



TREE OF LIFE
TABERNACLE

PROVERBS 3:18

Relational Authority

Part 4

Part Three Highlights :

- Saul's downfall continues in disobedience **1Samuel 13:8-14**, outnumbered and afraid to lose people, Saul violates the Torah by doing a sacrifice (Burnt offering).
- God's borders were flagrantly violated by Saul. One of the things that invites Satanic oppression is people who cross borders... People who disregard God established borders.
- Example **Matthew 19:4-6** Male, Female & Marriage established by God. Opens doors...
- Yeshua ministered to children 5 times in the NT, 4 of them the authority (Father/Mother) gives explicit permission. Once out of compassion for a widow. Jairus **Mark 5:21-24**
- Don't fret about people who are outside your sphere of spiritual authority (Mourners)
- When you are obedient to God, no one (not even Kings) can stand against you
Deuteronomy 11:25, Joshua 1:5-6 & Romans 8:31
- You would think that wicked people would connect the dots when God vindicates you – they rarely do! God brings great judgement to “wake them up” **1Sam 24:3-6 & 26:7-12**
- Remove yourself from wicked leaders! David & The Sons of Korah did. David forgives Saul but there is no reconciliation. Forgiveness is commanded; reconciliation is conditional.
- Saul, outside of God's authority, loses confidence and seeks a medium **1Sam 28:4-7**. All with him die **1Sam 31:6**. Seeking the Medium is a death sentence! **Lev 20:6**
- When you are within the borders of the Covenant + Righteous Leaders = **Numbers 23:21-23**

Spiritual Authority & Warfare

- **We often think of Spiritual Warfare as casting demons out of possessed people...**
- **That certainly can happen, but you're really going to do more battle in the defense of the thoughts that come to your mind!**
- **The Powers of darkness launch most of their attacks in the realm of thought. Satan has the power of suggestion.**
- **You can deter his barrage of suggestions by resisting and rebuking. It may take a few instances of rebuking to get that to change.**

Satan's Methods:

2Corinthians 10:4-6 For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly but powerful through God for the tearing down of strongholds. We are tearing down false arguments and every high-minded thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. We are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Messiah— ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

- Satan's primary weapon is suggestion and strongholds form through entrenched ways of thinking...
- Thoughts → High things → Imaginations → Strongholds
- A Stronghold forms when we give in and do the thing!
- Satan's attack on Chavah in the Garden is this pattern: **Genesis 3:1-6**
- Satan's attack on Yeshua follows this pattern: **Matthew 4:1-11**
- But we've spent time on this one before (The FULL Armor of God).

Ahab as an Example:

1Kings 22:3-12 The king of Israel said to his courtiers, “Do you know that Ramoth-gilead is ours, yet we are still doing nothing to recover it from the hand of the king of Aram?” Then he said to Jehoshaphat, “Will you go with me to battle at Ramot-gilead?” Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “I am as you are, my people as your people, my horses as your horses.” Jehoshaphat said further to the king of Israel, “Please inquire of Adonai for a word first,” So the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about 400 men, and asked them: “Should I march against Ramot-gilead to battle or should I refrain?” They responded, “Go up, for my Lord will deliver it into the hand of the king.” But Jehoshaphat said: “Is there no longer a prophet of Adonai here that we may inquire of Him?” The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Yes, there is still one by whom we may inquire of Adonai—Micaiah son of Imlah—but I hate him, because he never prophesies good concerning me, only evil.” But Jehoshaphat said, “May the king not say so!” So the king of Israel summoned one of his eunuchs and said, “Bring Micaiah son of Imlah quickly.” Now the king of Israel and King Jehoshaphat of Judah were sitting each on his throne, arrayed in their robes, at a threshing-floor at the entrance of Samaria’s gate. All the prophets were prophesying before them. Now Zedekiah son of Chenaanah made himself horns of iron and said, “Thus says Adonai: ‘With these you will gore the Arameans until they are consumed!’” Then all the prophets were prophesying so, saying, “Go up to Ramot-gilead and triumph! For Adonai will deliver it into the hand of the king!”

