

The background of the slide features a faint, light-colored illustration of two fencers in a sparring stance. One fencer is on the left, leaning forward with arms extended, while the other is on the right, also in a dynamic pose. The overall aesthetic is clean and minimalist, with the text overlaid on this background.

# EN GARDE!

## A STUDY OF UNSEEN FORCES AT WORK IN OUR WORLD

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Lesson 2

# VERSE FOR THE JOURNEY

- **Ephesians 6:10-13** Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.
- Struggle: *pale:* to wrestle; a close quarters combat
- Resist: *anthistemi:* withstand while opposing
- Stand: *histemi:* make a stand; be established

# RECOGNIZING THE ENEMY

- **1 Timothy 4:1-2** But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron...
- **Deceitful:** *planos*: seducing by imposter or deceiver
- **Doctrines:** *didaskalia*: teachings or instructions
- The more wicked/evil people become, the more open and obvious demonic activity will be
- **Our job is to identify the lies and stand against them**  
**Satan wants believers to be ignorant, and misinformed. He doesn't want us to know that there is a war. If we learn that there is, he wants us to be afraid.**

# RECONNAISSANCE

- **John 8:31-36** So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, **"If** you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, 'You will become free'?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."
- **PROBLEM #1:** they didn't realize that they were in slavery to sin; therefore they saw no need for a savior

# GATHERING INFORMATION

- Once you realize that you have a problem, you have to seek a solution: Jesus is the solution
- Once you are saved, Satan can't "undo" your salvation, but he will try to make you powerless and useless
- Because it is warfare, we need to know:
  - who the enemy is
  - where the enemy is/can go
  - what weapons the enemy uses
  - how we can defend against him
- Enemy isn't a person – but can possess or use people
- The enemy has deceptive power over the entire earth
- The enemy uses lies, deception, and physical tactics
- God has given us what we need to defend ourselves

# THE GARDEN OF EDEN

- The serpent: questioning God's instructions/results
- Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, boastful pride of life
- **Revelation 12:9**...the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- **Isaiah 14:13-14** "But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north. 'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'
- Satan wanted God's place; he clearly fell before he tempted Eve

# IT LOOKS LIKE PEOPLE

- **Ezekiel 28:1-2** The word of the LORD came again to me, saying, "Son of man, say to the leader of Tyre, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because your heart is lifted up and you have said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods in the heart of the seas'; Yet you are a **man** and not God although you make your heart like the heart of God—
- **Ezekiel 28:11-13,14** Again the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "You had the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering...You were the anointed **cherub** who covers, and I placed you *there*. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire.

# WHERE DID DEMONS COME FROM?

- **Colossians 1:15-17** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.
- Our creation story in Genesis doesn't mention the creation of angels
- **Job 38:4-7** "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell *Me*, if you have understanding, who set its measurements? Since you know. Or who stretched the line on it? On what were its bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"



# WHAT ABOUT UNCLEAN SPIRITS?

- **Matthew 12:43** “Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and does not find *it*.”
- **Matthew 12:22** Then a demon-possessed man *who was* blind and mute was brought to Jesus, and He healed him, so that the mute man spoke and saw.
- **Revelation 12:4** And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. The dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.
- It seems that, when Satan fell, he took a third of the angels with him
- And they continued the rebellion that Satan started
- Where are those fallen angels now?

# A GLIMPSE OF HELL

- **Jude 1:6-7**...angels who did not keep their own domain but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day, just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.
- **2 Peter 2:4-6** For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly; and *if* He condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to destruction by reducing *them* to ashes...

# ABOUT THE ABYSS

- **Luke 8:30-31** And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. They were imploring Him not to command them to go away into the abyss.
- **Revelation 9:1-2** Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him. He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit.
- **Revelation 9:11** They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.
- **Abaddon** and **Apollyon** both mean "destroyer"

# SALVATION FOR FALLEN ANGELS?

- **Matthew 25:41** “Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;”
- God's plan for salvation in never mentions salvation for fallen angels
- At this point, Satan must know that he can't win
- But he will fight to keep as many people as possible under his control: in the end using a false trinity
- **Revelation 20:10** And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.