



SERMON SERIES STUDY GUIDE

Weapons of Your Warfare: Pt. 3- Know your enemy (Pt. 2)

Pastor John Riggs

Summary:

This sermon addresses the spiritual warfare that Christians face in an increasingly morally depraved world. The pastor emphasizes that believers must understand they battle from a position of victory already won in Christ, not from defeat. He explains the nature of our enemy —Satan and his demonic hierarchy—and how spiritual forces manifest in the physical realm through corrupt systems, media, and worldly influences. The message stresses that while the battle is real and intensifying as we approach the end times, Christians have already been given victory through Christ's work on the cross. The sermon calls believers to put on the full armor of God, stand firm in truth, protect their families, and live victoriously regardless of worldly circumstances. The pastor warns against deception, encourages parents to fight for their children's minds and souls, and reminds the congregation that their citizenship is in heaven and their purpose is to be the manifold wisdom of God displayed to principalities and powers.

Video Breakdown:

- Chapter 1: The Intensifying Battle and Our Position of Victory
 - We are introduced to the reality of spiritual warfare and reminded that Christians battle from a position of victory already won in Christ, despite the increasing moral depravity in our world.
- Chapter 2: Satan's Pursuit and Ultimate Demise
 - We examine Satan's relentless pursuit of Israel and believers throughout history, and see from Revelation that his final defeat and eternal torment in the lake of fire is already determined.
- Chapter 3: Understanding Our Enemy: Rulers, Authorities, and Cosmic Powers
 - We examine Ephesians 6 to understand the hierarchy of spiritual forces we wrestle against, including rulers, authorities, cosmic powers of darkness, and spiritual forces operating in both heavenly and earthly realms.
- Chapter 4: Living Victoriously in Christ Despite the Battle
 - We are called to live victoriously in Christ, fighting for our marriages, children, and integrity while standing firm in the truth that Jesus is the only way, regardless of cultural opposition.

Scripture References from the Sermon

Explicitly Mentioned References:

1. Ephesians 6:10-18 - Main text discussing spiritual warfare and the armor of God
2. Revelation 12:13-17 - The dragon pursuing the woman (Israel) and her offspring
3. Revelation 20:1-11 - Satan bound for 1,000 years and his final demise
4. Colossians 2:13-15 - Christ disarming rulers and authorities, canceling our debt
5. Genesis 3 - The seed of the woman crushing the serpent's head
6. Daniel (general reference) - The prince of Persia and spiritual warfare (likely Daniel 10:12-13, 20-21)
7. Ephesians 1-5 - Referenced as context leading up to chapter 6
8. Ephesians 5 - Marriage as a picture of Christ and the church

Alluded to or Indirectly Referenced:

9. Isaiah 14:12-15 - Lucifer's fall and attempt to exalt himself above God
10. Ezekiel 28:12-19 - Description of Lucifer's creation and beauty
11. Matthew 2:16-18 - Herod's killing of children in Bethlehem
12. Matthew 4:1-11 - Satan tempting Jesus in the wilderness
13. Luke 22:39-46 - Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
14. John 10:10 - Satan comes to kill, steal, and destroy
15. John 14:6 - Jesus as the only way to the Father
16. 2 Timothy 1:7 - Spirit of power, love, and sound mind (not fear)
17. James 4:7 - Resist the devil and he will flee
18. Matthew 7:13-14 - Broad road to destruction, narrow path to life
19. Revelation 13 - The Antichrist and the New World Order (alluded to)
20. 1 John 2:15-17 - Do not love the world or the things in the world

Suggested Relevant Verses for Main Themes:

On Spiritual Warfare:

- 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- 1 Peter 5:8-9

Key Points:

- Christians battle from a position of victory, not defeat, because Christ has already won the ultimate battle
- Our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against rulers, authorities, cosmic powers, and spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places
- Satan is a created being who is not omniscient, omnipotent, or omnipresent—he has limitations
- There is a hierarchy in Satan's kingdom with principalities and powers operating in both spiritual and physical realms
- Spiritual forces manifest through corrupt leaders, media, entertainment industry, and worldly systems pushing moral depravity
- Satan's ultimate defeat is already written—he will be bound for 1,000 years and then cast into the lake of fire forever
- Christ has disarmed the rulers and authorities, canceled our debt of sin, and no accusation can stand against those in Christ
- Parents must actively fight for their children's minds through prayer and protection from media influences
- The church is called to stand against evil and be the light of the world, not conform to worldly standards
- Marriage reflects the covenant relationship between Christ and His church, which is why Satan attacks marriages
- Christians should not place hope in political systems or worldly solutions but live victoriously in Christ
- Believers have access to God's armor and power to stand against the enemy's schemes

NOTES:

Discussion Questions:

How does understanding that Satan is a created being with limitations (not omniscient, omnipotent, or omnipresent) change the way you approach spiritual warfare in your daily life?

In what ways do you see the battle between spiritual forces manifesting in the physical realm today, particularly in government, media, and culture?

The pastor mentions that Christians must battle from a position of victory rather than defeat. What does this practically look like when you're facing personal struggles or moral challenges?

How does recognizing that your marriage is a testimony of Christ's covenant relationship with the church affect the way you fight for your marriage during difficult seasons?

What specific strongholds or areas of deception do you see the enemy using to target your children or the next generation, and how can you actively stand against them?

The sermon emphasizes that Satan's ultimate demise is already sealed in God's plan. How does this truth provide hope and perspective when facing seemingly overwhelming evil in the world?

In what ways might Christians be tempted to compromise or become more like the world when standing for Christ becomes culturally unpopular or costly?

How does understanding the hierarchy of Satan's kingdom (rulers, authorities, cosmic powers, spiritual forces) help you pray more effectively and strategically?

The pastor warns against placing hope in political systems or leaders to bring lasting change. How do you balance being engaged as a citizen while keeping your primary identity and hope in Christ?

What does it mean practically to put on the whole armor of God in your daily routine, and are there specific pieces of armor you tend to neglect?

NOTES:

Small Group Guide: Weapons of Our Warfare

Sermon Series: Understanding Our Spiritual Battle

Based on Ephesians 6:10-18

Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

Begin your group time by asking God to open hearts and minds to His truth, and to help everyone engage honestly with the spiritual realities discussed in this sermon.

Icebreaker Question (10 minutes)

Choose one:

- When you think about "spiritual warfare," what images or ideas come to mind?
- Share a time when you felt like you were in a spiritual battle. How did you respond?

Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. We Battle from a Position of Victory

The victory has already been won through Christ. We don't fight FOR victory; we fight FROM victory.

2. Our Enemy is Real but Defeated

Satan and his demonic forces are actively working against believers, but their ultimate defeat is already written (Revelation 20:7-11).

