

# STRONGHOLDS

Demonic Legal Rights

1 Peter 5:8

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- Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

- **Luke 22:31**

- And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

“Your struggle is real.

God cares about your whole person.

- The enemy may try to use this against you, but he does not define you, control you, or own you.”
- This empowers people rather than shaming them.
- Apollyon- Capitalize on fear and anxiety
- Modius - lust and perversion
- Baal - infirmities
- Beelzebub,- gluttony, and envy,
- Baphomet - homosexuality, gay and lesbian

# The Spirit of Fear

- **2 Tim. 1:7**

- **Not a demon—an atmosphere the enemy uses.“  
deception**

- **Proverbs 23:7**

- For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he

- **God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**

The ability to recall what he said.

**John 14:26**

The Holy Spirit will teach you all things and bring back to your remembrance everything I have said to you.

- **The Spirit of Heaviness**

- **Isa. 61:3**

- A description of emotional oppression. “...the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness.”

- **The Spirit of Infirmary**

- **Luke 13:11**

- A physical affliction that Jesus healed.

- These are biblical metaphors for spiritual influence, not diagnostic labels.

# What the Bible does not teach

It does not say depression is a demon.

It does not say anxiety is a demon.

It does not say trauma is a demon.

It does not say mental illness equals possession.

Even biblical heroes experienced deep emotional distress:

Elijah: “I’ve had enough, Lord.”

David: “My soul is downcast.”

Jeremiah: “Why is my pain unending?”

Paul: “We despaired even of life.”

None of them were described as demonized.

## **Key Takeaway in the KJV:**

Satan is portrayed as a legalist who seeks to use the transgression of God's laws as the basis for claiming authority to afflict, but these rights are always limited by God's sovereignty and can be removed through repentance or divine intervention (**Christ's atonement**).

**Proverbs 26:2,**

Without a cause, the curse can not take hold.

**Proverbs 11:9**

Through knowledge shall the just be delivered.

**We need to have the knowledge of God to be delivered from the satanic strongholds.**

# STRONGHOLDS

- Identifying, Confronting, and Destroying What Holds Us Back

- **2 Corinthians 10:3–5**

- For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds ;)

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;

# What Is a Stronghold?

A fortified mindset, belief, or pattern

Shapes how we think, feel, and behave, it can protect us or imprison us

A stronghold is not just a habit — it's a habit with a throne.

# Two Types of Strongholds

## Godly Strongholds

Truths that anchor and protect

### Psalm 18:2

“The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer...”

Shows God as a stronghold — a place of protection and stability.

**A Refuge in Trouble:** Psalm 9:9, Nahum 1:7

The Lord is a "stronghold for the oppressed" and a "refuge in times of trouble".

# Two Types of Strongholds

## Ungodly Strongholds

Lies, wounds, and patterns that imprison

### **Jeremiah 1:10**

to pull down and to destroy, to build and to plant.”

A prophetic pattern: tear down strongholds, build truth.

### **2 Corinthians 10:3–5“**

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds...”

This is the foundational text. Paul defines strongholds as arguments, thoughts, and imaginations that oppose God.

# How Strongholds Form

Built one brick at a time:

Unhealed wounds

Lies we believe

Patterns we repeat

Fears we avoid

Sins we hide

Voices we allow

Strongholds grow quietly but rule loudly.

# How Strongholds Operate

Ungodly strongholds:

Distort identity

Sabotage obedience

Block spiritual growth

Create cycles of defeat

Resist the Word

Justify disobedience

Produce double-mindedness

- The process of deliverance often consists of three main parts:
- Tearing down strongholds,
- Removing legal rights,
- Casting out the remaining demons.
- If you try to cast out demons without taking away the strongholds or legal rights that they are holding onto, then you can't really expect to achieve a complete successful deliverance.

- **What are legal rights?**

- A legal right is something that can give demons an opportunity to enter or harass us, or give them the right to remain in us even when we try to cast them out.
- Some of the most common legal rights that are faced when ministering deliverance are:
  - **Accusation can worsen depression, guilt, or feelings of worthlessness.**

Oppression Not possession—pressure, heaviness, spiritual resistance.

## **Accusation of Iniquity (Job 1-2):**

Satan uses the legal standing of an "accuser" to request permission from God to afflict Job.

Satan argues in Job 1:9-11 that Job only serves God because of the "hedge" of protection (legal immunity) God placed around him.

## **The Right: God grants a specific, limited right:**

"Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand" (**Job 1:12**), and later, **Job 2:6**

"Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life".

- **The "Defilement" of Sin** (Zechariah 3:1-2):
- Satan stands at the right hand of Joshua the high priest to resist him, specifically accusing him based on his "filthy garments" (a symbol of sin).
- **The Scene:** Zechariah 3:1
- "And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him" .
- **The Defence:** The LORD rebukes Satan, not because the sin was non-existent, but because the Lord had chosen to remove the iniquity.

- **Giving "Place" or Legal Access** (Ephesians 4:27):
- While not explicitly using the phrase "legal right," the Bible warns against giving the devil a foothold through unrepented sin or anger.
- **Scripture:** "Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:27, KJV).
- This indicates that persistent, unrepented sin (such as lingering anger) acts as a legal invitation or "foothold" for demonic influence.

