

HERE'S A GOSPEL



HANDOUT FOR YOU

# G.N.U. GROWTHBOOK

## Volume II

### ★ A HANDBOOK FOR ★

# SPIRITUAL

# WARFARE

V  
FAITH  
CTORY

THEY OVERCAME HIM...



BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB...

...BY THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY



AND THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES UNTO THE DEATH!!



REVELATION 12:11



HELLO AGAIN (IF YOU HAVEN'T READ THE FIRST GROWTHBOOK, HELLO FOR THE FIRST TIME)! OUR FIRST BOOK COVERED A BROAD SPECTRUM OF TOPICS RELEVANT TO THE BEGINNER IN THE LIFE OF DISCIPLESHIP. IN THIS BOOK WE WILL EXAMINE MORE MINUTELY A MORE NARROW ASPECT: SPIRITUAL WARFARE! BEING A CHRISTIAN MEANS THAT ONE IS A FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST, WALKING AS HE WALKED. SINCE JESUS PURSUED A COURSE AT ODDS WITH THE WORLD'S SYSTEM, FOLLOWING AFTER HIM INVOLVES THE DISCIPLE IN CONTINUAL CONFRONTATION WITH THE WORLD'S WRONG ATTITUDES, VALUES, BELIEFS AND GOALS. THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, THEREFORE, ASSUMES THE CHARACTER OF A CONFLICT WITH THE PREVAILING ORDER OF THINGS AND IS THUS DESCRIBED IN THE BIBLE AS A WARFARE (SEE: EPH. 6:10-18/II COR. 10:4-5/III TIM. 2:3-4)!

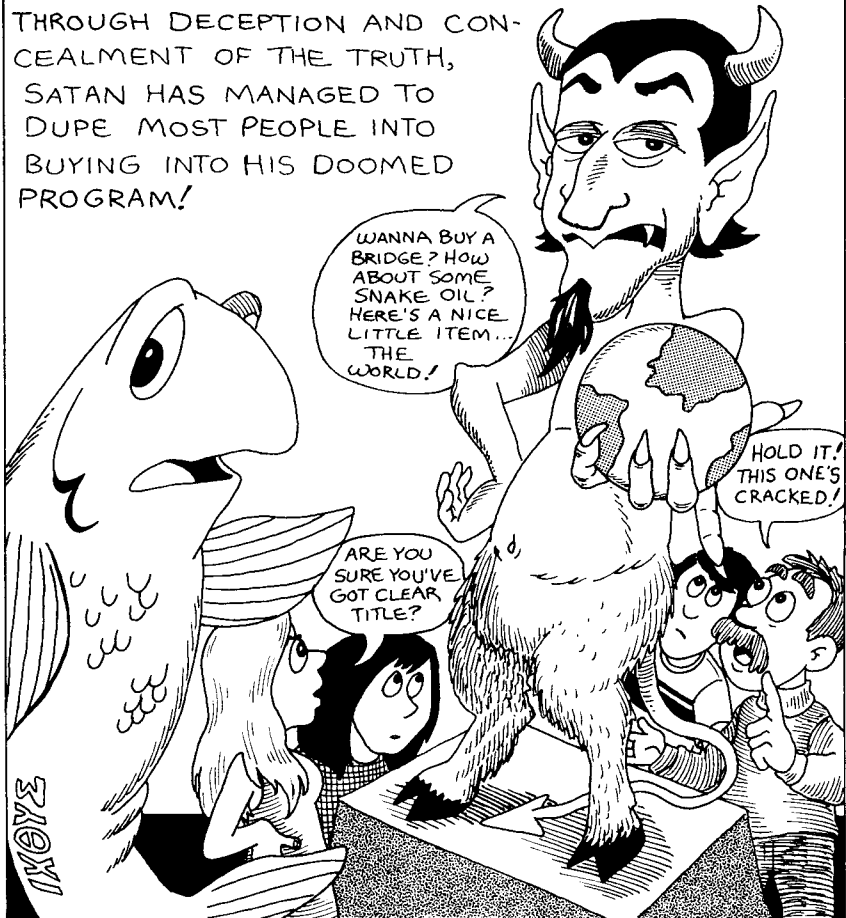
IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS WARFARE IS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST EVIL PEOPLE OR GOVERNMENTS PER SE, BUT AGAINST EVIL SPIRITUAL FORCES AND UNTRUTHS THAT HOLD MEN'S SOULS IN SPIRITUAL CAPTIVITY! THE ENEMY IS SATAN AND HIS HOSTS OF DEMON SPIRITS, NOT SOME NATIONAL ENTITY OR GROUP OF PEOPLE! CULTISTS, SECULAR HUMANISTS, HOLLYWOOD PRODUCERS, ABORTIONISTS, ETC. ARE MERELY THE HAPLESS SLAVES OF HIM WHOM WE MUST RESIST! THEY ARE THE ONES WE HAVE BEEN SENT TO RESCUE!

SATAN'S WEAPON IS DECEPTION. THE WORLD IS NO MATCH FOR HIS WILES, AND CANNOT DELIVER ITSELF FROM ITS BONDAGE. THE INFORMED CHRISTIAN, ARMED WITH THE TRUTH, REPRESENTS A CHALLENGE TO SATAN'S ACTIVITIES AND MAKES HIM SHUDDER! THE ONLY HOPE SATAN HAS OF SUCCESS IS TO KEEP CHRISTIANS IGNORANT OF THEIR RESOURCES IN CHRIST AND MISDIRECTED IN THE USE OF THEIR ENERGIES! THIS BOOKLET IS A MODEST ATTEMPT TO GUARANTEE HIS FAILURE IN THIS!

READ THROUGH THE BOOK IN ONE SITTING FIRST. THEN GO BACK THROUGH IT MORE SLOWLY, LOOKING-UP EVERY BIBLE VERSE CITED! ALL THOSE REFERENCES WERE NOT ADDED JUST TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE AUTHOR'S "WRITER'S CRAMP"!

# MEET THE LOSER...

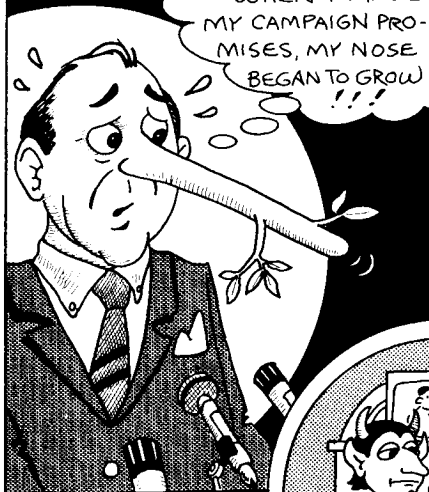
IN SPEAKING OF AN OPPONENT THIS WAY, IT MAY SOUND AS IF THE WAR IS ALREADY OVER! WELL IN ONE SENSE, IT IS, AND IN ANOTHER IT ISN'T OVER. EVER SINCE THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST, THE END RESULT HAS BEEN INEVITABLE - SATAN HAS BEEN STRIPPED OF ALL AUTHORITY AND THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS IS IN GRADUAL RETREAT! HOWEVER, NOT EVERYONE IS AWARE OF THIS FACT! THROUGH DECEPTION AND CONCEALMENT OF THE TRUTH, SATAN HAS MANAGED TO DUPE MOST PEOPLE INTO BUYING INTO HIS DOOMED PROGRAM!