3. The Battle Operates in Two Realms

- **Spiritual Realm:** Rulers, authorities, cosmic powers, spiritual forces of evil
- **Physical Realm:** Manifested through people, systems, culture, and temptation

4. Satan's Primary Weapons

- Deception
- Accusation (now disarmed through Christ - Colossians 2:13-15)
- Temptation through media, relationships, and worldly systems

5. Our Greatest Protection

Christ Himself is our armor. We stand in His strength, not our own.

Discussion Questions (30-40 minutes)

Understanding the Battle

1. The pastor said, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood" (Ephesians 6:12). How does this change your perspective on:

- Conflicts with family members?
- Political disagreements?

- Struggles in your workplace?

2. Read Revelation 12:13-17. Why does Satan specifically target:

- Israel (the woman who gave birth to the male child)?
- Those who "keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus"?
- What does this mean for us today?

Recognizing the Enemy's Tactics

3. The sermon outlined Satan's hierarchy: rulers, authorities, cosmic powers, and spiritual forces.

Where do you see evidence of these at work in:

- Our culture?
- Media and entertainment?
- Government and institutions?

4. The pastor mentioned that "Satan is not under every rock." How can we balance:

- Being aware of spiritual warfare without becoming paranoid?
- Taking responsibility for our own choices while recognizing demonic influence?

Personal Application

5. The sermon addressed several specific battlegrounds:

- **Parents:** Fighting for your children's minds and hearts
- **Marriages:** Standing against forces trying to tear marriages apart
- **Personal purity:** Pornography, addiction, and temptation

Which of these resonates most with your current situation? How are you currently fighting—or not fighting—in this area?

6. Read Colossians 2:13-15. What does it mean practically that Christ has:

- "Canceled the record of debt"?
- "Disarmed the rulers and authorities"?
- "Put them to open shame"?

How should this truth affect how you face spiritual battles this week?

Living in Victory

7. The pastor said, "You may lose some battles along the way, but Christian, you are victorious in Christ." How do you reconcile:

- The reality of ongoing struggles?
- The truth that we have ultimate victory in Christ?

8. What does it look like to "battle from a position of victory" rather than defeat in:

- Your thought life?
- Your relationships?
- Your work?
- Your daily choices?

Practical Applications (15-20 minutes)

This Week's Challenge

Choose **one specific area** where you will intentionally stand against the enemy:

Option 1: Guard Your Mind

- Identify one media source (social media, TV show, music, etc.) that is influencing you negatively
- Commit to removing or limiting it this week
- Replace it with Scripture reading or worship

Option 2: Fight for Your Relationships

- **Parents:** Have an intentional conversation with your children about what they're watching/listening to
- **Spouses:** Pray together daily this week for your marriage
- **Singles:** Pray for your future spouse or for victory over loneliness

Option 3: Address a Stronghold

- Identify one area of ongoing defeat (pornography, anger, fear, addiction, etc.)
- Confess it to one trusted person in this group
- Ask for accountability and prayer
- Seek additional help if needed (pastor, counseling, etc.)

Option 4: Stand for Truth

- Identify one place where you've been silent about your faith
- Ask God for courage to speak truth this week
- Be prepared for opposition but stand firm

Prayer Focus (15-20 minutes)

Group Prayer Time

Break into groups of 2-3 and pray specifically for:

1. **Protection:** For minds, marriages, and children
2. **Discernment:** To recognize the enemy's schemes
3. **Courage:** To stand for truth regardless of cultural pressure
4. **Victory:** In specific areas of struggle shared tonight
5. **Perspective:** To remember we fight from victory, not for victory

Specific Prayer Requests from the Sermon:

- Parents struggling to raise children in this generation
- Marriages that are "cold" or on the rocks
- Those battling pornography or addiction
- Those facing physical illness
- Those struggling with past trauma or abuse
- Those who need to know Christ

Scripture Memory

Ephesians 6:12

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

Before Next Week

1. **Read:** Ephesians 6:10-18 daily
2. **Reflect:** Journal about where you see the enemy working and where you see God's victory
3. **Act:** Follow through on your specific commitment from "This Week's Challenge"
4. **Prepare:** Next session will cover the Armor of God in detail

Leader Notes

Sensitive Topics: This sermon addresses addiction, pornography, marital struggles, and abuse. Be prepared for emotional responses and have resources ready (pastoral contact, Christian counseling referrals).

Encourage Honesty: Create a safe space for people to share real struggles without judgment.

5-Day Devotional: Standing Firm in Spiritual Victory

Day 1: Understanding Our True Enemy

Reading: Ephesians 6:10-18

Devotional: Paul reminds us that our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces. In our daily frustrations with people, institutions, or circumstances, we often forget the true source of opposition. The enemy works through deception, corrupting what God intended for good—marriages, families, governments, and churches. Yet we must remember: we don't fight for victory; we fight from victory already won at Calvary. Jesus has disarmed the rulers and authorities, canceling the debt that stood against us. Today, recognize that the difficulties you face may have a spiritual dimension. Stand firm in Christ's accomplished work, knowing you battle from the high ground of being "in Christ Jesus."

Day 2: The Certainty of Satan's Defeat

Reading: Revelation 12:7-17; 20:7-10

Devotional: God has written the end from the beginning so we can read it and know the outcome. Satan's destiny is sealed—the lake of fire awaits him. Though he currently operates as the "god of this age," his time is limited and his doom certain. This reality should transform how we face spiritual opposition. We're not hoping for victory; we're living in the light of guaranteed triumph. When you feel overwhelmed by darkness in culture, politics, or personal battles, remember: God has already shown you the final chapter. Satan is a defeated foe operating on borrowed time. Let this truth embolden you to stand firm today, knowing that every spiritual battle you face has already been won in Christ.

Day 3: Protected by the Blood of Christ

Reading: Colossians 2:13-15

Devotional: The most powerful truth for believers under spiritual attack is this: Satan has no legal ground to accuse you. Christ has canceled the record of debt that stood against you, nailing it to the cross. The enemy can no longer approach God's throne with accusations against those covered by Jesus' blood. You are not fighting to earn God's favor or to somehow defeat Satan in your own strength. You stand clothed in Christ's righteousness, fully accepted, completely forgiven. When guilt, shame, or condemnation whispers in your mind, recognize the source. The accuser has been disarmed. Your debt is paid in full. Today, live in the freedom of knowing there is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. Let this truth silence every accusation.

Sermon Transcript:

If you would please open your Bibles with me to the book of Ephesians thank you Eric and we're gonna continue on this morning with our I guess our break from Galatians we've been in a series now called the weapons of our warfare

One of the reasons I wanted to spend some time addressing this for the life of a believer is because in these days and in the days moving ahead, we know that we're going to see an intensification of this battle that we as Christians are in.