## **Betrayal and Direct Possession (John 13:27):**

- When Judas Iscariot allows greed and sin to dominate him, it gives Satan legal access to enter him.
- **Scripture:** (John 13:27)
- "And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly“.
- **The Curse Requirement (Proverbs 26:2):**
- This verse implies that a curse (which Satan seeks to use) requires a legal "cause" to land.
- **Scripture:** Proverbs 26:2
- "As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come" .

## **The "Binding" Legal Right (Luke 13:16):**

Jesus refers to a woman bound by Satan for 18 years as one "whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years"

This suggests that infirmity or bondage can be a legal foothold Satan uses until broken by divine authority.

- Some of the most common legal rights that the devil has on people, which grant demons authority to afflict, are:
- **1. Sins (especially willful sins):**
- When we commit sin, it gives the enemy a legal right to affect or bother us in one way or another.
- The deeper the sin, the bigger the door that is opened to the devil.
- **Isaiah 59:2:** "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear".
- **Sin creates a relational barrier, hindering fellowship and communication with God,** though His ability to save is not diminished.

## **Key Concepts from Isaiah 59:2 (KJV)**

**Iniquity:** Refers to moral corruption and twistedness in actions and character.

**Sin:** Actions that go against God's law, which hide His face and prevent Him from hearing prayers.

**Separation:** A broken relationship, a spiritual distance, and a lack of closeness with God.

**Hidden Face/Not Hear:** Implies a lack of presence, favor, and answered prayer, not a lack of love or power from God.

## 2. Unforgiveness:

**Matthew 18:23-35**, unforgiveness is believed to turn a person over to "**tormentors**" (often interpreted as demons) because God's own forgiveness is legally withheld.

The Bible teaches that forgiveness is essential for spiritual health. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus instructs, "And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (Matthew 6:12).

**Our forgiveness from God is linked to our willingness to forgive others.**

### **3. The Occult:**

Participation in practices such as witchcraft, séances, or even reading horoscopes is viewed as a "spiritual signature" that invites demonic influence.

**4. Ancestral or Generational Curses:** Some traditions teach that the sins of ancestors (up to three or four generations) can grant the devil legal access to their descendants unless specifically renounced.

## 5. Ungodly Soul Ties:

It is believed that sexual relations outside of marriage can create "spiritual bridges" (soul ties) that allow demons to legally cross from one person to another.

## 6. Spoken Vows or Curses:

Negative self-talk ( "**I wish I were dead**") or formal demonic vows are seen as verbal contracts that the "accuser" can present in the "courtroom of heaven".

The Bible mentions consequences of sin affecting future generations (**Exodus 20:5; Numbers 14:18**), **but redemption through Christ breaks these chains** (Deuteronomy 7:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17).

In spiritual warfare, "breaking legal rights" is the process of removing the spiritual grounds or "footholds" that allegedly allow the devil to influence a person.

Here is where your peace is affected

## **5-Step Process to Break Legal Rights**

Many spiritual practices, particularly in deliverance ministries, follow these sequential steps to dismantle demonic access:

**Full Surrender:** The individual must first submit to God as required by James 4:7, moving from their own self-will to God's leadership.

**Confession:** This involves specifically naming each sin (e.g., occult involvement, sexual sin, or unforgiveness) to admit they were "abominations" that gave the enemy legal ground.

## **Renunciation:**

To "renounce" means to formally reject and disown. The person verbally declares they are ending their "agreement" with specific sins and will never return to them.

## **Breaking the Legal Right:**

Once the sin is confessed and renounced, practitioners verbally command the "legal right" to be "separated and demolished" in the name of Jesus, often pleading the blood of Christ as the legal payment that cancels the debt.

## **Verbal Command to Leave:**

Finally, because "demons cannot read minds," the individual must audibly command the spirits to leave, as they no longer have a valid reason to stay.

Lord, we repent of every sin committed knowingly and unknowingly.

We repent for words spoken out of alignment with Your will, actions taken in disobedience, attitudes of the heart, patterns, agreements, omissions, ignorance, and negligence.

We repent for anything that opened a door, created access, or gave ground to the enemy in our lives, families, bloodlines, health, finances, relationships, assignments, or purpose. Wash us clean by the blood of Jesus and purify us completely.

Father, we step into the Courts of Heaven and plead our case through the finished work of Jesus Christ.

We declare that Jesus is our Advocate and His blood speaks better things on our behalf.

On the basis of His sacrifice, we ask that every accusation, every charge, and every record used against us be dismissed, expunged, and overturned.

In the authority of Jesus Christ, we now revoke every legal right the enemy has claimed against us.

We cancel every legal claim, every assignment, every warrant, every permission, and every access point that was established through sin, trauma, generational patterns, false beliefs, or deception.

Every door that was opened is now shut by the power of the Holy Spirit. Every foothold is removed. Every stronghold is dismantled. Every chain is broken.

We renounce and break all agreements made knowingly or unknowingly with darkness. We break covenants not established by God. We cancel cycles of delay, limitation, confusion, sabotage, and repeated opposition. We declare those cycles broken now in Jesus' name.