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TO A LARGE EXTENT, SATAN EXERTS AN ILLEGITIMATE CONTROL OVER WORLDLY SOCIETY THROUGH HIS SYMPATHIZERS AND PATSIES POSITIONED IN THE MAJOR SPHERES OF CULTURAL INFLUENCE! THESE INCLUDE:

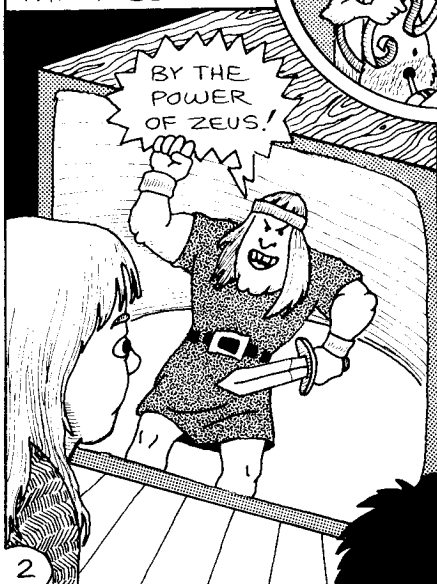
POLITICS



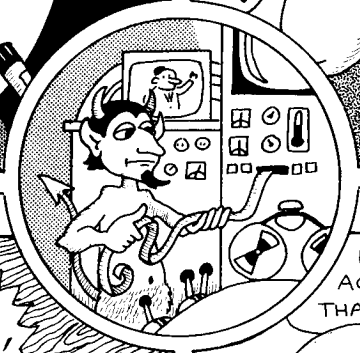
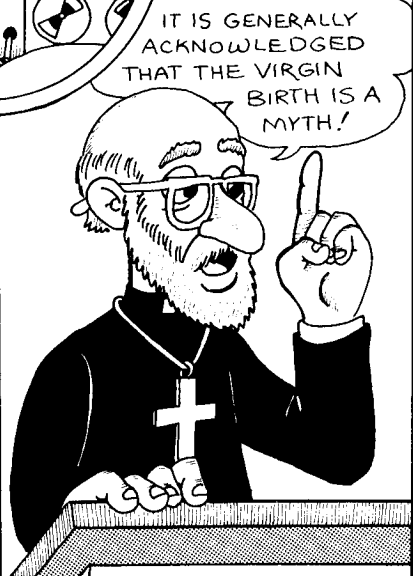
EDUCATION



THE MEDIA



RELIGION





SATAN'S SUCCESS IS LARGELY DUE TO THE FACT THAT, BEING INVISIBLE, HE CAN SECRETLY AND SUBTLY SUGGEST HIS IDEAS TO THE UNSUSPECTING MIND. HIS BEST HOPE IS THAT YOU WILL MISTAKE HIS VOICE FOR YOUR OWN THOUGHTS. YOU ARE THEN UNLIKELY TO RESIST!

OCCASIONALLY, THOUGH, HE MAY COME OUT OF THE CLOSET IN A SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATION! NEW CULTS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO ORIGINATE IN THIS WAY. IN SUCH CASES, TO REMOVE SUSPICION, SATAN CAN APPEAR IN A DECEPTIVE FORM, DISGUIISING HIMSELF AS AN ANGEL OF LIGHT (II COR. 11:14)!

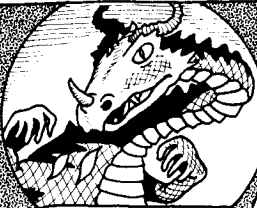
YOUR PASTOR HASN'T CALLED, EVEN THOUGH HE KNOWS YOU ARE HURTING!

YEAH! HE'S PROBABLY OUT ON THE GOLF COURSE!



NOBODY KNOWS WHAT SATAN ACTUALLY LOOKS LIKE. SINCE WE NEED TO DEPICT HIM IN THIS BOOK, IN ORDER TO AVOID GLAMORIZING HIM, WE HAVE CHOSEN TO USE A NUMBER OF TRADITIONAL AND SCRIPTURAL REPRESENTATIONS OF HIM:

SERPENT/DAGON



REVELATION 12:9

YOU CONFESSED YOUR SIN - TRUE! BUT YOU WEREN'T SINCERE! GOD WON'T FORGIVE YOU!

A GOAT



TRADITIONAL

LYING ACCUSER



REVELATION 12:10

A THIEF



JOHN 10:10

I'LL JUST SNATCH THIS VIRGINITY AND INNOCENCE BEFORE THEIR VALUE IS REALIZED!

A MURDERER



JOHN 8:44

THE ENEMY OF SATAN THAT RENDERS HIM POWERLESS IS THE TRUTH! SATAN'S DESIRE IS TO PROMOTE UNTRUTH AT ALL TIMES. JESUS CALLED SATAN "THE FATHER OF LIES" (JN. 8:44). THE DEVIL BEGAN HIS CAREER IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN BY LYING TO OUR FIRST PARENTS, RESULTING IN THE FALL OF THE HUMAN RACE INTO BONDAGE.



II COR. 11:3

EVEN AT THE TIME OF THE FALL, GOD PROMISED THAT A SAVIOR WOULD COME TO BRING AN END TO THE REIGN OF SATAN IN THE EARTH! THIS SAVIOR WAS TO BE THE TRUTH IN HUMAN FORM (JOHN 14:6)! HE WOULD BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD TO DRIVE AWAY THE FORCES OF DARKNESS!



GEN. 3:15

KILLING THIS BABY MESSIAH IS YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO KEEP YOUR THRONE!

WIPE OUT EVERY BABY BOY IN THE TOWN!



WHEN THIS MESSIAH, JESUS CHRIST, FINALLY WAS BORN, SATAN KNEW THAT THIS WAS HIS OWN DEADLY RIVAL AND SOUGHT, THROUGH KING HEROD, TO PUT HIS LIGHT OUT BEFORE HE COULD GROW-UP TO BE A SERIOUS THREAT! THROUGH GOD'S INTERVENTION, JESUS ESCAPED. REV. 12:3-4 / MATT. 2:16

WHEN JESUS WAS GROWN, SATAN ATTEMPTED TO CORRUPT HIM AND PUT OUT HIS LIGHT BY TEMPTING HIM TO ACT ON HIS OWN BEHALF AGAINST GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS. ONCE AGAIN, THE DEVIL FAILED AND SOUGHT FOR OTHER, MORE SUBTLE, MEANS TO DERAIL JESUS, WITHOUT SUCCESS (MTT. 4:1-11)!