And one of the reasons I say we're going to see an intensification of the battle is because

As the moral depravity begins or continues to glide itself, plunging off the slope of the ridge of common sense and moral living, we know that that wickedness being increased is the work of the enemy, obviously, but it has an effect on those of us who are in Christ.

And as we make our way into these latter days, which we know we are in, and as we see the world changing,

Climate completely changing and being turned up on its head in the last few years.

We're moving quickly at a climax point in the future where the new world order system will be in place.

And the one that we know is coming, the Antichrist himself, will set himself up as God to be worshipped as God, ultimately ruling.

And that will be very short-lived.

But I want to give you some encouragement today, and we're going to continue talking about the position of where we battle from.

I say this, not that everyone is fighting from this place.

Christians, though, must know that we battle from a position of victory.

And in one sense, the victory itself has been won for us in Christ.

But in another real sense, with real ramifications and consequences, the way in which we stand against the evil one and the prince of darkness and all that's going on in the world has serious ramifications.

And so I think many Christians today don't really understand maybe in much detail about this battle that they're in.

And so last week, we began to pull back really the veil or the curtain of who Lucifer is and was.

Who is Satan?

Not to glorify him because he is a created being.

God created him, as we learned last week.

And so he is not omniscient, he's not omnipotent, all-powerful, he's not omnipresent.

He cannot be all places at one time.

He doesn't know everything we think.

He hears what we say and sees what we do.

And this is the other thing, Christians, Satan's not under every rock, okay?

But the principalities and the powers and his hierarchy of rule and reign as the little G God over this earth is very real.

And there are principalities and powers that are set up as strongholds and established as his little G God kingdom is being operated under the sovereignty of almighty God.

And as we learned weeks ago that the church is the manifold wisdom of God and that through the church, which is the body of Christ, the manifold wisdom of God is being revealed to angels, those who are in the heavenly realms.

Why is that?

Because before the foundation of the world, God already planned every one of these things to be.

What do I mean by that?

Jesus Christ coming in the incarnation was God's original plan.

It's not plan B or C. And God wrote for us the end from the very beginning.

Why?

So that we would know and understand what is really happening and what's going to happen.

And Christian, you must understand that this is a real battle that we're in.

And although it is operating in the spirit realm, it manifests itself in the very physical realm in which we see, hear, taste, and touch.

And so for you as a Christian, if you can begin to grasp and understand these truths, it's gonna help you as you battle the enemy.

Mom and dad, you are in a major battle for your kids.

The enemy is taking your child through media

Mom and dad, you need to get a hold of this deal and realize that what you're up against is something very serious and sinister and it's for the hearts and souls and the minds of your children.

Your marriages.

Why does Satan hate marriage?

Because a marriage, according to the word of God in Ephesians chapter five, is a picture to the world of the covenant promise that Christ makes with his church.

that our marriages reflect a spiritual truth and reality to a world that doesn't know Christ.

And so your marriages are testimonies to the world of what it means to be in covenant and why we submit as wives to the authority of our husbands as a church does to Christ and why we husbands are to sacrificially love our wives and our children as Christ loves and sacrifices for the body of Christ, his bride.

The enemy hates these things because of what it demonstrates.

But I want you to see a few things.

Number one, before we really get into the whole aspect of really who are we fighting against in more detail this morning, which we are, I want you to see a few things real quick.

Let's just read here though in Ephesians chapter 6.

We're going to start in verse 10 and we're going to read through verse 18.

10 through verse 18.

And we're just going to lay this out so we can see and understand it.

Remember, context is everything in Scripture.

That's why I love expository preaching.

That's why we try to teach through an entire book.

Because this is written in chapter 6 by the Apostle Paul to the believers in Ephesus, but we have chapters 1 through 5 that are written before this.

And by the time Paul gets to Ephesians chapter six, after what he's already written, as we've learned already in Ephesians chapter one, two, three, four, and five, now we come to this.

And Paul now has already laid out for these believers their position of who they are in Christ.

The immeasurable riches of his power in the saints and the resurrection of Christ and the whole beauty and incredible mystery of the church and salvation and who we are in Christ.

That's already been taught here.

And Paul now is going to get into this battle that we're in.

And it's real.

It's not a make-believe battle.

And this is what Paul says here finally now as he begins to wrap this up.

Finally be strong in the Lord Jesus.

And in the strength of his might, he's already laid out for us in previous chapters here of the power of God that has been working through Christ and is working through us, that we would have the understanding and the knowledge of the power of God in Christ in us.

We need to know these things.

So we're standing in the strength of God's might, his might.

Put on the whole armor.

Don't leave a piece off, Paul says.

Put it all on.

Put on the armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of who?

The devil.

The devil's schemes.

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, although that's what we...

are able to see, touch, smell, hear, and we are able to see in that realm.

It manifests in the physical realm, but our real battle is not against flesh and blood, Paul says, but actually it's against, he moves on and says, the rulers, which we're gonna learn about who these are, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places.

Therefore,

Take up the whole armor of God.

It's God's armor.

That you may be able to withstand the evil day.

And having done all to stand firm, stand therefore, having fastened the belt of truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness and the shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace, in all circumstances take up the shield of faith with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

And take up the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit which is the word of God.

And so in two weeks, we're going to talk about the armor and the sword.

We're going to get into this.

What actually is all this?

And Paul's going to teach us what this is.

But for today, I want us really to spend some time covering really who is our enemy?

What is the enemy doing and how is it operating in the physical realm and the spiritual realm in which we all live and move and have our being?

How's this working?

So before we do that, though, if you would please turn with me in your Bibles to Revelation chapter 12.

I want to show you a few things here as we begin this so you can have these things in your mind.

We're going to be in Ephesians chapter 12.

I'm sorry.

There is no Ephesians chapter 12 unless you have a different Bible than I do.

Might want to throw that one in the trash.

How about this?

Revelation chapter 12.

Revelation chapter 12.

I want you to join with me in looking at this as now we're going to see an incredible epic battle that's going on and who the battle is with and against.

And so starting in about verse 13, we're going to look at this together.

We know that there's coming a battle in the heavens.

It's coming in the future.

This epic battle is going to take place, and Satan and the demons who follow Satan are going to be cast down to the earth.

Right now, they're able to occupy what we know as the Bible teaches as the heavenlies, that there are more than one heaven, if you will.

The heavenlies are the space between us and where God's throne is.

And right now, we know the principalities and powers are operating within the heavenlies.

Somewhere in the heavenlies, there's an operation that's going on.

And we learn this in Daniel.

We remember the story, how Daniel sought and prayed to know what God was going to do.

And an angel was sent from heaven the moment he set out to pray.

And for 21 days, he was held up in the heavenlies because of the battle.

He was restricted to get through.

But then he said, your prince, speaking of who the angel is over the nation of Israel, the people of God.

He says, your prince though, Michael, one of the archangels, he came to my defense.

And Michael came and fought and set me free.

