

*Tabernacle of David*  
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*Destiny Thieves*

I'm sure you have been told, *"You have a Destiny."* The Bible calls it *"An expected end."* You can possess the courage, strength and determination to reach it, *but understand this!*

There is an enemy who has a plan of destruction. He is a thief who will use any means necessary to snatch it away from you. He desires to steal your destiny and will work overtime to do it. *John 10:10. (NLT) The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.* The enemy's job description is found in *Daniel 7:25 (WV) "he shall wear out the saints!"*

*But you can win!* How? By relentlessly seeking God for your life your family and your destiny! By being aware of the strategies of the enemy and knowing your opponent!

You have recently learned about the revenge of Absalom on Amnon. He was determined to avenge the rape of his sister Tamar. That may have been a good thing. What was not a good thing was the spirit Absalom was functioning under. It was the spirit that says, *"I will do this myself, no one can do this as well as I can. I can do it better."* So, I will take it upon myself and handle the situation my way without any thought for others who may be in authority over the situation.

Here is how this Absalom spirit operates. (2 Sam 15:1-31)  
Absalom sat near the gate of the city and looked for people who were discontented or had problems. He would sympathize with them and tell them that if he were the leader it would all be different. Essentially, he sowed disloyalty and stole the hearts of the people away from the one (his father David) that God choose for the position. *What saved David was the "Favor" of God that still shielded him.*) Absalom's plan worked. David's top team members were seduced by this "I can do it better" spirit. Whenever Absalom showed up at the gate, he had at least 50 men run before him.

This spirit will have talent, be bitter, feel entitled to more than God has given and split the business or ministry in a conspiracy after whispering and planting seeds of disloyalty into the heart of those who are discontent, saying "oh that I was the leader."

They are usually false deliverers operating with a counterfeit anointing. Eventually they will cause division and destruction. Absalom was known for taking matters into his own hands. *While Jezebel was a spirit of control, Absalom's spirit was one of superiority, conceit and pride.*

God is offering you a destiny greater than any you have ever dreamed of but be on guard! *Satan is working relentlessly to*

*distract, seduce, and shame you into defeat. You must be strong and of great courage (Joshua) You must not make unholy alliances!*

Satan's plan is to *"lock down"* your life and your destiny. And the most ironic thing is that he will use you to do it.

How? We become chained and imprisoned to the past or to situations and circumstances with no hope of freedom. We carry things like rejection, anger, bitterness and un-forgiveness like security blankets, fearing that if we put them away, we will have nothing.

We make vows and judgements that hinder our peace.

We put our trust in others instead of God.

We continue to believe negative things about ourselves

We give in to demonic oppression!

So, Satan's strategy is to imprison us and lock us down into a confinement that terminates and dismisses our destiny and any increase that God has for us.

Then from *"lock down"* we move to *"hope deferred."*  
*Proverbs 13:12 "Hope deferred makes the heart sick. The enemy does not want you to experience freedom or be birthed into your place of destiny.*

*Hope deferred* is when you feel resistance as you move forward into your destiny. It is kind of like climbing up an icy hill.

You feel pressed on all sides as Satan applies pressure and attempts to keep you down into old patterns of behavior and strongholds. *A stronghold, as used in the Bible, means any fortified place where we are not letting God in to touch that area, teach us and change us.* The enemy will try to keep you from your expected end. *Proverbs 3:12b "But when the promise comes it will be like a tree of life"*

The word "*deferred*" does not simply translate as "*delayed*"; it also means that hope is "*seized*". The enemy is not simply planning to *delay a promise; he desires to seize that promise!*

His desired result is death to promises, dreams, and breakthroughs. *If Satan can steal hope, then he can establish a "death structure" over a person's life.* A death structure is created when the devil "*builds upon*" the past.

In other words, *past pain becomes a foundation upon which the enemy builds. Satan seeks to build upon past failures, disappointments, and weaknesses.*

He then attempts to establish a strategy that becomes a "structure", resulting in the death of vision and cancellation of a destiny. Once the structure is in place, he seeks to gain

illegitimate authority over a life. How can you know if you are under the influence of the Absalom spirit? Here are some examples.

1. *Gossip*: Even the most seasoned Christians fall victim to the spirit of gossip all the time. I'd discovered that very few really understand what gossip really is. Gossip is any discussion about a person or an entity (such as a church, group or business) that the person or leader of the entity would disapprove of.
2. *Right vs. Wrong*: Are you living in the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil by attempting to prove yourself right all the time? Or, are you living in the Tree of Life that results in grace and peace for others?
3. *Seeking Support*: Are you always seeking support for your viewpoint? If you are gathering other people around you who have the same concerns as you, you can know that the same thing happened in the story of Absalom.

If the enemy has gained authority, then he can steal *vision, hope, and destiny*. (*The basis of the 3 stranded Cord*)

*Ecclesiastes 4:12 "Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken."*

When you face trials in your own strength, you will always be tempted to give up. But, when you apply the Word of God to that situation, you learn how to overcome every stronghold. You let God in through the Word and the Holy Spirit because in then you are not alone!