TURN IT INTO BREAD! YOU'RE STARVING!

FATHER HAS SAID NOTHING! I'D BETTER NOT!



GET BEHIND ME, SATAN!

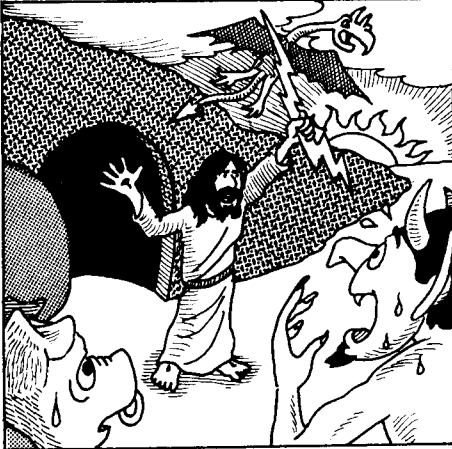


EVEN THROUGH THE UNWITTING ASSISTANCE OF JESUS' OWN TRUSTED DISCIPLES SATAN SOUGHT TO EXTINGUISH THE LIGHT BY PERSUADING JESUS TO DEPART FROM THE COURSE GOD HAD DESIGNATED FOR HIM TO GO IN (MATT. 16: 22-23)!

NOT UNDERSTANDING GOD'S SECRET STRATEGY, THAT JESUS BY DYING WOULD CONQUER DEATH AND THE DEVIL (I COR. 2: 7-8), SATAN FELL INTO GOD'S TRAP BY INCITING A MOB TO CALL FOR CHRIST'S EXECUTION! THIS GAVE SATAN THE APPARENT VICTORY AND WAS THE OCCASION OF GLEE FOR THE FORCES OF DARKNESS!



FOR 3 DAYS, JESUS' DEAD BODY LAY IN A SEALED TOMB, GUARDED BY SOLDIERS (MATT. 27:66)! THE LIGHT WAS OUT! BUT THE SECRET WISDOM OF GOD WAS AT WORK! CHRIST HAD SACRIFICED HIS BLOOD TO SATISFY THE PENALTY FOR OUR SINS (EPH. 1:7/I JN. 1:7).



SINCE DEATH DERIVES ITS POWER FROM SIN (ROM. 6:23 I COR. 15:56), BY RESOLVING OUR SIN PROBLEM, JESUS FREED US FROM THE POWER OF DEATH AND FROM THE DEVIL HIMSELF! HE ALSO DEMONSTRATED THIS BY RISING FROM THE DEAD! SATAN'S SEEMING VICTORY HAD BACKFIRED IN HIS FACE! HE WAS NO MATCH FOR THE MESSIAH!

JESUS ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, WHERE HE NOW SITS REIGNING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD! THERE HE INTERCEDES FOR US TO THE FATHER AND DEFENDS US FROM THE ACCUSATIONS OF SATAN, WHO SEEKS TO RE-ASSERT HIS CONTROL OVER THE WORLD.





SIN, WHICH WARRANTS DEATH, IS THE VIOLATION OF GOD'S LAW. WE HAVE ALL BROKEN GOD'S PERFECT LAW - SO IT CONDEMNS US! SATAN EXPLOITS THE BROKEN LAW TO ACCUSE US BEFORE GOD! WHY? BECAUSE OUR GUILT GIVES SATAN AN ADVANTAGE OVER US AND IS A BARRIER BETWEEN US AND GOD! THE LAW THUS BECOMES SATAN'S BEST TOOL AGAINST US! (ROMANS 7:7-11)



COMP. ZECH. 3:1

THE LIFE, DEATH & RESURRECTION OF JESUS SOLVED THIS PROBLEM! GOD COUNTS HIM AS OUR REPRESENTATIVE, OR AGENT! HE KEPT THE WHOLE LAW, AND HIS OBEDIENCE IS COUNTED ON OUR ACCOUNT!

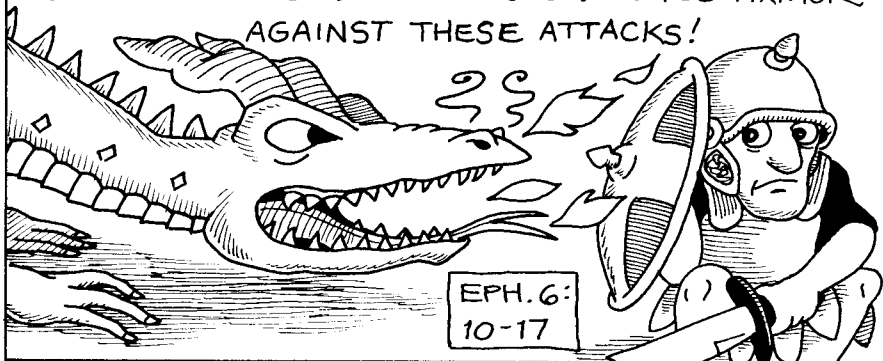


IT IS AS IF WE HAVE LIVED THE PERFECT LIFE THAT HE LIVED AS OUR SUBSTITUTE! THIS IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE HIS DYING WAS ALSO IN OUR PLACE AS OUR SUBSTITUTE. IT IS AS IF WE DIED WITH HIM, IN GOD'S WAY OF SEEING IT! THE LAW CAN CONDEMN A PERSON TO DEATH, BUT CAN NOT LAY FURTHER CLAIM UPON THE ONE WHO HAS DIED! THUS DEATH, THE DEVIL, ETAL, HAVE LOST ANY GROUNDS TO ACCUSE GOD'S CHILDREN WHO HAVE PLACED THEIR TRUST IN

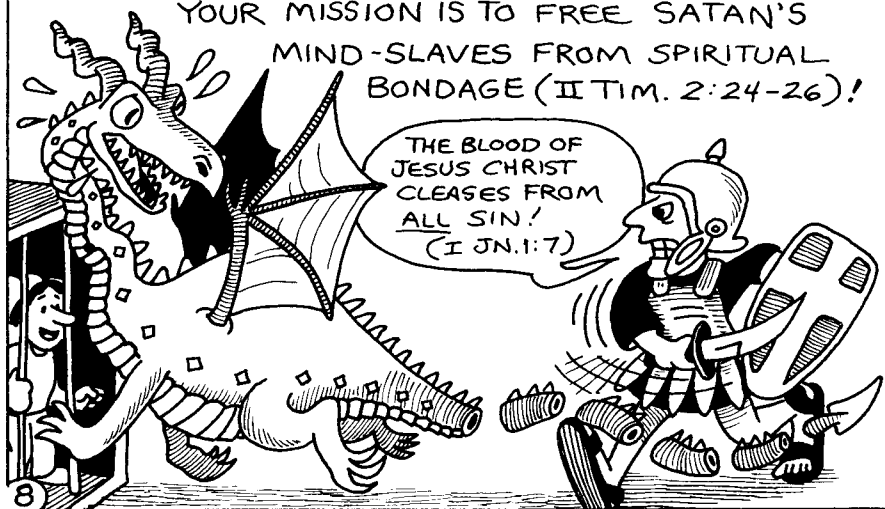
CHRIST'S ATONING WORK FOR SALVATION! "HAVING DRAWN THE STING OF ALL THE POWERS AND AUTHORITIES RANGED AGAINST US, HE EXPOSED THEM SHATTERED, EMPTY AND DEFEATED IN HIS OWN TRIUMPHANT VICTORY" (COL. 2:14-15 PHILLIP'S TRANSLATION) SEE II COR. 5:21/PHIL. 3:9 I PETER 2:24