So now I've come to give you the revelation of the answer in which you were seeking.

And so there is a great battle that happens in the heavenlies.

You've heard the old saying about praying through, haven't you?

about praying through, that our prayers get to heaven, that we don't just give up quickly in our prayer.

But there's a real epic battle that's happening.

But there's coming a time where there'll be war in the heavenlies, and Michael and his angels fight against Satan and the fallen angels that followed Satan in his quest to overthrow God, to be like God, and to set himself up on the very mount above the heavens.

And this is what we know is going on.

And he's now

defeated and he's cast down to earth this is going to be during this terrible time that Jesus described as the great tribulation period which is ultimately going to be all of itself manifesting in the new world order system where Satan himself will be seated and he will be possessing if you will the individual called antichrist but we know this is going to happen in the future don't believe it's that far off but it's going to happen in the future we don't know when

And then you're gonna learn something here in verse 13 about what's taken place.

It says, and when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, in other words, God says, no more am I going to allow you to operate in the heavenlies.

That's not happening.

You're gonna be now stuck on earth.

You're limited.

God says, I'm limiting where you can go and what you can do.

But now Satan and all of his hordes of demons who follow him, these ones that are wicked, fallen, that cannot be regenerated,

These have a demise that's coming.

And at this point, Satan will know how very close this is.

And literally, all hell's gonna break loose.

He hates humanity, those things made in the image of God.

But this is what it says.

And the dragon saw that he'd been thrown down to earth.

He pursued someone.

He's been pursuing someone all along.

He pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.

This is not the Roman Catholic Church, folks.

That's not who this is.

This is Israel.

Israel is the very seed from where who came, Christ came through what we know, we came through the seed of Abraham.

He was the promised seed of Abraham.

And so the enemy now is pursuing Israel, the one who gave birth to the male child, which is Jesus Christ.

You see this.

But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, the place where she is to be nourished for a time, times, and a half time.

That's three and a half years.

God is going to supernaturally protect the remnant of Israel.

He'll supernaturally protect it.

In the three and a half years of the great tribulation.

So we know somewhere mid-time in the tribulation period, Satan will be cast to earth.

In other words, he'll be limited to where he can actually operate.

No longer in the heavenlies.

He's going to be stuck right here on earth.

And he'll be operating through this Antichrist and this Luciferian.

By the way, Luciferians believe that Lucifer is the true light bearer.

A lot of your secret societies, when you move all the way to the ends of the secret societies and you finally get to the highest degrees, what you'll find if you do any study, and I can use it by only using their own words of their own books, I can prove it to you, that ultimately the one who is worshiped at the end is not the Lord God Almighty, but is in fact Lucifer.

Because if you were to see Lucifer as we read last week,

He is not a red being with pitchforks and horns.

He is a gloriously created being, brilliant in splendor.

If you were to see him, you wouldn't think he was some Halloween character.

And so Luciferians do believe that Satan ultimately, and that's why they're ushering in the New World Order system.

Do you understand this?

That's why our governments at the highest level, many of them are Luciferian.
They're part of the secret societies and they're all part of the power system behind this.
And Luciferians are trying to usher in their Christ time, which is who?
Antichrist.
That's why everything's happening in the world like it is.
When President Bush Sr.
talks so much in detail about this new world order.
And all the presidents, many of them talk about the new world order.
What is all this?
You've got the Pope, the new world order.
Everybody's pushing for the new world order system.
And in order to bring in the new, you've got to do away with the old.
No borders.
America, she's got to fall.
Patriotism, no longer existent.
The dollar setting the currency for the world gone.
Why are all these things happening, Christian?
Because the Luciferians who ultimately worship Satan, they are the power source behind this.
It takes money and power to do these things.
And guess who has it?
The little G God of this age gives power, money, power.
What do they do?
They corrupt people.
You say, man, Washington sure is corrupt.
It sure is.
You ain't seen nothing yet.
And so what we need to know, Christian, is what's really going on.
So as you see this stock market and you're like, are you kidding me?
It jumped 400 points in a day this week?
What a bunch of baloney that is.
It's all an inflation of just garbage.
We're \$30 trillion in debt and no one even speaks about it.

Your Congress this week voted, 150 some of the members voted by proxy to spend over \$700 billion of your money.

Why?

Global warming.

Go down the list.

What's going on?

It's all right here, folks.

The tearing down of the old

President Bush Sr.

said it and he meant it.

We will be successful.

Surely not President Bush.

Oh, yeah.

Skull, bones, all of those secret society groups.

Who do they worship?

It's not Jesus Christ they worship.

It's Lucifer who they worship.

That's who they worship.

Your Rockefellers, your Rothschilds, your World Bank systems, all that power and money fighting on both sides of every war, financing the left, financing the right.

It's all a bunch of delusional, purposeful action.

That's what's going on.

Christian, you don't need to be caught off guard.

When you understand this whole system,

you now will begin to see why Jesus says, do not love the world or your cell phone.

Or the things of the world.

There we go.

You'll understand why Christ says, store up for yourselves real treasure.

Where?

In heaven.

So you can see why the deception is so rampant, because who's behind it?

The great deceiver.

The great deceiver.

Smoke and mirrors, man.

Christian, you're smarter than that.

Do you know what makes us smarter than that?

The Word of God.

That's why we know.

Okay?

I don't know how we got on that.

We're a long ways from where we should be, but anyway, here we go.

So here's Satan...

And he's pursuing Israel, which he always has.

Why did he have to pursue Israel like he did?

Because in Genesis chapter 3, God told Satan what was going to happen to him.

That the seed of the woman would crush the head of the serpent.

All along with Israel's history, what do you find the enemy trying to do?

Prevent Israel from fulfilling Israel's

The promise of the seed of the woman from coming and happening.

King Herod, who do you think's behind King Herod and this edict to find every male child two years in age and younger and kill them all when he found out that a king of the Jews had been born?

Who was behind that?

Satan was.

Because he needed to crush the head of

He needed to crush the head of the seed of the woman and not have his head crushed.

Why did he meet Jesus in the wilderness?

And he says, listen, all the kingdoms of the world.

He still offers it to people today.

Jesus, I'll give you all of these things if you will bow down and worship me.

You don't have to do the cross thing to get the kingdoms.

I'll give them to you, man.

I'm the one that has authority to give them.

I will give you the kingdoms of the world, but you got to do one thing, Jesus.

Bow down and worship me.

And Jesus says, it is written, you shall worship the Lord God and him only shall you serve.

In the garden before the cross, who showed up?

Oh Jesus, you don't have to do this.

Because the only way this could happen for redemption was the God-man Jesus Christ had to come and die for you.

It's the only way it could happen.

Fully God and yet fully man.

That's why Satan was defeated

on the cross of Calvary.

Thinking he had won, he lost and sealed his demise.