I used Absalom as an example but the Scripture is also full of women who when you look at their lives become a liberating force to set you free and equip you with winning attitudes! They are women of faith, endurance and action. *(They still speak today).*

*Abigail a woman of great Wisdom, Rahab who was willing to take a risk to save her family. Rebecca who accepted the gifts of the Bridegroom. Susanna who turned a tragic life into a life of purpose! and Mary of Bethany the Extravagant worshiper.*

However, there are other women in Scripture *(Who still speak today,)* who are poster children for how we are not to be.

There are three Old Testament women with seducing spirits. Self-centered idol worshipers who together formed this *three-stranded cord* of destruction the enemy still uses against us.

The concept of a threefold cord takes on an entirely new dimension when considering it in the context of spiritual warfare. *We must consider the use of the number three in our warfare against principalities and powers of darkness.*

We know that certain numbers relate to God and His Kingdom, but there are also numbers that relate to the kingdom of darkness. The number three, for example, is a godly number and represents *the Divine Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit*.

On the other hand, there is the cord of three demonic forces. For example, if one were to dream of *three demons*, the dream would be interpreted as a union of forces, a threefold demonic cord that could be difficult to overpower, because it is interaction that gives them great strength.

When we encounter a threefold demonic cord, we can be sure that three different demonic strongholds are working together to bring destruction. *That destructive cord is made up of Jezebel, Athaliah, and Delilah.*

*The "teamwork" of Jezebel, Athaliah, and Delilah together is a threefold plan that seduces us to be controlling, self-centered and manipulative leading us directly into a pattern of destruction.*

When strong demonic forces oppose a breakthrough, it is increasingly wearisome to remain steady. *You must know who you are in Christ, know the truth of the Word, and allow it to overcome the opposition so it can set you free.*

*Jezebel the ruler spirit.* She controls through flattery and false prophecy. She attracts the weak and co-dependent. She operates in confusion, promotes idolatry and dislikes authority. The demonic forces of *Athaliah and Delilah* team up with her to oppose us. *Jezebel would be in charge, with the other two co-laboring to carry out her strategy.*

Remember, in Revelation, Jesus rebuked the church at Thyatira for tolerating Jezebel. He was referring to an evil influence with the same characteristics as Jezebel who seduced Israel to worship idols. Jezebel was a murderer, an idolater, and a seducer. Also, remember we are talking about spirit powers and not particular people!

*The Jezebel spirit is a principality (Our fight is not against flesh and blood but against powers and principalities and rulers in heavenly places.)* because it had found an entrance into an entire city and into the individuals who lived there.

During a Jezebel-type attack we might battle against *control*, (your gifts are not allowed to flow) *manipulation*, (don't let anyone else pray for you) *seductive thoughts*, (The Pastor kept making eye contact with me) *fear or anxiety*. Many times, the Bible reports that people were "*filled with fear*." That describes panic. In panic mode, a person is completely overcome by the fear response.

*Psalm 55:4-8* describes what a panic attack feels like: "*My*



*heart pounds in my chest. The terror of death assaults me. 5 Fear and trembling overwhelm me, and I can't stop shaking. 6 Oh that I had wings like a dove; then I would fly away and rest! 7I would fly far away to the quiet of the wilderness.8 how quickly I would escape, far from this wild storm of hatred.*

Remember Elijah was powerful in God! He had just won a great battle against the gods of baal and yet he ran and hid in a cave when he heard Jezebel was after him.

With Elijah like us, Jezebel's words are intended to seduce and ultimately steal destiny. Intimidating threats take a firm grip on our emotions. The mental torment is so strong that we accept defeat, hopelessness and despair rather than fight. The Word tells us (*Revelation 2:20*) "*But I have this complaint against you. You are permitting that woman, that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet—to lead my servants astray. She teaches them to commit sexual sin and to eat food offered to idols, that we are not to tolerate this type of seduction!*

*Be aware:* The Jezebel spirit has no gender, it always works with an Ahab spirit because it can control and manipulate it. It controls through flattery, false prophecy and idolatry.

When you are the one tempted to operate in a spirit of control, discord, confusion, rebellion or plain insubordination you are operating in the spirit of Jezebel!! When someone in your life

is using these same tactics against you, you need to recognize them and stand up to them or get out from under them.

How do I counteract it? *With the spirit of Jehu*. He was a commander and like him we must command the strongholds to go! He was a conqueror because he brought the spirit of repentance. He was anointed, and he knew it, so he didn't back down.

The principalities and powers of Satan are in view here, beings that they wield power in the unseen realms to oppose everything and everyone that is of God.

