

“WHEN DARKNESS IS FOUND IN YOUR LIGHT”

[of timber] that is in your own eye? V42, Or how can you say to your brother, Brother, allow me to take out the speck that is in your eye, when you yourself do not see the beam that is in your own eye? You actor (pretender, hypocrite)! First take the beam out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye. V43, For there is no good (healthy) tree that bears decayed (worthless, stale fruit, nor on the other hand does a decayed (worthless, sickly) tree bear good fruit. V44, For each tree is known and identified by its own fruit; for figs are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor is a cluster of grapes picked from a bramble bush.

{LESSON NUMBER 4} {7/11/2009}

“BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND – PLACE OF THE SKULL”

PART II

“PREPARING FOR BATTLE”

- IV. Lets take a look at the preparation for the battle in the soul (mind) before spiritual warfare is to be undertaken.
- A. Please remember that Jesus was crucified on Golgotha which meant, *“place of the skull.”*
1. If we as disciples are to be effective in spiritual warfare, we must learn to war the enemy in the battleground of the mind; i.e., the “place of the skull.”
 2. The mind or territory of the carnal Christian is a haven for uncrucified thoughts, and is a “beachhead” for satanic assault in their lives.
 - a. The root for all uncrucified thoughts is the carnal mind, often found in Christians that are full of untested idealism.
 - b. Remember, idealism is envisioning the thought in the idea form, such as a notion or fancy.

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3. The word carnal in the Greek text is sarkikos (sar-kee-kos’), and carries with it the meaning of that which pertains to the flesh.
 - a. The implication of this word is animal, unregenerate, or fleshly.
 - b. Our English definition helps clear up the above Greek definition.
 - c. The English definition of carnal is that which relates to the physical and especially sexual appetites. It also can mean, worldly or earthly.
4. In order that we might understand why the carnal mind is a haven for uncrucified thoughts which in turn causes the mind to become a beachhead for demons, we will need to look at Paul’s teaching .
 - a. In 1Cor. 3:3 Paul was addressing Christians when he said, **“For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”**
 - b. The problem with the carnal mind according to Paul in Rom. 8:6-7 is, **“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. V7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.**
5. Paul reveals the cure for a carnal mind in 2 Cor. 10:3-4; **“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh, V4, for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.”**
 - a. Demonic “strongholds” in the mind are the result of uncrucified thoughts (untested idealism) in a carnal mind.

“THE REALM OF DARKNESS”

- B. In order to continue our study on the battleground of the mind we need to look at Satan’s domain; **“the realm of darkness.”**
1. Many people continue to debate whether Satan’s domain is in hell, the second heaven, or on this earth.

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2. The real fact that they should realize is that the devil is in “darkness” wherever he is found.
3. The book of Jude tells us in verse 6 that the fallen angels are kept **“under darkness.”**
 - a. In Jude 1:6 AMP we read: **“And angels who did not keep (care for, guard, and hold to) their own first place of power but abandoned their proper dwelling place – these He has reserved in custody in eternal chains (bonds) under the thick gloom of utter darkness until the judgment and doom of the great day.”**
 - b. This term “under darkness” does not simply mean “lightless regions” but is essentially a moral darkness which ultimately degenerates to literal darkness.

{LESSON NUMBER 5} {7/19/2009}

“DELIVERED BY LIGHT FROM THE POWER OF DARKNESS”

- V. It is very important for the believer to realize that “darkness” is not limited to Satan and his hierarchy, but also is found in Christians and non Christians alike.
 - A. The advantage the Christian has is that they have been delivered out of the domain or authority of darkness through Jesus and the “new birth.”
 1. Paul makes this clear in Colossians 1:13, **“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.”**
 - a. Thank God, we are not trapped in darkness because we have been “born to light”.
 2. But, if we tolerate darkness through “idea forms” embracing sin in our hearts, we leave ourselves open to demon assault by inviting darkness into our “light” realm.