

THE TUG OF WAR

BETWEEN THE NEW LIFE AND THE OLD LIFE

INTRODUCTION:

So now you are Born Again (BA), you have this NEW Life, this NEW Perspective, this NEW Outlook. And you may not be able to put exactly into words this NEW-Found Experience with God.

But it is Real! And you Know that you Know something indeed ^{definitely/truly} has happen to you on the Inside and it's Exciting, it's Fresh its Undeniable!

Yet you find yourself at times, in what I can only describe as this Internal **Tug of War** between your *New Life* in God and your *Old Life* in the world.

This is not a made up neither is it an illusion, this is an actual tangible struggle that you can now sense, between two (2) very real Spiritual Kingdoms.

It's not imaginary or fictitious, it is Indisputably REAL!

I. YOU BELONG TO A KINGDOM...

Every person in this world belongs to one of these Kingdoms. There is **no in between**, we are in one or we are in the other.

Jesus put it this way...

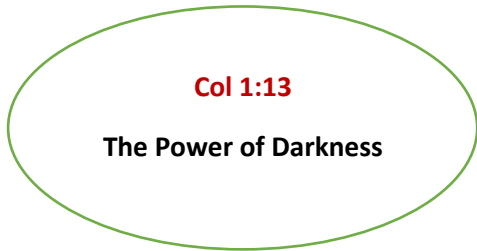
Mat 6:24 No One can Serve two masters (kingdoms). For either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will *Hold* to the one and *Despise* the other. You CANNOT Serve God and mammon. MKJV

Mat 4:10 ... For it is written, "You shall worship *the* Lord your God, and Him ONLY you shall Serve! MKJV

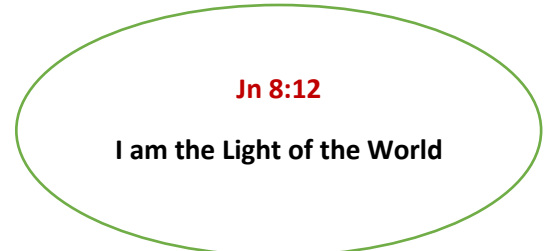
A. What are those, Kingdoms?

The Kingdom of Darkness and the Kingdom of Light.

SATAN
Kingdom of Darkness




JESUS
Kingdom of Light



Col 1:13 For He has Delivered us from the Power of Darkness and has Translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son; MKJV

Jesus is the Light of this World – **satan** is the Darkness of this World!

- B.** The Truth of the Matter is that All of us have been, and some of us are still, in the Kingdom of Darkness.
- a.** All of us “*have gone astray*”, every one of us have turned our Face from God, to do our own things to follow our own ways **Isa 53:6**.
 - b.** **Gal 3:11** tells us very concisely – **Now it is** Obvious **that** No One is Justified **in the** Sight of God **by the Law....**
- C.** Listen to what **Eph 2:2** says... **Walked, Following** the Course of this World, **Following** the Prince of the Power of the Air, the spirit that is **Now** at work **in the sons of Disobedience** — ESV

 Ladies & Gentlemen, whether you realized it or not, Before you were Born Again (**BA**), you were in the Grip/Pull of the Prince of Darkness, and you did his Command at his urging, as he desired it!

- 1.** Before being **BA**, We **Followed the Course of this World!**
We lived the Lifestyle of the World! We were Captivated by its Trends and its Interest.

- We Looked, Thought, Talked, Acted, we even Smelled like the World...

a. We didn't know any better because we were Still DEAD in our Sins.

Trapped in this Vacuum of Darkness

 But NOW we are ALIVE in Christ Jesus ^ and Old things have passed away, All things **have become** New **2Co 5:17!**

II. THE CONTRAST & PARRALLELS WITH GOD...

Eph 2:2 says we use to... **Follow** the Prince of the Power of the Air!

A. Satan emulates God anywhere he can. He loves to Model himself after God.

1. The Holy Bible teaches us to Follow the HOLY SPIRIT. Interestingly, satan being the “Unholy spirit”, wants us to follow him.

a. **Rom 8:14** For as many as are “**Led**” by *the Spirit of God*, **they** are the **sons of God**.

b. **Eph 2:2** Teaches us that the devil, the Unholy spirit... “**is** Now at Work **in the sons of Disobedience**.”

2. The Scriptures teach us that when We live our lives by the Leading of the Holy Spirit, we will not gratify the cravings and the desires of the flesh.

a. **Gal 5:16** As you **Yield freely** and **fully** to the dynamic life and Power of **the Holy Spirit**, you will **Abandon** the cravings of your self-life. TPT

b. **Eph 2:3** among whom we **all once lived** in the **passions** of our flesh, carrying out the **desires** of the body and the mind, and were by nature **children of wrath**, like the rest of mankind. ESV

3. The devil would like to **Work** his “Will” in our lives just like God wants to Work His “**Will**” in our Lives!

a. Jesus, our pattern – our example came to do the “**Will**” of the Father.