*Romans 8:37-39: "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

These verses are about the victory Christ has won over all the forces ranged against us. We are *"more than conquerors"* because no force, not life, not death, not angels, not demons, indeed nothing, can separate us from the love of God. Whether false teachers and prophets or the very demonic entities that empower them. What is clear is that, whoever they are, they cannot separate us from the love of God. Victory is assured.

*It would be unfortunate to dwell on identifying the powers and miss the main thrust of the verse, which is assurance about what God has done to save us.*

*Athaliah ~ Blind ambition N destroying the seeds of a generation (2 Kings 11) Was Jezebel's daughter. She was twice as vicious and more determined to destroy the anointed of God than her mother. She would kill, steal and destroy to get her way. She was married to King Jehoram, king of Judah and upon his death she actually murdered all of her children and grandchildren so that she would be queen.*

She was ruled by Jealousy, bitterness, anger, pride. She was violently aggressive. But God always has a plan. A maid servant took her youngest son and hid him for seven years until he was old enough to be king. When he came forth to claim what was his, she called it treason and betrayal, because *the spirit of Athaliah will always accuse others of acts she is committing.*

She inherited a hatred for authority. She was determined to gain control at any cost. Watch for these subtle characteristics in yourself or those who have access to your life. Bitterness, anger, pride, aggression, self-centeredness and seducing spirits! You overcome these strongholds with the anointing that breaks every yolk of bondage! *Because of God's covenant promises neither you or your seed will be destroyed!*

*Delilah an unholy alliance~* Betrayal was her strong suit. She would betray anyone to get what she wanted and what she wanted was wealth! The most seducing of the three took money from the Philistines to betray Samson. They paid her to find out where his strength came from. And although he held out for a while he finally gave in and told her he was a Nazarene and had taken a Nazerite vow and his strength was in not cutting his hair. When he was asleep, she cut seven locks of his hair which took all of his strength. Delilah tried three times to seduce Samson; on the fourth attempt, he experienced the lock down.

The wise course of action would have been for Samson to leave Delilah, rather than tell her the truth. He surely must have known that she would betray him, but his feelings for her proved stronger than wisdom. Samson did not leave her; in fact, he fell asleep with his head in her lap, and the inevitable occurred.

(On whose lap, do you place your head? Not everyone who says friend is a friend!) Delilah betrayed him, allowing the Philistines to bind him, gouge out his eyes, and take him away as a slave (*Judges 16:18-21*). All this she did for a quantity of silver promised her from the Philistines (*Judges 16:5*). Delilah, the original femme fatale, illustrates the truth of *1 Timothy 6:10*, "*The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.*"

We might look at Samson and his infatuation with Delilah, and consider him gullible, even stupid. His lust for Delilah blinded him to her lies and her true nature. He wanted so badly to believe she loved him, that he repeatedly fell for her deceptive ways.

After the third attempt at luring out his secret, why didn't Samson catch on? By the fourth enticement, he crumbled. He gave in. Why didn't he learn? Why did he give into *temptation* and give up his treasured gift?

*Because Samson is just like you and I when we give ourselves over to "Forbidden Fruit". In this state, we can easily be deceived because the truth becomes impossible to see.*

The good news is, that when the enemy is planning a lock down, there is a God who is planning a breakout. Because, it is our destiny to be fruitful and to multiply! To break out into an enlarged area. To see what the Lord has planned for you:

Satan is not an original but will continue to copycat all that God establishes. He has his own structure of "organized crimes" set against God and His church.

We do not live in "normal" times, but "subnormal." We cannot rely totally on previous revelation, therefore, are more compelled to press for fresh insight and godly instruction.

Prayer strategies and godly direction overthrow its power. All three spirits are seductive, they rob our freedom, strength and finances, and they lock us into religious structures that block our break through's.

*God's excellent way* - to gain victory over the threefold cord, we must first understand the devil has powers, but none are a match for Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Satan has his threefold cord, but so does God! *He is a threefold cord all by Himself, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.* The number three represents completion, and His threefold dimension is the completion of who He is. He is divine perfection and in Him we are made perfect.

Satan's influence through the demonic powers of Jezebel, Athaliah, and Delilah attempts to seduce us from experiencing the full measure of God's glory. The purpose of the enemy is to seduce us with doubt, unbelief, and disunity with the Father's plans.

*The "more excellent way" is to remain in complete unity with the Father's heart and plan for our lives. The more excellent way is a journey of completion and experiencing His glory. God is a threefold cord of power and glory and encompasses all that heaven desires to release to us.*

Spiritual discernment is always the key to gaining revelation. Revelation involves the revealing of "*secret things*." As we gain deeper revelation, Satan attempts to twist our understanding, and therefore we can easily open doors to the "Spooky spiritual." God is the revealer of mysteries, but He is not always mysterious.

The Lord is releasing increased understanding and revelation concerning the day and hour in which we live. Understanding the promises will cause us to better recognize and encourage us that we are not here by mistake.

*2 Peter 1:4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.* This is my season to dethrone Satan from every area of my life!! In the mighty name of Jesus Christ, AMEN!