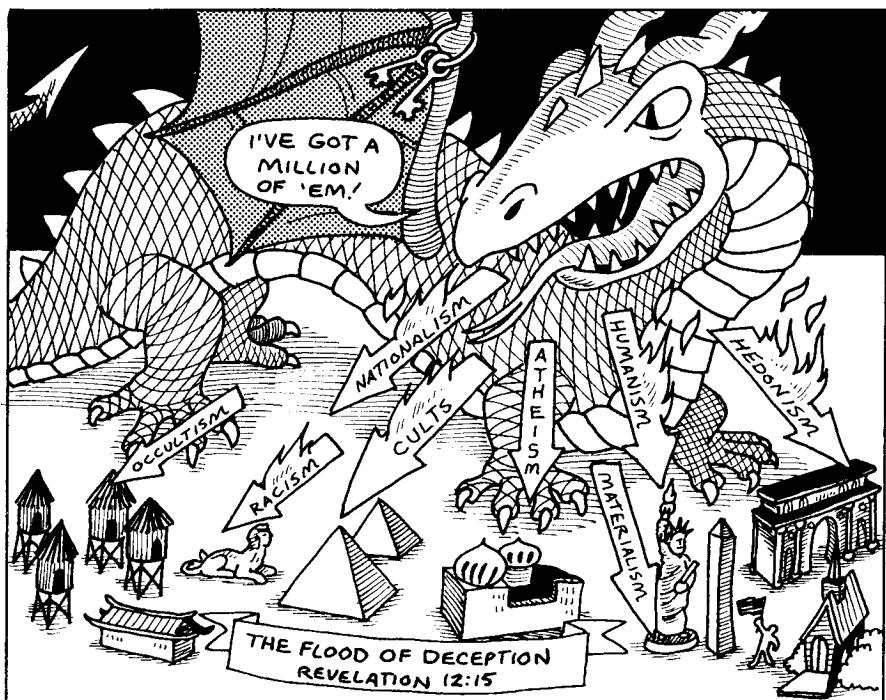
COMP. REV. 12:10

THE WAR IS OVER, AS FAR AS HEAVEN IS CONCERNED, BUT ON EARTH SATAN MADLY (AND VAINLY) TRIES TO RETAIN HIS CONTROL OVER MEN'S MINDS AND SOULS BY KEEPING THEM IN IGNORANCE OF CHRIST'S VICTORY! SINCE YOU KNOW AND SHARE THIS TRUTH WITH OTHERS, SATAN WILL TARGET YOU FOR ATTACK! GOD HAS GIVEN YOU ARMOR AGAINST THESE ATTACKS!



AT THE SAME TIME, YOU MUST SEEK TO MAKE AGGRESSIVE ADVANCES AGAINST THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS! THIS IS NOT DONE THROUGH PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BUT BY THE SWORD OF GOD'S WORD AND PRAYER (EPHESIANS 6:17-18)! YOUR MISSION IS TO FREE SATAN'S MIND-SLAVES FROM SPIRITUAL BONDAGE (II TIM. 2:24-26)!

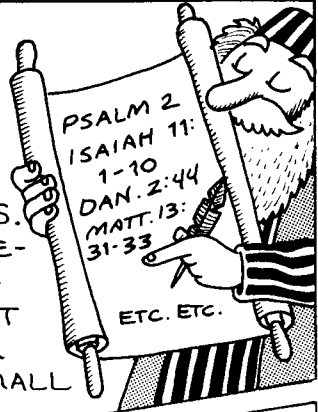




## THE TWO KINGDOMS: DARK & LIGHT

ALL SOCIETIES & INDIVIDUALS ARE SUBJECT TO ONE KING OR ANOTHER! TWO KINGDOMS - GOD'S REAL ONE AND SATAN'S ILLEGITIMATE ONE - COMPETE FOR THE SAME TURF: THE SOULS OF MANKIND! JESUS' KINGDOM CONSISTS OF ALL WHO ARE SAVED AND WHO ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AS KING (OR LORD, THE SAME CONCEPT)! ALL OTHERS ARE CITIZENS OF THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS UNDER SATAN, WHETHER THEY KNOW THIS OR NOT! THERE ARE NO NEUTRALS (EPH. 2:2 / COL. 1:13 / MATT. 12:30)! SATAN SEEMS TO BE OBSESSED WITH THE IDEA OF BEING WORSHIPPED, AND HAS SOME - SATANISTS - WHO WORSHIP HIM OUTRIGHT! MOST WON'T STOOP TO THIS, HOWEVER, SO HE SUBSTITUTES VARIOUS PHILOSOPHIES AND IDEOLOGIES (AND RELIGIONS) FOR BLATANT SATANISM. THESE SEEM, SOMEHOW, LESS OBJECTIONABLE, BUT ARE NO DIFFERENT IN ESSENCE SINCE THESE ALL EQUALLY REJECT CHRIST'S LORDSHIP. (9

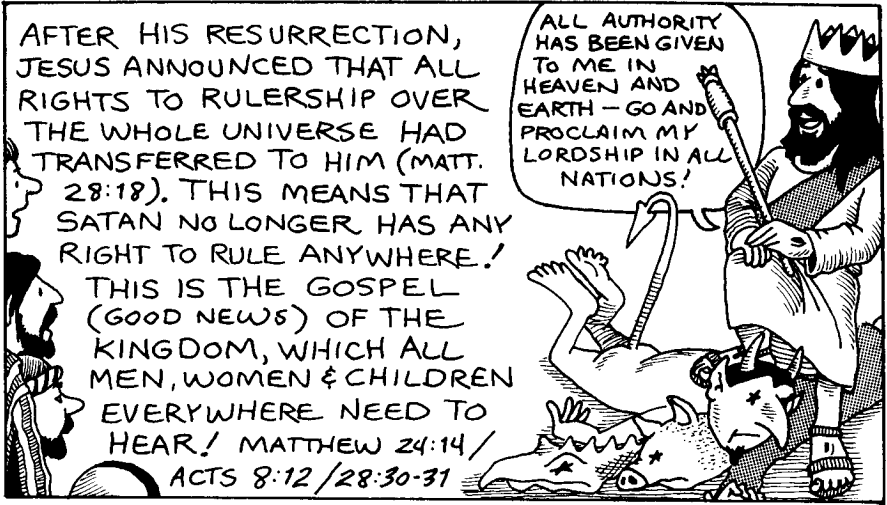
FOR AT LEAST 4000 YEARS (OLD TESTAMENT TIMES) THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS HELD SWAY OVER ALL THE WORLD, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW DEVOUT JEWISH BELIEVERS. SOME OF THEIR PROPHETS PREDICTED THAT, IN THE TIME OF THE MESSIAH, GOD WOULD SET UP AN ALTERNATIVE KINGDOM WHICH WOULD GROW FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS INTO A GLOBAL COMMONWEALTH!