1) **Jn 5:30** ... **I do not seek My own will, but the Will of *the* Father who has sent Me.** MKJV

✚ Like Jesus, we should be seeking to Do **the Will of *the* Father**, and not our Own “will”.

2) Listen closely to what Jesus said:

Mat 7:21 “Not Everyone **who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but The One who does the Will of my Father who is in heaven.”**

b. The Bible is clear, it says... **The *spirit*** that is ***Now* at work!**
What is that “Unholy spirit”, right now Working?

1) **2Ti 2:26** and they **may come to their Senses and escape from the Snare of the devil, after being** captured by him to Do his WILL.

✚ He is wanting to Work Out his “will” in people’s life just like God wants to work in our Lives His Good, Acceptable and Perfect “Will” **Rom 12:2!**

✚ Satan’s will is to ***Kill, Steal and Destroy*** **Jn 10:10** what is that ***Good, Acceptable and Perfect “Will” of God*** for your Life **Rom 12:2.**

2) Satan would like to carry out his will through us like Jesus carried out the Will of the Father.

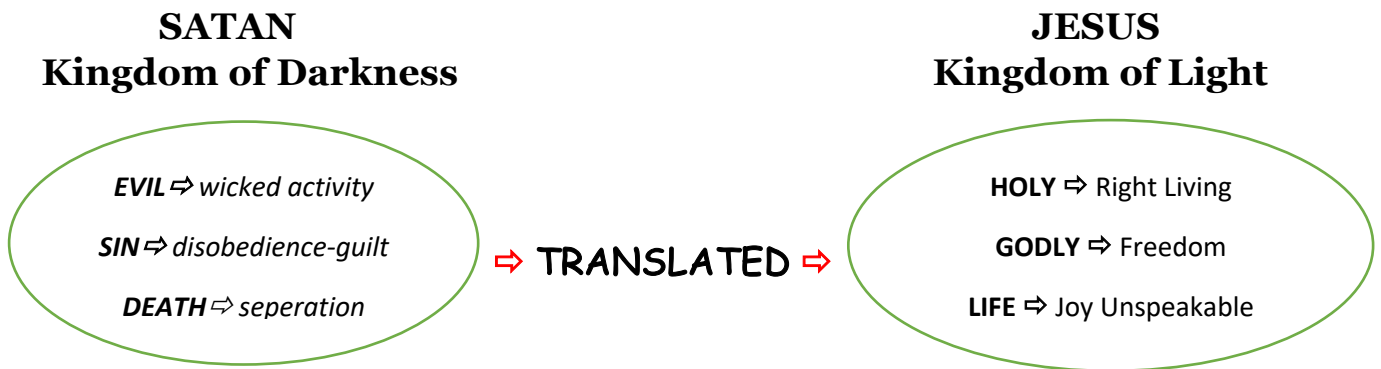
✚ The greatest compliment you can give satan, is to DO for him what you should be DOING for Jesus!

III. DELIVERED FROM - TRANSLATED TO...

Col 1:13 For He has Delivered us from the Power of Darkness and has Translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son; MKJV

A. There is only One Way to Escape from the Kingdome of Darkness and enter into the Kingdom of Light and that Way is through - Jesus!

Only Jesus can **DELIVER** you from the Grip/Pull of the Power of Darkness!



Col 1:13 For He has Delivered us from the Power of Darkness and has Translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son; MKJV

B. Notice **V13** says “He has **Delivered** us”! Without **Deliverance** there is NO Escape!

DELIVER – 4506 *ῥύομαι, rhyomai*: To snatch from danger, rescue, deliver ws.

The scholar Mounce, gives us a word picture by saying - to be drag out of danger...

C. You can't fully appreciate and value the *Work of the Cross* and what you have been Delivered ~ Rescued from unless you know what the DANGER was!

1. Without Jesus Rescuing you, You would have forever been Slave in the Kingdom of Darkness.

2. We have been Rescued from... ❶ *Evil of Darkness* with its wicked activity.
❷ Rescued from the *Slavery of Sin* with its rebellious disobedience and
consequences. ❸ *Eternal Death*, the misery of an eternal separation from
ALL the Good of God!

D. To this end, we were Destined! But now we have been Snatched, Pull Out,
TRANSLATED into the Kingdom of Light, the Kingdom of His Son,
JESUS the Christ!

Joh 12:46 I have come *as* a Light into the world, so that whoever believes
on Me should not remain in darkness.