Ahab as an Example:

1Kings 22:13-18 Meanwhile the messenger that went to summon Micaiah spoke to him saying, “Behold now, the words of the prophets are uniformly declaring favor to the king. So please let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably.” But Micaiah said, “As Adonai lives, what Adonai says to me, that will I speak.” Now when he came to the king, the king asked him, “Micaiah, should we march to Ramot-gilead in battle or should we refrain?” “March and triumph!” he answered, “and Adonai will give it into the hand of the king.” But the king said to him, “How many times must I make you swear to speak to me nothing but the truth in the Name of Adonai?” Then he said, “I saw all Israel scattered on the hills, as sheep without a shepherd. Then Adonai said, ‘These have no master; let each of them return home in peace.’” And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “Didn’t I tell you that he wouldn’t prophesy good concerning me, only evil?”

- The next part is also announced in the presence of Ahab & Jehosaphat:

Ahab as an Example:

1Kings 22:19-25 Micaiah then continued, “Therefore hear the word of Adonai. I saw Adonai sitting on His throne, with all the hosts of heaven standing by Him on His right hand and on His left. Then Adonai said, ‘Who will entice Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ One suggested this and another that, until a certain spirit came forward and stood before Adonai and said, ‘I will entice him.’ So Adonai asked him, ‘How?’ And he said: ‘I will go and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ Then He said: ‘You shall entice him and shall prevail also—go and do so.’ Now therefore, behold, Adonai has put a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and Adonai has decreed evil upon you.” Then Zedekiah son of Chenaanah approached Micaiah, struck him on the cheek and said, “Which way did the Ruach Adonai pass from me to speak to you?” Micaiah replied, “Behold, you will see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide.”

Ahab as an Example:

- We see how a lying spirit can steer outcomes through multiplied voices and reinforced deception.
- Ahab continually did not obey God. He was living in rebellion to God and the protection of the covenant. **1Kings 21:20-21, 21:25-26**
- Started with a THOUGHT: **1Kings 22:3**
- Ahab continually opened himself up to demonic influence.
- Ahab thought he could continually ignore Gods word through Micaiah like he did in the past (He always prophecies bad things for me). *“I always ignore him”*
- His ways of thinking led him & Israel into destructive behavior.
- This time, its finally over! Ahab had a clear choice and rebelled. His life was a STONGHOLD of sin.

Deception:

- **The enemy relies on multiple voices, constant influence, repetition of lies and popularity to seem dominant!**
- **The righteous are often shouted down, shut down, cast aside, ignored and often imprisoned (Like Micaiah, Paul etc...)**
- **Especially in public places or in influential places (Government)**
- **The reason this is the enemies method, is because it doesn't have the ability to stand on its own! They need to "gang up".**
- **Even though it always feels like the enemy is stronger and winning, we know that in the end rebellion leads to destruction:**

Gods Word Prevails:

1Kings 22:29-36 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah marched to Ramot-gilead. Then the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself and go into the battle, but you, put on your robes.” So the king of Israel disguised himself and went into the battle. Now the king of Aram had commanded his 32 chariot commanders saying, “Do no single combat with anyone, small or great—except the king of Israel.” So when the chariot commanders saw Jehoshaphat, they said, “He must be the king of Israel!” and they turned aside to do combat with him, but Jehoshaphat cried out. When the captains of the chariots realized that he was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him. But a man drew his bow aimlessly and struck the king of Israel between the lower armor and the breastplate. Then he said to the driver of his chariot, “Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I’m wounded.” The battle raged that day, and the king remained propped up in his chariot facing the Arameans. But he died at evening—and the blood ran out of the wound into the bottom of the chariot. As the sun was setting, a shout went throughout the army, saying, “Each man to his town, and each man to his land!”

- He thought he could “outthink” Gods word through Micaiah.
- **Exodus 23:2a** “*Do not follow a crowd to do evil...*” (yeah, Jehoshaphat. Don’t join the wicked, it removes your covering!)