But by the way, Christian, his demise was sealed from before the foundation of the world even began.

And so now, who else is he chasing?

Well, we see this, it's very, very clear in Revelation chapter 12.

Moving right along, in verse 17.

The dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring and on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to who the testimony of Jesus Christ.

That is you and me.

That's you and me.

Colossians chapter 2, which we've already looked at.

If you want to spin there real quick, before you go there, go to Revelation chapter 20.

The reason I want you to know this, Christian, is because God wrote it so we would understand.

Revelation chapter 21 through 3, we learn something very interesting here.

This is after the seven-year period that we know of the Great Tribulation.

We have Jesus Christ coming back, the saints coming with him.

Jesus Christ now destroys all of those who have come against Christ and the people of God here, which will be in Israel, those that remain.

They were captured, the beast and the false prophet were captured, and they were thrown alive, where?

They were thrown alive, the Bible says here, into the lake of fire, right?

But in verse one of chapter 20,

John says, then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit.

And a great chain was what he held.

He seized the dragon, the ancient serpent.

Here's Satan now being seized.

Who is the devil and Satan?

And bound him for 1,000 years.

and threw him into the pit and shut it and sealed it over him for this reason, part of God's sovereign plan, so that he might not, which is what he's doing right now, deceive the nations any longer until the thousand years were ended.

Now, if you've been through our eschatology studies, you understand what this is all about.

Satan we see right here.

This is what we need to see.

Not only was a false prophet and antichrist thrown into the lake of fire, but Satan is bound captured and sealed in the bottomless pit for 1,000 years.

He will not deceive the nations during that time.

What's going on during that time?

Jesus Christ will be literally ruling on this earth and you and I will be ruling and reigning with him.

That's what's gonna be happening during the 1,000 years.

There will not be Satan nor the demonic hordes actually deceiving anyone during this time.

And yet you're gonna learn something about humanity even in that.

The Bible says that Jesus Christ will rule with a rod of iron during this time.

In other words, it's going to be his way or it'll be the highway.

And then something else we must know here is very important.

He will be released for a short period of time, all part of God's sovereign plan.

But I want you to notice the demise here in verses 7, follow along to 11.

And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison and will come out to deceive the nations of the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle.

Their number is like the sand of the sea, and they marched up over the broad plain of the earth, surrounded and camped, surround the camp of the saints in the beloved city, which is Jerusalem.

But fire came down from heaven and consumed them.

And the devil, there he is again, Lucifer, Satan himself.

who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire of sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were.

And listen, guys.

They will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

That is our enemy's end.

We wrestle against him, but not from defeat, from victory.

How is that?

Colossians, flip over with me to Colossians.

Colossians chapter two, verses one through three.

Eric, we may not get through this one today either.

This series may be another week long.

I want you to see this.

Colossians 13, I mean, excuse me, Colossians 2, 13 through 15.

I like to hear your Bible pages turning.

You won't catch me at a horse sale or a cow sale, not a sale barn sale, but a purebred sale or anything.

You won't catch me there without a catalog.

And if I'm there to buy something, my catalog will look pretty worn out.

And so in like manner, if you're here this morning, bring your Bible, man.

That's what we're here to do.

I want you to see these things with your own eyes.

And you who were dead in your trespasses and uncircumcision of your flesh, that's what we were, God made alive with him, having forgiven us all our sins by canceling the record of debt.

canceling it, that stood against us with its legal demands.

This he set aside by nailing it to the cross.

He disarmed the rulers and authorities.

There is no more where the enemy can come before God
and create an accusation against you who are in Christ.

Why?

Because Christ Jesus canceled the record of debt you had.

It's been paid.

Not only that, disarming the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame by triumphing over them in Christ.

Is that not awesome?

That is awesome.

All right, let's get into the crux of our message this morning as we make our way now through Ephesians chapter 6.

We learned a little bit in detail last week who this Lucifer character is, who Satan is.

And we know the Bible tells us that one-third of the angels fell with him.

That is a lot of angels.

We don't know how many that is, but we know there's myriad of myriad of angels, 10,000 times 10,000.

We know that.

So he has a whole lot that are working with him and for him to accomplish this task of trying to destroy what God has reconciled.

And so if you follow along with me, we're going to begin to pull this apart in Ephesians chapter 6.

And Paul says, for we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the ruler's authorities, against cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places.

The word here is to wrestle, and it is really the most personal type of combat, if you will.

It's not maybe the most gory type,

form of combat, but yet it is truly interactive in combat.

When you wrestle, you're actually physically grabbing onto something.

You can be in close proximity in combat, and you can, with a weapon, can destroy your enemy without ever touching him, although you may be very close.

But this wrestling is something that it is very personal, and it is in direct where we are in struggle together against these things.

Real struggle, it's real.

And so we're in a struggle, a fight, a conflict is what this word actually means.

Now the first thing we're going to look at here is the rulers.

The rulers.

The word rulers here is to be a kingly or magisterial position, if you will.

And yet when you look at this word in the Greek, it actually talks about the very beginning.

Like going back to the very beginnings.

They're almost rulers.

And so there is a sense here, I believe, that what we're seeing is twofold.

When we look at these rulers, if you will, we're going to go back and look at the starting point of his kingdom as in the rulers who are ruling in this kingdom of Satan.

And we're also gonna see that it has another meaning here that we know Satan, the spirit realm operates and manifests in the physical realm.

And so there are people in positions of power and authority who are actually given power and authority from Satan and from those who rule within his kingdom.

And as we learned, there's a prince usually behind a ruler or there's a king that would be behind a prince that's a ruler, right?

So when you look through the quarters of history of the empires of the world, we notice when we read here in Daniel that there was the prince of Persia.

We're not speaking now of the physical prince over Persia at the time of Daniel, but there was someone who was ruling over, if you will, behind the prince of Persia.

And then he said to Daniel, I'm going to return now, and now I'm going to have to what?

I'm going to have to have what?

I'm going to have to have a little combat with who?

The prince of Persia.

Greece and so there are rulers in the spirit realm that are actually operating through the physical rulers in the physical realm and so when you have wicked rulers behind them is wicked principalities and powers ruling with them and through them and so when you have evil men that are ruling and most the time that's the way it is because money and power almost always do what

They always corrupt.

And the truth is, in Washington, it doesn't matter who we send up there, I was told this as I thought one time about maybe trying to do something there.

And so I met with some politicians and asked them some questions, and the first question they asked me is, why do you want to do this?

And I told them, because I wanna bring about change.

And the guy laughed at me.

He said, you won't bring about any change.

I said, what are you talking about?

He said, it takes years to get in the power places in Washington.

That's why there's no term limits there.

Because those people who hold those powerful positions, it don't matter how good a man you send there, he's not going to bring about an ounce of change.

They don't give him a chance to even begin to do it.

