satan attempted to promote doubt = *if thou be the Son of God Thoughts/Ideas/Suggestions – Similar to Eve’s temptation*
2. Jesus refused doubt by considering and speaking the Word of God
It is written – Man shall not live by bread alone
3. Jesus had his armor on
 - a. He knew who he was
 - b. He knew what he was sent to do
 - c. He knew his authority
 - d. He had knowledge of everything that God said about him
Remember – your armor is connected to knowledge
4. Jesus couldn’t have said “*It is written*” unless he knew what was written
5. **Luke 2:52 (KJV)** – *And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.*

Luke 2:52 (AMP) – *Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature*

6. Jesus came to earth as the Son of Man – as the Son of God he would have known all things – but as the Son of Man he had to increase, learn and grow just like we grow
7. Jesus learned the scriptures just like we learn the scriptures
8. Jesus was able to combat/ defeat DOUBT from the enemy because he had knowledge of what the Word of God said – HIS ARMOR

9. You can defeat doubt
 - a. If you know what the Word of God says
 - b. If you have taken time to know – hear – to perceive
 - c. If you know how to filter/thoughts, ideas and suggestions through the Word of God
 - d. Take every thought, idea and suggestion captive and bring it into the obedience of Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (KJV) – ⁴*(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)* ⁵*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*

Note: You cannot do this if you do not take time to know what the Word of God Says.

- i. Satan cast doubt about my righteousness
Do I know what the Word says?
- ii. Satan cast doubt about my salvation
Do I know what the word says?
- iii. Satan cast doubt about healing
Do I know what the word says?
- iv. Knowing what God says is my armor in action!
- e. If you do not take the time to know your armor – defeat will be the outcome!