Gods Word Prevails:

- A prophecy about Ahabs Death from Elijah (Not from Micaiah).
- Context is Jezebel murders Naboth and convinces Ahab to take his vineyard (**1Kings 21:1-16**):

1Kings 21:17-19 Then the word of the Adonai came to Elijah the Tishbite saying: “Arise, go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who is in Samaria. Behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth where he has gone down to take possession of it. You shall speak to him saying, ‘Thus says Adonai: Have you murdered and then taken possession?’ You shall also speak to him saying, ‘Thus says Adonai: In the same place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick your blood too.’”

1Kings 22:37-38 So the king died, and was brought to Samaria; and they buried the king in Samaria. Then they washed the chariot at the pool of Samaria where the harlots washed and the dogs licked up his blood—just as was the word of Adonai that He had spoken.

The Power of Deception:

- Ahab was deceived in his mind, consulting with demonic lying spirits. Similar to Saul's situation, both end with involving demonic "mediums". (Reprobate mind).
- Both come under the penalty of **Leviticus 20:6**.
- One lying Spirit was able to influence an entire group! (400)
- Which in turn directed Kings and entire Army, leading to war
- This disaster originated in the realm of thoughts.
- You have to learn to resist in your thought life, and to win this battle you cannot be silent!
- Respond with Spirit led/directed scripture (**Mat 4, Luke 4**).

The Power of Gods Word:

- You never see Yeshua running around or panicking. When God speaks, we don't get the bugle of the cavalry on their way, or an angel choir "singing Halleluyah"...

1Kings 19:11-13 Then He said, "Come out and stand on the mount before Adonai." Behold, Adonai was passing by—a great and mighty wind was tearing at the mountains and shattering cliffs before Adonai. But Adonai was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but Adonai was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake a fire, but Adonai was not in the fire. After the fire there was a soft whisper of a voice. As soon as Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle, went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then all of a sudden, a voice addressed him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

- Then God gives him instructions...

Power in Gods Word

- Those who follow Messiah, must learn to discern thoughts, take stock of them, and ask *“is this a thought from God or not?”*
- The only way to discern is to understand the ways of God.
- Satan offered Yeshua a “short cut” at the very beginning of His ministry: **Matthew 4:6** *“If You are Ben-Elohim,”* he said, *“throw Yourself down. For it is written, ‘He shall command His angels concerning you,’ and ‘upon their hands they shall lift you up, so that you may not strike your foot against a stone.’”*
- The leaders in the Temple would have witnessed the angels, instant validation. But it wasn’t the appropriate thing for the appropriate time.
 - *“Don’t tempt the Lord your God”* – Don’t put yourself in harms way to prove your faith! You can’t expect protection when you do that.

God's ways are true

Exodus 33:13 Now then, I pray, if I have found grace in Your eyes, show me Your ways, so that I may know You, so that I might find favor in Your sight. Consider also that this nation is Your people.”

- **When you know the ways of God you can reject demonic thoughts much easier and more quickly.**

Psalm 37:23-24 From Adonai a man's steps are made firm, when He delights in his way. Though he stumble, he will not fall headlong, for Adonai is holding his hand.

Proverbs 16:9 The heart of man plans his course, but Adonai directs his steps.

How God Calls:

- You get to where God wants you to be through a series of many steps, not just one. No giant leaps of faith, just steps.

Genesis 12:9 Abram pulled up camp, continually journeying toward the Negev.

- The Hebrew behind “journeyed” is:
 - **וַיַּסֵּעַ** vayissa from the root **נָסַע** nasa
 - This word means:
 - To pull up tent pegs, to break camp, to set out, to journey in stages
 - Step by step, stage by stage, progressively, sustainably
 - Away from familiar territory, into the unknown
 - Received the promise immediately, inherited it progressively

Easy Steps, the Lord is holding you...

- Don't put pressure on yourself to fulfill Gods promises or calling all at once or instantaneously.
- We get into trouble by trying to do it all at once.
- It may not happen the way we think or imagine it to be, wrong patterns of thinking can lead to failure, fear and strongholds.
- Intended to keep you from walking in the fullness of Gods calling.
- Whether we imagine fear, greed, power, lust etc.. It's intended purpose is to steal from you, kill you or destroy you.

