

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

JoLynn Gower

Spring 2020

217-493-6151

[jgower@guardingthetruth.org](mailto:jgower@guardingthetruth.org)

Lesson 4

# 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

# OUR POSITION IN CHRIST

- **2 Corinthians 4:5-6** For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.
- The Jews were about seeing God's light
- The Greeks were all about knowledge
- The Romans were all about glory
- All of what everyone was seeking is present in Christ
- **1 Timothy 1:15** It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost *of all*.

# IN GENESIS

- Adam and Eve both sinned
- **Genesis 3:12-13** The man said, "The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate. Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."
- **1 Timothy 2:14** And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.
- Having been deceived was considered an unintentional sin under the Law, when the Law was later given
- God always cares about whether you know the right thing to do; Eve believe the lie Satan told; Adam apparently did not

# DEFINING SIN

- **James 4:17** Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.
- This definition includes things **you did** that you should not have done
- This definition includes things **you did not do** that you should have done
- Under the Law, Eve's sin would have been considered unintentional because she did it while deceived
- **Hebrews 9:6-7** Now when these things have been so prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship, but into the second, only the high priest *enters* once a year, not without *taking* blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in **ignorance.**

# ADAM'S SIN NOT IN IGNORANCE

- Adam had been created in the image of God
- **Genesis 1:27** God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- Although both sinned, the nature of their sins was different; Adam's would not be atoned for by the Law
- **Genesis 5:3** When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of *a son* in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.
- **Galatians 3:21-22** For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on law. But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

# AN OLD TESTAMENT TYPES

- The sacrificial system in the OT look forward to the perfect sacrifice when Jesus came
- **Hebrews 9:11-14** But when Christ appeared *as* a high priest of the good things to come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

# BREAKING IT DOWN

- After Adam, everyone born of the seed of man is born with original sin imputed to his/her image; the Law didn't fix this; Jesus calls this "slavery to sin"
- **Romans 6:6** ...knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be **slaves** to sin;
- **John 8:34** Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the **slave of sin**."
- **HUMANS HAD BECOME ENSLAVED TO SIN**  
**Genesis 1:28** God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."



# RULER OF THIS WORLD

- Adam and Eve were to rule over Earth under God's headship; Satan usurped headship of earth
- **John 12:31** "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."
- **HEADSHIP OVER THE EARTH HAD BEEN LOST**
- As God had said, death had entered mankind; no one could go to the presence of God at death because of sin
- **GOD WAS A HUSBAND TO HIS PEOPLE, HE HAD NO HEIRS**
- Satan had effectively murdered all mankind
- **John 8:44** "You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a **murderer from the beginning**, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him."

# SUMMARIZING

- People were enslaved to sin
- People had lost control of their land (Earth)
- God had no heirs
- Satan had murdered people
- LAW OF KINSMAN REDEEMER ADDRESSED THESE ISSUES
- THE LAW DIDN'T WORK FOR US BECAUSE WE HAD NO ELIGIBLE REDEEMER
- A kinsman redeemer had to be a blood relative
- A kinsman redeemer had to be willing to redeem
- A kinsman redeemer had to be **able** to redeem; a person in slavery who can't even redeem himself cannot redeem someone else
- We became enslaved by being born of Adam's seed

# OUR NEED

- A willing blood relative who was not born of the seed of man
- **Hebrews 2:14** Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil...
- **Matthew 1:20** But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.
- JESUS IS UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO BE OUR KINSMAN REDEEMER
- What people lost has been partially restored; Jesus paid the price for total restoration

# OUR POSITION IN CHRIST

1. He has freed us from bondage to sin; we are no longer slaves; we are redeemed (soul and spirit)  
There is a future redemption of our bodies (the rapture); this completes our adoption as sons  
➤ **Romans 8:23** And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.
2. He has paid the price for the redemption of the earth but the deed is sealed awaiting a future opening  
➤ **Revelation 5:1-2** I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?"

# OUR POSITION IN CHRIST (2)

3. The Kinsman Redeemer married the woman who had no heirs and produced heirs for the original husband
- This is why the church is pictured as the bride of Christ; a marriage is coming after the rapture
  - **Revelation 19:7-9** "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

# OUR POSITION IN CHRIST (3)

- The kinsman redeemer was the guiltless executioner of the murderer of his kinsmen
- **Revelation 20:10, 14** 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...Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.
- **JESUS HAS PAID THE PRICE FOR EVERYTHING NEEDED TO MAKE RESTORATION**
- Now, we are redeemed soul and spirit, not yet redeemed bodily, but in covenant relationship
- **Luke 22:20** And in the same way *He took* the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.

# BENEFITS OF COVENANT

Because we are in covenant  
with Christ, we have  
the armor and weaponry  
that we need to fight the enemy