And yet you watch these men over time, and those good men, if you're not careful, will watch them, and they themselves will begin to change, and corruption begins to set in.

Now you and I could go down some list of names of those in Washington right now who are depraved, corrupt beyond corruption.

Personally, I don't mind calling out their names.

I couldn't care less.

They're corrupt.

They're corrupt.

Who's behind all that?

The great deceiver.

And for some of them, they serve and worship him.

And so we see this.

We have these twofold.

We have these angelic beings, I believe, who are actually behind and operating through, if you will, these physical rulers.

Then we have moving along, so we have the rulers and then we have these authorities.

The word authority here simply means moral authority or a quasi-personal sense derived from spiritual power.

It could be earthly power.

And so we're seeing that power has been given to certain people and they're operating through this power.

And yet we know behind it is the spiritual influence that goes on.

And so we have twofold here of what we're looking at.

We're looking at rulers and authorities.

We have those, but yet oftentimes behind that will be the authorities and the rulers and the heavenly realms, part of Satan's kingdom.

He is the little G God of this age, guys.

But we are called to what?

To come against those things.

And that's one reason the church is still here.

The third thing we are told here by Paul is,

We're to take our stand against not only the rulers and authorities, but we're also to take our stand against cosmic powers over this present darkness.

And this is the ruler of this world.

It is literally of the world as asserting its independence of God.

Use of the angelic or demonic powers controlling the sublunary world.

And so we see that with much of what's going on.

Why is it that America...

is one of its number one priorities has always been that we would get rid of the unborn.

Where did that come from?

That doesn't come from God.

Where does that come from?

Satan.

You remember in scripture, those who were called out by God for doing this, who did they actually worship?

Baal, Moloch, Chemosh.

They were offering their children to who?

Satan, through the fire.

And so in our country, in our nation, we make all of these crazy things that are so depraved, we make them normal and we make them acceptable.

And not only that, we pass laws that will govern things in order to ensure that these things can happen.

That's depravity beyond depravity.

And that's what we see.

Who's behind it?

Well, we know who's behind it, these powers, these cosmic powers.

This is who we're wrestling against, guys.

And we know that there are strongholds in cities and places around this world.

We have a stronghold here.

Guarantee you we have one here in Wichita Falls.

And in major cities, New York City, Washington, D.C.

is one of the most corrupt and sick cities that there is.

In fact, it is the most Masonic city in America.

And all of the assemblage is there.

Why?

Why?

to let everybody know what this city stands for.

You've been to the Matrix, you know a little bit more about what America was really designed for.

She wasn't what you think she was sent out here and designed for.

There's a personal reason for it coming to be.

But nonetheless, that's not what we're here for.

Satan and the demons influencing and possessing worldly people in the physical realm.

The music industry.

Why are there so many within the music industry that are openly Luciferian?

Why is that?

Because they do worship Satan.

They hold up his symbols.

They do all these things to let everyone know who they are.

You know why it's difficult to be a Christian man and get a job in Hollywood?

You're not going to get a job there.

You wouldn't last long in Hollywood because that's not the agenda they're pushing.

It's not to push an agenda for those to come to know Christ and repent of their sin and

It's an agenda to completely disseminate anything of morality in this nation.

It's incredible.

Listen to the music that's being put out today.

And moms and dads, I tell you this, and please hear me, they are after the minds of your kids.

And they're going to do it through music and media, and most of it you haven't even seen what they're seeing.

Comes right to them.

Against the spiritual forces in heavenly places is another one.

The word spiritual forces here is derived from the word spirit, is relating to the spirit realm.

And these are the spiritual forces that we see throughout Scripture and those things in which we are combating.

So not only are we combating the real physical realm within men that are in leadership and passing laws and all the things that are happening here,

Behind them are all the spiritual forces that are working and things that are happening in this world.

Who do you think was behind Hitler?

Satan was.

Hitler was definitely Luciferian.

No question about it.

Why destroy the Jewish people?

Satan hates the Jewish people.

Christian, you're not going to be well loved in the future.

Not if you truly stand for Christ.

Because people have no stomach for Jesus Christ.

And this is what we should do.

If we really are gonna brag about being a nation under God, you know what we need to do?

Take the name God off.

One nation under Jesus Christ.

That will never happen.

You can say one nation under God, but it means an entirely different thing to every individual.

To you as a Christian, what does it mean?

The Lord God Almighty.

To a Muslim, to a Mormon, to whoever you want to, it's a God plethora.

That's what it is.

And so Jesus Christ is God.

And if we're really going to separate ourselves as being under one true living God, then you might as well just say one nation under Jesus Christ.

Just go ahead and spread Jesus Christ's name out loud in public and see what happens.

You can talk about God all day long, but don't you mention the name Jesus Christ.

I hear a lot of cursing.

I've never heard anybody say Buddha.

Never heard that one.

But I've heard Jesus cursed many times.

It's acceptable.

It's acceptable.

So what we're up against are definitely real and true enemies.

They're manifesting in the physical realm.

That's why certain countries, Christianity is actually taboo.

Christians are hated all over the world.

They're absolutely hated.

And moving forward, you won't be loved, not if you stand for Jesus Christ, because you're going to be a problem.

Why is that?

Because you stand against the flow.

And we need to.

Stand against the flow.

That will cost you something.

I think about the great reformers of history.

Men that have marked my life.

They were men who stood against the flow in their time.

Men like John Husk.

stood against the Roman Catholic Church, burned him at the stake.

And all the while, his flesh was being singed and burnt to a crisp from his body.

Until life was taken from him, he sweetly sang a beautiful hymn to God.

John Wycliffe, he did something really bad, folks.

He went against the Roman Catholic Church and actually printed the Bible for the common man.

You know, these poor men that don't read Latin.

He's gone.

Martin Luther.

Justification is by faith alone.

Hunt him down.

Shut him down.

Inquisitions throughout history.

Not just

The Christian church, folks.

Anyone that comes to you and says, yeah, but you Christians are guilty of the Inquisitions.

Not the Protestant Christians, folks.

That was Rome.

That was Rome.

Rome is who we left, Christian.

We left Rome.

It's called protesting.

We need another reformation in the church today.

We need to reform the church from the American church that is now alive.

We need a reformation desperately in the church.

It's going to cost you, though, when you come against the average flow.

It's always been that way and it always will be.

The disciples, every single one of them, all but John, were martyred, killed,
for their testimony and faith in Christ.

Thousands upon 10,000 throughout history have died because their testimony of Jesus Christ.

We're living in a time where Jesus Christ is not tolerated in our culture anymore.

Getting less and less and less and less, but you know what the church is doing?

So what is the church doing since Jesus is not in vogue?

The church is becoming more like the world.

Well, if you don't like Jesus, then maybe you'll like it if we let homosexuals preach from our pulpits.

Well, sure, we love that.