Darkness targets the imagination

- The thoughts that the enemy floats you are intended to take root in your imagination “*We are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Messiah*”

Gen 3:5 For God knows that when you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

- The powers of darkness target the imagination, not because imagination is evil, but because it’s powerful.
- God gave imagination for vision, planning, and hope!
- Satan tries to hijack it to produce fear, dread, and a settled stronghold of negative expectation.
- Fear-driven mental pictures are a primary way the enemy “gets a place” in our thinking...

The enemy uses Fear

- 1John 4:18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and the one who fears has not been made perfect in love.
- 2Timothy 1:7** For God has not given us a spirit of timidity but of power and love and self-discipline.
- Fear is not from God, He doesn't use it on His people. It's not one of His tools. If fear is involved, it's the fingerprints of the enemy.
- 2Corinthians 10:3-4** For though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly but powerful through God for the tearing down of strongholds. We are tearing down false arguments
- Not natural weapons, but they have an incredible effect on this natural world! God created the natural world through faith, and a spoken Word. Faith released through words will change situations!

The enemy uses Fear

- It's important that you (submitted to God) control your imagination and not the enemy!
- If the enemy controls your imagination, it will be dreadful. It's a picture of where the enemy wants to take you. He'll paint vivid outcomes – FEAR. Torment.
- If Satan could achieve this himself, he would just do it. But he can't because he's powerless! He must resort to thoughts, suggestions and imagination. It only works when we let it.
- His goal is for you to speak the fear or the imagination, only then he has permission to work.

Ephesians 4:27 nor give the devil a foothold.

Thoughts → Imagination → Action → Stronghold

Trials & Lawsuits

1Peter 5:8 Stay sober, stay alert! Your enemy, the Adversary, stalks about like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

- **Stay sober (Body/Soul/Spirit) Psalm 19:8**
- **Stay alert (Body/Soul/Spirit)**
- **Adversary (opponent in a lawsuit)**
 - **You are the one responsible for stopping him from occupying (mind) something that doesn't belong to him.**
 - **The adversary only has the power to bring a trial or lawsuit against you. (Job as an example).**

When on Trial...

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, for reproof, for restoration, and for training in righteousness, so that the person belonging to God may be capable, fully equipped for every good deed.

- **The Greek phrase is: πρὸς ἔλεγμόν (pros elegmon)**
 - Exposing error
 - Bringing conviction
 - Proving someone wrong
 - Revealing guilt or fault
 - Corrective evidence
- **It is stronger than simple criticism. The emphasis is on truth exposing what is false.**
- **How do we present evidence? Gods Word! (All Scripture).**

Don't give the devil permission

▪ Satan's primary strategy is intimidation and permission—he “roars” to provoke agreement, but believers resist with spoken Word as proof against his accusations (**1 Pet 5:8; 2 Tim 3:16**).

▪ “He walks about” No particular target, anyone who will give him permission. “***seeking whom he may devour***” – KJV

▪ Lastly “***the devil prowls around***” He walks and Stalks...

Zechariah 4:10 For who despises the day of small things? These seven—which are the eyes of Adonai that run back and forth throughout the whole earth—will rejoice when they see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand.”

2Ch 16:9 For the eyes of Adonai range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose heart keeps covenant with Him. You have acted foolishly in this matter. Indeed, from now on you will have wars.”

▪ Satan prowls, God runs. He'll support you if you trust Him to do it.

Satan's Calling Card – Fear!

2Corinthians 11:13-15 For such men are false emissaries, deceitful workers masquerading as Messiah's emissaries. And no wonder, for even satan masquerades as an angel of light. It is no great thing therefore if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be according to their deeds.