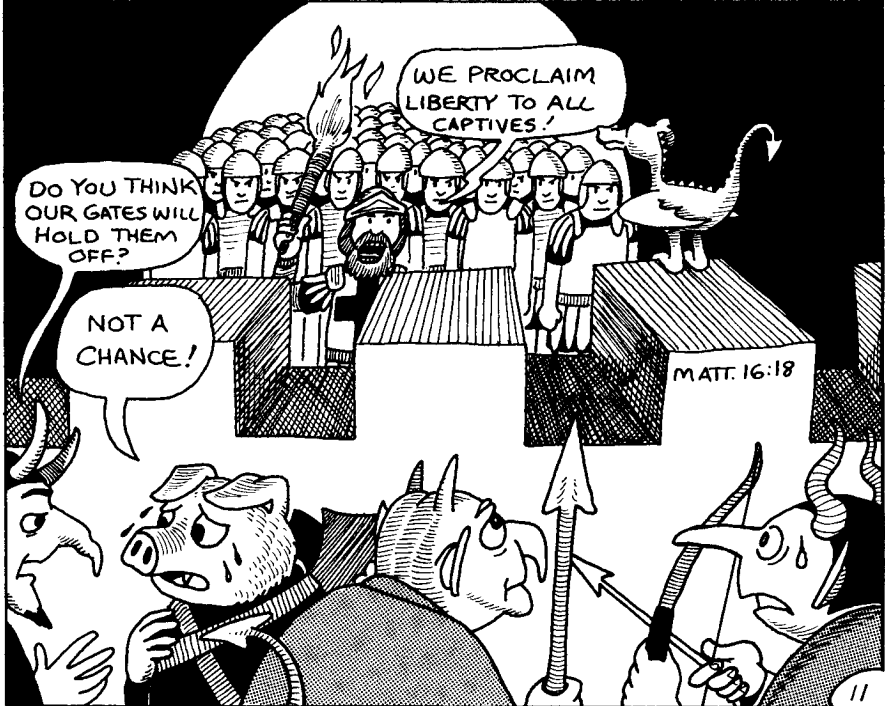
THIS IS THE KINGDOM ANNOUNCED BY JOHN THE BAPTIST (MATT. 3:2) AND JESUS (MARK 1:15). THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITS ARRIVAL CAUSED QUITE A STIR - ESPECIALLY AMONG THOSE LOYAL TO THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS, BUT THEY COULDN'T STOP IT! MATT. 11:12

JESUS SET PEOPLE FREE FROM DEMONIC BONDAGE (SEE PAGES 18-19) AND DECLARED THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE ONLY BECAUSE HE HAD "BOUND" THE "STRONG MAN" - THIS MEANS THAT HE HAD RENDERED SATAN POWERLESS TO RESIST THE PLUNDERING OF HIS PRISON HOUSE BY JESUS (MATT. 12:28-29)! CHRIST'S KINGDOM WAS DEMONSTRABLY SUPERIOR TO THE ILLEGITIMATE KINGDOM!





THIS GOSPEL IS A MESSAGE OF LIBERATION! THOUGH SATAN HAS NO RIGHTS, HE RULES OVER ALL WHO ARE IGNORANT ENOUGH TO SERVE HIM! BY THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL, WE CHALLENGE SATAN'S FALSE RULE!

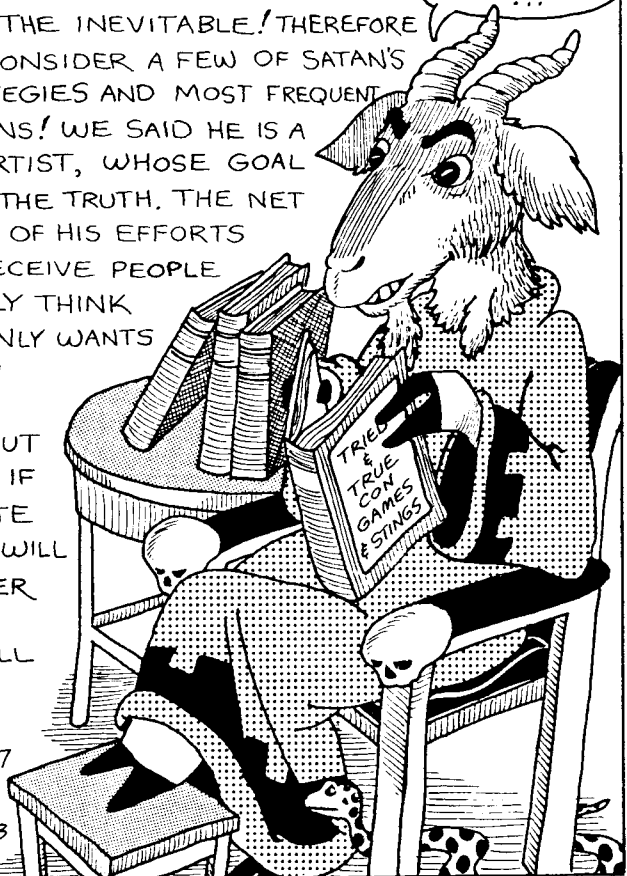


# The Devil's Devices...

SOME CHRISTIANS CONSIDER IT UNHEALTHY TO THINK ABOUT THE DEVIL! WE AGREE THAT THE DEMONIC REALM MUST NOT DOMINATE OUR THINKING AND THAT OUR FOCUS OUGHT TO BE ON JESUS! HOWEVER, THE BIBLE URGES US TO BE SOBERLY WATCHFUL FOR THE DEVIL, WHO SEEKS TO "DEVOUR" US (I PET. 5:8). ALSO, WE ARE WARNED ABOUT HIS WILES OR STRATEGIES (EPH. 6:11) AND ARE NOT TO BE IGNORANT OF HIS DEVICES (II COR. 2:11)! IN ORDER TO FIGHT AN ADVERSARY, IT IS HELPFUL TO KNOW HOW HE NORMALLY ATTACKS SO AS TO BE PREPARED FOR THE INEVITABLE! THEREFORE WE WILL NOW CONSIDER A FEW OF SATAN'S PRINCIPAL STRATEGIES AND MOST FREQUENT ATTACK PATTERNS! WE SAID HE IS A LIAR, A CON ARTIST, WHOSE GOAL IS TO SUPPRESS THE TRUTH. THE NET RESULT OF ALL OF HIS EFFORTS WILL BE TO DECEIVE PEOPLE. SOME MISTAKENLY THINK THAT SATAN MAINLY WANTS TO AFFLICT YOU PHYSICALLY OR FINANCIALLY - BUT THIS IS ONLY SO IF IT WILL PROMOTE DECEPTION! HE WILL GLADLY PROSPER AND EVEN HEAL PEOPLE IF IT WILL KEEP THEM IN A COMFORTABLE ERROR! REV. 3:17

HEH! HEH!  
SOME OF  
THESE OLDIES  
STILL WORK AS  
GOOD AS NEW  
!!!

