

## Defeating Spiritual Enemies Session 7 – Don't Be Devoured

### I. Review/Intro

#### A. Previous Sessions in this Warfare Series

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
5. Session 5 – Defeating Doubt
6. Session 6 – Defeating Deception

### II. Satan's Goal – To Devour

#### A. **1 Peter 5:8 (KJV)** – *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour*

1. Devour = to eat up – to swallow up – to destroy  
*The picture of a hungry lion devouring – swallowing up its prey*
2. Some can be devoured – others cannot be.

#### B. How does Satan Devour?

1. Wiles and Devices = Thoughts, Ideas, Suggestions
2. Eve, Judas, Ananias and Saphira = devoured
3. Jesus = was not devoured but overcame Satan's thoughts, Ideas and suggestions by keeping his armor of God's Word on!
4. Satan learned how to devour = because he was devoured
5. How was Satan devoured = by allowing his thoughts to go unchecked
  - i. An unbridled mind
  - ii. A mind that is allowed to roam freely
  - iii. We are to guard our thoughts and take every thought captive according to 2 Corinthians 10:

C. Where did Satan's thoughts come from?

*His thoughts became from what He saw.*

1. Satan saw God and said – Isaiah 14:12-14
  - i. I will ascend into heaven
  - ii. I will exalt my throne above the stars of God
  - iii. I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation
  - iv. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds
  - v. I will be like the most High
2. Satan was deceived by thoughts that originated with the things he saw!
3. The eye gate – things we see –
4. The ear gate – Things we hear
5. Thoughts may come from Satan or Satan may take advantage of thoughts that enter our mind simply from the things we SEE and HEAR

D. Scriptures to Consider

**Mark 4:24 (KJV)** – *And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear:*

**Matthew 6:22-23 (ESV)** – <sup>22</sup>*“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, <sup>23</sup> but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!*

**2 Peter 2:7-8 (KJV)** – <sup>7</sup>*And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: <sup>8</sup>(For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)*

1. Satan plants some thoughts
2. Satan takes advantage of thoughts we receive by the things we SEE and HEAR
3. Satan uses our thoughts to DEVOUR us

### III. Examples of Satan's use of thoughts that enter through the eyes

#### A. David with Bathsheba

**2 Samuel 11:2 (KJV)** – *And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof **he saw** a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon.*

1. David committed adultery
2. David had Urijah killed
3. David lost his newborn son
4. David had great loss associated with this act of sin
5. David's being DEVoured began with a thought!
6. Where did the thought originate = through what he saw!

#### B. Israel and The Giants

**Numbers 13:31-33 (KJV)** – <sup>31</sup>*But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.* <sup>32</sup>*And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that **we saw** in it are men of a great stature. <sup>33</sup>And there **we saw** the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we **were in our own sight** as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.*

1. We Saw – What they saw prompted thoughts
2. Their thoughts were left unchecked by what God had promised them
3. Unfiltered thinking/mind
4. Their thoughts prompted negative action
5. Their future was DEVoured by their thoughts/way of thinking
6. LESSON = Satan devours by thoughts!
7. What they Saw – prompted FEAR – Unbelief = Devoured

#### IV. Thought Identification

***Identification of our thoughts will be our first line of defense in battle.***

##### **A. Each and Every Thought Contains Life or Death Attached to it.**

1. David's thoughts toward Bathsheba had death attached to it
2. Israel's thoughts regarding the Giants had death attached to them
3. Judas thoughts = Death
4. Ananias and Saphira = Death
5. Eve = Death – Death entered the world through the unchecked thoughts of Adam and Eve.

**B. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 (KJV) – <sup>4</sup>(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) <sup>5</sup>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**

1. Satan devours through thoughts
2. The best way to avoid being devoured is THOUGHT IDENTIFICATION
3. The second step is THOUGHT CAPTIVATION/CASTING

**C. The Battle begins in the Mind and the Battle must be won in the Mind!**

**D. Satan can only devour me if I allow him to Devour me in my mind**

**E. The key = Keep my Armor on = Knowledge of the Word of God!**

1. Check all thoughts at the Door/MIND DOOR
2. Don't allow any thought to enter once it has been identified as a thought that Satan may use
3. Replace Satan's thoughts of defeat/with God's thoughts of victory!