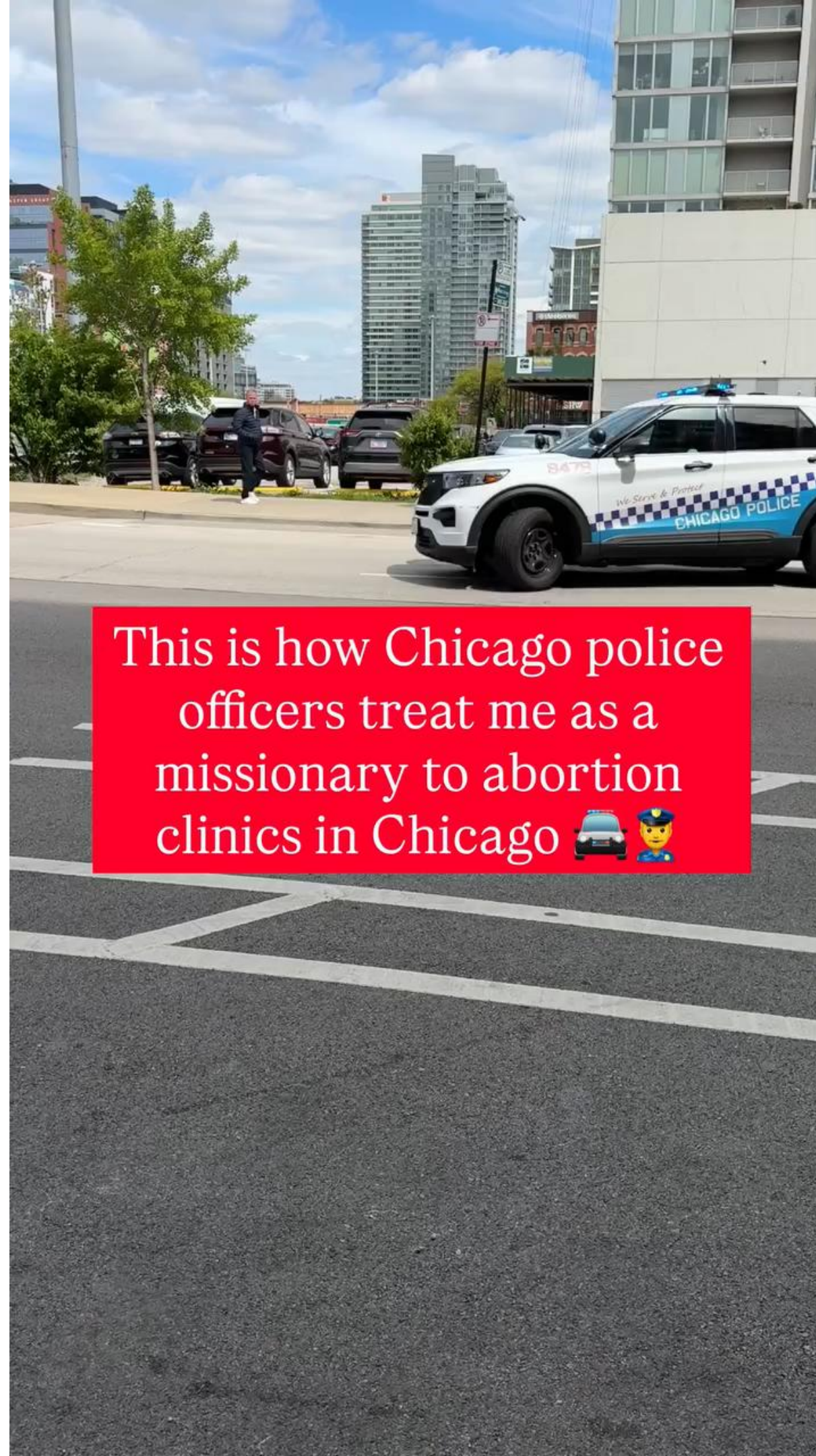
- **He loves to make you think it's the Lord talking, even through others. But everything he touches stinks of fear!**
- **How do you know you're near a skunk? You can smell it, the closer you are the stronger it gets.**
- **Fear is that smell, its his calling card...**

Satan's Calling Card – Fear!

- When fear shows up in your life through your mind or your emotions, you know who is involved and it isn't the Lord.

2Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and love and self-discipline.

**Warfare in action
– Keeping the
enemy in check!**



This is how Chicago police officers treat me as a missionary to abortion clinics in Chicago 🚓👮



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T A B E R N A C L E

PROVERBS 3:18

Relational Authority

Part Four

Questions & Comments!