II THESS. 2:9-10  
MATTHEW 7:22-23  
12 DEUT. 13:1-3





LIES ARE SATAN'S STOCK-IN-TRADE! AND HE HAS A LARGE INVENTORY! SOME ARE WHISPERED TO INDIVIDUALS WHILE OTHERS ARE Poured OUT LIKE A FLOOD UPON WHOLE SOCIETIES IN THE FORM OF FALSE RELIGIOUS IDEAS! THESE SUCCEED IN FOOling NATIONS BECAUSE THEY APPEAL TO THE DEEP RELIGIOUS LONGINGS OF THE HUMAN HEART, BUT SERVE SATAN'S PURPOSES IN THAT THEY FILL THAT HUNGER FOR REALITY WITH A COUNTERFEIT SPIRITUALITY! FOR EXAMPLE:

### SATAN SAYS:



① HUMANS ARE GOOD BY NATURE & NEED NO SALVATION!

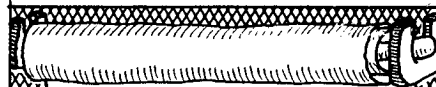
② GOD, IF HE EXISTS, IS NON-PERSONAL, OR AT LEAST NON-JUDGEMENTAL! HE WOULD NEVER CONDEMN ANYONE!

③ JESUS WAS JUST A GOOD AND ENLIGHTENED MAN! WE CAN ATTAIN HIS STATUS TOO!

④ ETERNAL LIFE, IF IT EXISTS, IS ATTAINED THROUGH GOOD BEHAVIOR OR GOOD INTENTIONS!

⑤ THE BIBLE IS THE PRODUCT OF MEN WHOSE IDEAS ARE NOW OUTDATED!

### THE TRUTH IS:



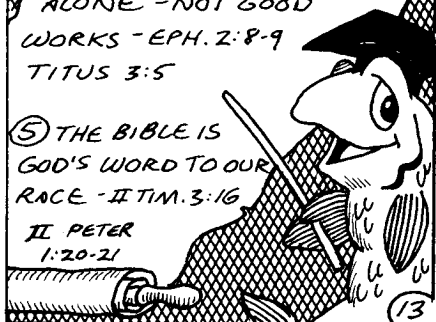
① MAN IS BENT BY NATURE TOWARD SIN - JER. 17:9  
I JOHN 1:8

② GOD IS A LOVING FATHER AND A JUST JUDGE WHO PUNISHES REBELS - PS. 103:13  
ACTS 17:30-31

③ JESUS WAS GOD'S SON WHO CAME FROM HEAVEN TO SAVE US - JOHN 3:16  
8:23, 42 / 16:28 / LUKE 19:10

④ ETERNAL LIFE IS A PART OF SALVATION GIVEN TO US THRU FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE - NOT GOOD WORKS - EPH. 2:8-9  
TITUS 3:5

⑤ THE BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD TO OUR RACE - II TIM. 3:16  
II PETER 1:20-21

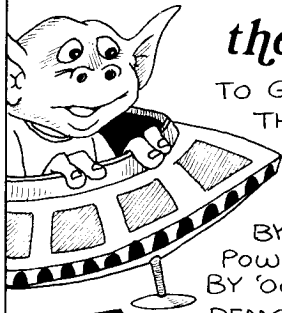


THE DEVIL ALSO PROMOTES VARIOUS LIES ABOUT HIMSELF! THE MOST POPULAR OF THESE IS (IN THE WESTERN WORLD AT LEAST) THAT HE DOESN'T EXIST! A VARIATION ON THIS ONE IS THAT "SATAN" IS SIMPLY AN IDEA REPRESENTING "THE EVIL IN EVERY PERSON." AMONG THOSE WHO KNOW THAT SATAN IS REAL, HE SEEKS TO MAGNIFY HIS OWN SIGNIFICANCE, POWER, AND CONTROL! HE KEEPS MILLIONS OF TRIBAL PEOPLES IN SERVILE FEAR THROUGH THIS MEANS. EVEN CHRISTIANS (WHO OUGHT TO KNOW BETTER!) OFTEN ARE TOO UNDUPLY AWESTRUCK & INTIMIDATED BY AN INFLATED ESTIMATE OF SATAN'S IMAGINED POWER OR CLEVERNESS!



# the occult & new age...

TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR HIS UNTRUE "TRUTHS", THE DEVIL EMPLOYS FLATTERY, PEER PRESSURE AND MANY OTHER DEVICES TO HERD HUMAN SHEEP INTO HIS LAIR! HE WILL EVEN FLEX HIS PUNY MUSCLES BY DISPLAYING SOME MODICUM OF POWER THROUGH OCCULTIC DEMONSTRATIONS! BY 'OCCULT' WE MEAN PRACTICES THAT EXPLOIT DEMONIC POWERS - WHETHER THE PARTICIPANTS RECOGNIZE THEM AS DEMONIC OR NOT! THESE INCLUDE (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO): MAGIC, FORTUNE-TELLING, DOWSING, PSYCHIC HEALING, CONTACT WITH THE DEAD OR WITH "SPIRIT GUIDES" OR "ASCENDED MASTERS", MIND-CONTROL, ASTROLOGY, VISUALIZATION, HYPNOTISM, ETC. GOD WARNS HIS PEOPLE NOT TO BE IMPRESSED BY NOR TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH THINGS (LEV. 19:31/DEUT. 18:10-12) A VERY POPULAR MOVEMENT THAT COMBINES MAN-DEIFYING FLATTERY FROM EASTERN RELIGIONS, OCCULT RITUALS AND HUMANISTIC PSYCHOLOGY IS THE "NEW AGE MOVEMENT"! IT IS A POTENT DECEPTION FROM SATAN!



BESIDES THE DECEPTION OF THE MASSES, SATAN IS ALSO CONCERNED WITH PERSONALLY DECEIVING YOU IN WAYS THAT WILL DAMAGE YOUR CHRISTIAN LIFE! HIS LIES MAY BE COMMUNICATED TO YOU BY SILENT MENTAL SUGGESTION OR BY A MESSENGER - USUALLY A NON-CHRISTIAN - THOUGH SOMETIMES EVEN BY BELIEVERS - MATT. 16:23 / JOB 2:9



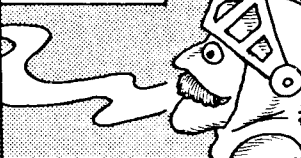
## The How of Temptation:

TEMPTATION IS SATAN'S ATTEMPT TO SEDUCE OR ALLURE YOU TO SIN. BUT SATAN IS NOT THE ONLY INSTIGATOR. YOUR OWN FALLEN NATURE WITH ITS LUSTS CAN LEAD YOU ASTRAY WITHOUT ANY HELP FROM SATAN (JAMES 1:13-15 / GALATIANS 5:19-21), AND THE FALLEN WORLD WITH ITS ALLUREMENTS SERVES AS BAIT ON THE DEVIL'S HOOK (I JOHN 2:15-17 / II TIMOTHY 4:10), BUT YOU WON'T SUCCEMB UNLESS YOU ARE DECEIVED!