We are inclusive.

The gospel is not inclusive.

It's exclusive to Jesus Christ.

He's the only way.

But you've got preachers that go on Oprah Winfrey, and boy, they'll say, well, hold on now.

I don't know.

There's more than one way to God.

No, there's not.

Jesus Christ is the only way.

Try to tell that to somebody at your work.

They don't like that very well.

Because Oprah says there's many ways to God.

No, there's not.

There's a broad road that leads to hell.

There's only one path that leads to heaven.

His name is Jesus Christ.

But see, that's not tolerated in our culture, folks.

Jesus is not in vogue.

He's not in style.

So if you want to have the world love you, guess what?

You won't be able to be following Christ and be in vogue.

It's not going to happen.

But we are not called to be in vogue.

We know who our enemy is.

We understand what our enemy is.

But Christian, you and I battle against the enemy.

We stand in the power of Jesus Christ.

He has already provided victory for us.

God in his own incredible sovereignty wrote the end from the beginning.

Why?

So that you and I in 2022 could read the end of the story and realize that Satan has already been destroyed.

It's already happened in the economy of God.

Do you understand that?

Yes, he's alive now.

Yes, we are battling.

But I will not battle from a defeated position.

Why?

Because I am in Jesus Christ.

I've been given every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus.

He cannot go to the Father and give one accusation against me.

Why?

Because Jesus Christ simply says, I purchased him with my own blood.

I've canceled his debt.

There is no debt against him, and there's nothing that is written about him other than his name is in the book of life.

You may lose some battles along the way, but Christian, you are victorious in Christ.

Oh, you're victorious.

Church, we are in Jesus Christ.

Praise God for that.

You are not defeated.

Deception is going to sweep this nation, and it is.

But I'm telling you, Christian, you don't need to be deceived.

You will not be in vogue.

You will not be popular.

You will stand alone, but never without Christ standing with you.

Never.

Because you're going to learn what the armor really is here in two weeks.

Praise God.

He is every piece of armor.

Christ is the armor.

Put on Christ.

Clothe yourself with Jesus Christ.

Christian, I don't want you to be deceived in these days.

I'm telling you, 2024 is not going to turn America around.

Please hear me.

I'm not saying that to be negative.

I'm telling you, don't get caught up in the garbage of all this stuff.

Our next president, no matter who he is, will be there based on God.

And God is judging this nation.

Judging it.

So listen to me.

We need to stand for truth.

We need to be in the battle.

Yes, we do.

But I don't care who's president next time around.

He's nothing but a puppet behind the system.

That's all he is.

There's much more running things than you see.
It's worldwide.
It's one world.
It's a new world order, folks.
So Christian, guess what?
Live your life with victory in Jesus.
Everything you do, continue to pursue everything in life.
Have children.
Love your wife.
Raise your kids.
Be ethical in your business.
You are in Jesus Christ.
You're victorious in all things.
And live your life for Christ.
No matter what the world does, no matter where the world goes, you, Christian, are a citizen of heaven.
We're going to go there one day.
Aren't you glad?
Yes.
I'm sorry to tell you this.
It's not going to change anything.
Executive orders don't change anything but for a few years, and then it goes right back.
We saw that in this last election.
Say, John, don't get political.
Are you kidding me?
It's all moral stuff, folks.
It's all morality.
It's corrupt as it is.
So what am I saying?
God is sovereign.
He has set a day.
We are what?
The infinite manifold wisdom of God is the church.

We are here standing against the forces and the authorities and the principalities of this evil world.

We are that.

You are part of God's plan to stand against these things, to live in the power of the might of God.

You are here for that reason.

You're not defeated.

You are in victory.

We need to live like we are.

We need to live like we are.

God chose you guys to live at the most incredible time in the history of the world.

Incredible.

I love that I get to live right now.

Man, this is incredible.

We get to be the body of Christ here on this earth.

Isn't that not amazing?

Do not lose heart, do not be discouraged.

We are in a battle, mom and dad, husband, wife, grandma, grandpa, listen to me, businessman, all of us here, we are in an epic battle, it's real, we're fighting against a lot of things, but listen to me, you're fighting from the high ground of the position of being in Christ Jesus.

You need to realize and understand who your enemy and what your enemy's up to, and when you know more about your enemy and you have the protective armor of God on you, the Lord Jesus Christ, you can stand your ground.

You can do it in the power of God's might.

We're here for a great purpose.

And the great purpose is not what the world tells you your purpose is.

Your purpose is far greater than that.

Does that make sense?

Yes, we're in a battle, folks.

Realize who your enemy is.

Mom and dad, fight for your children.

Pray for your kids.

Young person in here, pray for your future spouse.

Pray for them.

Pray for them.

Mom and dad, be a mom and dad.

Fight for the minds and the souls of your kids.

Husband and wife, you better be fighting for your marriage because there's everything out there trying to tear it apart.

Fight for your marriage.

Businessmen, have integrity.

Do what you say you're gonna do.

Work hard.

Give your boss a good day's work.

Be ethical in what you do and say.

Be men and women of God.

That's who we gotta be.

And do not tolerate evil and wickedness.

Don't tolerate it.

Stand against it at all cost.

Why?

Because we are the body of Jesus Christ.

Love people.

And share with them the gospel.

It is the only means of salvation.

For under heaven there is only one name whereby men might be saved.

His name is Jesus Christ.

I wish I could help you see how great your purpose is.

Oh man.

It's incredible.

But I've gone on long enough today.

If there's anyone in here this morning...

You do not know Christ.

Or maybe you've been a country song Christian.

That's not Christianity, folks.

Christianity is way better than that.

Do you know Jesus?

At the end of your life, there's only one thing that's gonna matter.

It's whether or not you know Christ, and Christ, does he know you?

That's it.

That's it.

If you don't know Christ this morning and the Holy Spirit's drawing you, you'll know he is.

You may not understand all that's happening, but you'll know something's going on.

We have some men and women who'll be in that room over there called The Lodge to pray with you.

That's why we're here, to worship God and to do business with God.

Amen?

Some of you are probably feeling the squeeze of finances and some of those things.

If you need help, let us know.

Most of you are like me, you're too prideful to ask for help.

And I love that about you.

You don't need to be someone who's just looking for a handout, but you need a hand up, come to us, we'll help you.

You need help with your kids.

We aren't here to do the work for you, but we're here to come alongside you and help you.

Husbands and wives, don't wait until your wife leaves or your husband leaves before you come and maybe get a little encouragement from the word of God that I can help you with.

I can't do it for you, but I can tell you what God's word says.

And let me tell you something, if your marriage is here today and it's on the rocks, it's not hard to fix it.

I mean, it's not rocket science, it's real easy.

It's hard to do, but it's real easy.

You don't need to go to some therapist for six months and milk you out of hundreds and thousands of dollars.