THE WORLD



THE FLESH

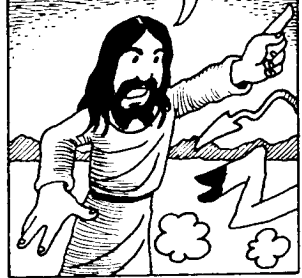


SATAN



JESUS ALSO WAS TEMPTED AS WE ARE (HEB. 4:15) BUT SATAN FAILED TO DECEIVE HIM BECAUSE JESUS MET EVERY ATTEMPT TO DECEIVE HIM WITH A DECLARATION OF THE TRUTH FROM GOD'S WORD! FAMILIARITY WITH SCRIPTURE IS YOUR BEST DEFENSE AGAINST TEMPTATION (PSALM 119:11)! IN ORDER TO MAKE YOU SIN, SATAN MUST MAKE YOU NEGLECT THE TRUTH, SEE REALITY OUT OF FOCUS, CONFUSE YOUR VALUES, FORGET ABOUT JUDGEMENT, ETC. KNOW WHAT GOD SAID!

BEGONE, YOU SCOUNDREL, FOR IT IS WRITTEN, "YOU SHALL NOT..."



GO AHEAD AND LOSE YOUR TEMPER! IT'S NORMAL!

IT IS WRITTEN: "LET ALL WRATH AND ANGER BE PUT AWAY FROM YOU, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER AS GOD IN CHRIST FORGAVE YOU" - EPHESIANS 4:31-32!

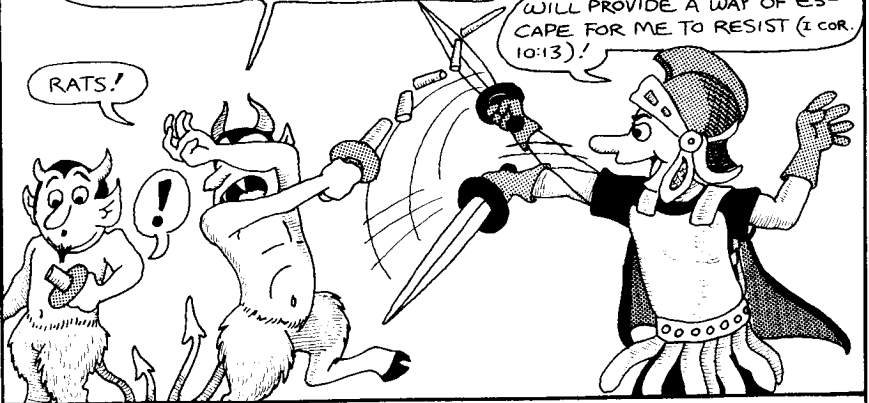
WELL...UH...YEAH, BUT THINK ABOUT HOW SATISFYING IT WOULD BE TO EXPLODE IN THAT GUY'S FACE! ANY REGRETS OR UNDESIRABLE RESULTS WILL BE MINIMAL IN COMPARISON TO THE PLEASURE OF LETTING OFF STEAM!

WRONG! "WHAT FRUIT DID YOU HAVE IN THE THINGS OF WHICH YOU ARE NOW ASHAMED?" (ROMANS 6:21)

SURELY YOU DON'T THINK THE TEMPTATION WILL JUST GO AWAY! JUST DO IT AND GET IT OVER WITH! YOU HAVE NO CHOICE!

WRONG AGAIN! GOD WILL PROVIDE A WAY OF ESCAPE FOR ME TO RESIST (1 COR. 10:13)!

RATS!



SOME VERY USEFUL SCRIPTURE PASSAGES WITH WHICH TO BE EQUIPPED WHEN ENGAGING THE ENEMY ARE LISTED BELOW. BEGIN TO MEMORIZE VERSES THAT HELP YOU TO BEAT DOWN SATAN'S ATTACKS: JAMES 4:7 / 1 JN. 3:8 / 4:4 HEB. 2:14-15 / LUKE 1:71, 74-75 / 10:19 / ISAIAH 49:25 / 54:17 / 59:19

## *Spiritual bondage and deliverance*

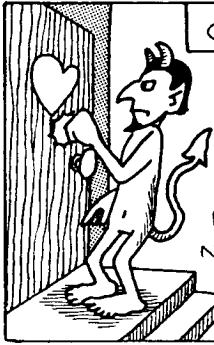
SATAN HAS MANY SPIRITS IN HIS SERVICE WHO HELP HIM CARRY-OUT HIS MALICIOUS WORK. THEY ARE CALLED DEMONS. THE DEMONS PROMOTE FALSE DOCTRINE (I TIM. 4:1) AND DECEIVE NATIONS TO GO TO WAR (REV. 16:14)! THEY DESIRE TO BE WORSHIPPED (LEV. 17:7 / I COR. 10:20 / REV. 9:20)! THEY SEEK TO CONTROL AND TORTURE INDIVIDUALS WITH INSANITY (I SAM. 16:14 / MK. 5: 2-5)! CERTAIN PEOPLE ARE "DEMONIZED" (SOMETIMES CALLED "POSSESSED"), WHICH IS A STATE OF BONDAGE, IN SOME ASPECT OF THEIR PERSONALITY, TO A DEMON! SUCH PEOPLE ARE THE SLAVES, EITHER BY CHOICE OR OTHERWISE, OF SATAN!



PEOPLE CAN BE SET FREE FROM DEMONIC BONDAGE AND THE DEMONS CAST-OUT! JESUS DID THIS FREQUENTLY! HE ALSO BESTOWED THIS AUTHORITY TO HIS DISCIPLES THRU HIS NAME (MATT. 10: 1, 8 / LUKE 10:17 / MARK 16: 17 / ACTS 8: 6-7 / 16: 16-18)! CHRISTIANS ARE CHRIST'S AUTHORIZED AGENTS, AND DEMONS MUST OBEY CHRIST'S AGENTS WHO ACT IN HIS AUTHORITY JUST AS THEY HAD TO OBEY

18) JESUS HIMSELF (ACTS 19: 14-15 / JOHN 13:20)!