You can come to me and I'll show you what God's word says in one session and you can fix your marriage.

You don't need some counselor to milk you for years.

Heck no, you are in Christ Jesus.

He's given you the answers.

All you gotta do is this.

If your marriage is here and it's in shambles, come on, boy, I tell you what, I will help you fix this marriage in about 10 minutes.

You can have an incredible marriage.

Sir, if you're struggling with pornography and you're here this morning, you think it's just normal.

It's not normal for us to have to have this fight.

God wants you to be free from this.

Free from porn.

This real battle the enemy's using.

In fact, he just sends it to your phone.

Now you don't even have to go look for it because now what?

They're sending it to you now.

These algorithms are just targeting your kids and targeting you.

It's incredible.

Guard your mind and your eyes and your heart from the evil one.

He wants to destroy you.

Porn will destroy you, man.

It'll destroy you as a man.

It'll destroy your marriage.

It'll destroy you.

Why?

Because Satan has come for one purpose, dear Christian, as to kill, steal, and destroy.

He can't take your salvation, but he can rob you of anything that God has provided for you here.

You don't have to live that way.

We are the family of God.

If you need something this morning, that room is open for that reason.

And I want to invite you to come as we close in prayer today.

Thank you all for being here this morning.

You can expect a battle, but you are always going to battle from the position of victory.

You may not always win in your humanity, but Christ has already won.

The final epic battle has been won.

You wrestle from a position of victory.

If you're defeated this morning, I pray that Christ Jesus would encourage you by his word that you would know who you are in Christ today.

If you have sin in your life and you know it's separating you from a true relationship of intimacy with God, listen to me, don't just keep dabbling in it.

Resist Satan and he will flee, but turn from that sin, turn unto Christ, ask him to forgive you, be restored in relationship, not in position.

You don't lose your position, praise God.

You can just get back in relationship.

Father, forgive me for that.

I want to be in intimacy with you, and I have to be these days.

You can do that this morning.

Let's pray.

Father God, thank you, Lord, for every person that is here watching or listening this morning.

Father, I thank you so much for your word.

God, thank you for letting us be alive, God, at this time.

Oh, Lord, we have a mighty purpose.

Lord, my brothers and sisters in Christ, God, we are just ransacked today with so many things

God, we were just doing our best just to even get here today.

God, if truth be known, there's some husbands and wives here that their love is so cold and their marriage is so close to being over.

They're simply just living as roommates and they're hanging together just because they've got kids and they don't want to hurt their children.

But Lord, they don't have to have that kind of marriage.

They can have a marriage that's built upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

They can have victory in their marriage, God, this morning.

Would you help them, Lord, today?

God, for moms and dads raising kids in this generation, Lord, no time in history has it been more difficult than it is right now to be a parent.

God, would you please help them, Lord?

Give them wisdom and discernment.

God, they're going to need encouragement and help along the way, Lord.

It's tiring in this day to raise children.

You're always fighting, protecting, and guarding.

You can't even let your guard down for an hour or two, God.

Please help these parents, Lord, today.

Lord, give them strength today.

They've got to have your wisdom and their discernment, Lord.

Help them work together as a husband and wife.

Or maybe there's a single parent here this morning and they're trying to do everything because they go to another parent's house and it's just the opposite of what they're trying to teach their kids, Lord.

I pray, God, that you would encourage that parent here this morning, God.

Lord, would you by your own Holy Spirit guard the minds and the hearts of those kids?

Oh, Lord, for those that are sick here this morning, God, they're fighting against some physical ailment that they're fighting against, Lord.

Please, God, I pray, Lord, that you would heal them, God.

Lord, that you are the great physician, Lord, that you would bring healing to their bodies, Lord, this morning.

God, help them to figure out and know where to get the help, God, however you choose to heal them, Lord.

Give them strength and encouragement today, Lord.

As they know they're in Christ Jesus, Lord, and you're a good father, God, would you please provide for them everything that they need?

Oh Lord, I know there's probably many of us in this place that could say, yeah, but my mind, oh, I wish my mind was better today.

It's just, I'm struggling with my mind because the battle really is in our mind.

Oh Lord God, you do not give us a spirit of fear, but you give us a spirit of love, power, sound mind.

Oh God, give us sound minds today.

Lord, if there's someone that's been relying on someone to help them in counseling, Lord, and it's been going on for months, Lord, you are the counselor, Holy Spirit.

Your word is true.

Father, our biggest counselor is the Holy Spirit, and you sent him, Jesus, so that he would help us, God.

We need your counsel today.

Oh, I pray, Lord, that you would help those people that are struggling with their past.

Oh God, maybe they were abused as a child, Lord.

They can't seem to get through it.

Well God, you came to give them brand new abundant life, God.

They don't have to revisit all those experiences of their childhood to somehow heal.

All they need to do is experience the manifold love of God in their life.

God, would you pour out your love in their heart today so that they can know what it means to be in Christ today.

They can feel the love that they didn't receive when they were young.

They can truly know what perfect love is like today, Lord.

That they don't have to live as a broken individual all the rest of their life, although they've experienced terrible things.

But God, they can experience what it means to be a restored, redeemed believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, who is living in victory, not because we have the ability, Lord, but because you are the power of the victory we need to live.

Lord, if there's a man or a woman here struggling with pornography today, oh God, would you please, number one, convict them so that they understand, God, that this is not pleasing to you.

Number two, God, would you please help them, God, to overcome this by the power of the Holy Spirit in their life.

Oh, set them free from this trap, Lord, and this bondage, enslavement, God, that this brings.

Set them free, Jesus, today.

There's someone here who's struggling with alcohol or drug addiction.

Maybe it's prescription pills and they began this process just from some pain of an accident.

But, oh man, these pills have taken over.

They can't seem to get victory and freedom from that, Lord.

God, would you bring victory and freedom in their life?

Even right now as they call out to you, God, would you help set them free from the addiction of prescription drugs, Lord Jesus?

Oh God, we need you.

We are just human people as you know.

But we have been redeemed by the God of all creation.

And Lord, if there's anyone here that doesn't know you today, by your Holy Spirit, would you draw them to yourself?

Would they turn from their sin in repentance and cling to you, Jesus, by faith, trusting and believing the work that you did on the cross of Calvary, the shedding of your blood, to purchase their freedom, to cancel their debt of sin, and to reconcile them to God as their Father.

Lord, we love you today.

These next few moments as we leave, Father, would you help us to be the light of the world this weekend?

We know the enemy will come.

God, you've given us all we need, Lord, to stand against him.

I pray that you'd help us to be victorious in that.

In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.

As you all leave, please, would you please just be cognitive of the fact that God's working on people's hearts here today as you leave.

Leave quietly.

If you need prayer, come to that room, please, and we're going to pray with you today.

God bless you guys.

Have a wonderful week in Christ.