### CAUSES OF SPIRITUAL BONDAGE:

THE BIBLE DOES NOT TELL HOW PEOPLE BECOME DEMONIZED, BUT SPEAKS OF IT AS A SOMEWHAT COMMON CONDITION! WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE DEMON ENTERS AT A TIME WHEN THE VICTIM IS SPIRITUALLY VULNERABLE. THERE ARE BIBLICAL INDICATIONS THAT ONE MAY BECOME VULNERABLE IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS: BY EMBRACING FALSE BELIEFS (I TIM. 4:1/II TIM. 2:25-26); BEING INVOLVED IN THE OCCULT (ACTS 8:9, 23/16:16) OR HARBORING UNFORGIVENESS (EPH. 4:26-27/MATT. 18:35).

**SOME SYMPTOMS OF DEMONIC BONDAGE:**

HOW IS "DEMONIC BONDAGE" RECOGNIZED? FROM VARIOUS SCRIPTURE PASSAGES A LIST OF OCCASIONAL SYMPTOMS CAN BE COMPOSED. THESE WOULD INCLUDE: OCCULT POWERS, CLAIRVOYANCE, SUPERNATURAL STRENGTH, LUNACY, FIERCENESS, BLASPHEMY, A FALSE PROPHETIC GIFT, SEIZURES, ALIEN VOICES SPEAKING THROUGH THE SUBJECT, A VARIETY OF AILMENTS, ETC. (SEE: MATT. 8:28, 31/12:22/17:15/LK. 8:29/13:11, 16 ACTS 8:9-11/I SAM. 18:10-11/I KG. 22:22-23). NOT ALL OF THESE SYMPTOMS ARE SURE SIGNS OF "POSSESSION," BUT SOME ARE!

**HOW TOTAL FREEDOM IS OBTAINED:**

ONLY JESUS CHRIST CAN LIBERATE SATAN'S CAPTIVES! HE NEVER SET A PERSON FREE WHO DID NOT DESIRE TO BE DELIVERED! SOME PEOPLE MAY LIKE TO KEEP THEIR DEMON! THEY CANNOT BE HELPED IN THAT STATE OF MIND! HOWEVER, IF ONE DESIRES DELIVERANCE, HE OR SHE SHOULD A) REPENT OF AND RENOUNCE OCCULT INVOLVEMENT OR SIN THAT IS RELEVANT TO THE CONDITION (ACTS 8:22-23 / II TIM. 2:25-26); B) FORGIVE ALL AGAINST WHOM GRUDGES OR BITTERNESS HAVE BEEN HELD (MTT. 6:14-15 / II COR. 2:10-11); AND C) INVOKE THE AUTHORITY AND MERITS OF CHRIST'S VICTORY, COMMANDING THE DEMON TO LEAVE!

# Wartime Security

IN THE MIDST OF THE BATTLE, YOUR ONLY SECURITY IS TO BE "IN CHRIST"! HE IS A FORTRESS AND A SHIELD TO THOSE WHOSE TRUST IS IN HIM (PS. 18:2 / PROV. 18:10). TO BE "IN CHRIST" IS TO BE PART OF HIS BODY, A MEMBER OF HIM, SO IDENTIFIED WITH HIM THAT WHAT IS TRUE OF HIM CAN BE SAID OF YOU AS WELL! YOU WERE CHOSEN "IN HIM" (EPH. 1:4); YOU DIED "IN HIM" AND ARE RAISED "IN HIM" AND ARE ASCENDED AND SEATED AT GOD'S RIGHT HAND "IN HIM" (ROM. 6:11 / EPH. 2:5-6). THIS POSITION IS "FAR ABOVE ALL PRINCIPALITY AND POWER AND MIGHT AND DOMINION" (EPH. 1:21)! THE DEMONS RECOGNISE THIS, BUT UNLESS YOU DO, YOU WILL "WAR IN THE FLESH" (II COR. 10:3).

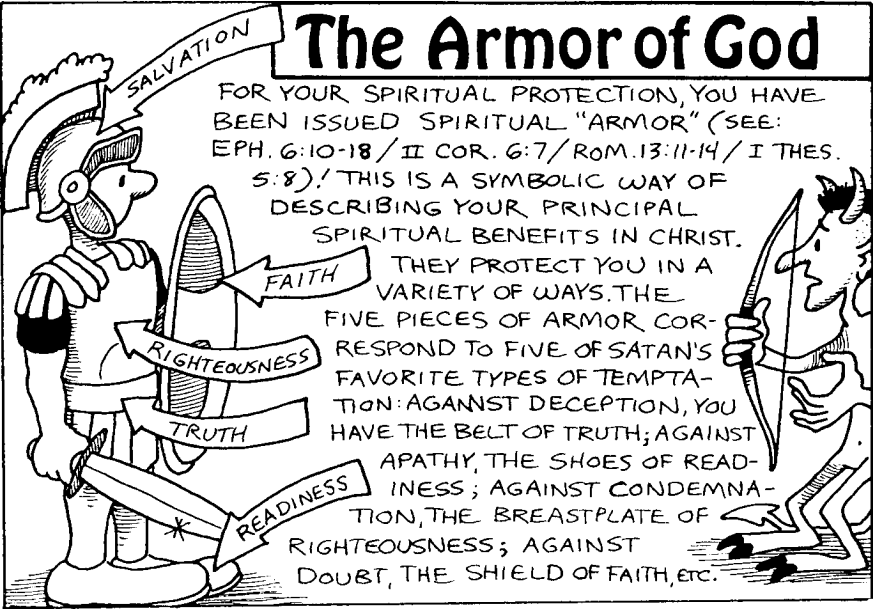


# The Armor of God

FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL PROTECTION, YOU HAVE BEEN ISSUED SPIRITUAL "ARMOR" (SEE: EPH. 6:10-18 / II COR. 6:7 / ROM. 13:11-14 / I THESS. 5:8)! THIS IS A SYMBOLIC WAY OF

DESCRIBING YOUR PRINCIPAL SPIRITUAL BENEFITS IN CHRIST.

THEY PROTECT YOU IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. THE FIVE PIECES OF ARMOR CORRESPOND TO FIVE OF SATAN'S FAVORITE TYPES OF TEMPTATION: AGAINST DECEPTION, YOU HAVE THE BELT OF TRUTH; AGAINST APATHY, THE SHOES OF READINESS; AGAINST CONDEMNATION, THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS; AGAINST DOUBT, THE SHIELD OF FAITH, ETC.



## The BELT of TRUTH

THE GREAT COMMODITY THAT THE CHRISTIAN POSSESSES IS THE TRUTH! THE TRUTH MAKES US FREE! IT CAN KEEP US SAFE FROM DECEPTION AND SIN, AND IT IS THE THING SATAN MOST OPPOSES AND FEARS (JOHN 8:32, 44)! THE PURE TRUTH OF GOD IS REVEALED IN THE BIBLE (JOHN 17:17), AND YOU ALWAYS BECOME MORE VULNERABLE TO ERROR AND SIN WHEN YOU REPRESENT AS TRUE ANYTHING THAT IS NOT BIBLICAL! DO NOT ADD TO GOD'S WORD (PROV. 30:6), BUT STAND IN THE TRUTH!

EPH. 6:14  
GAL. 2:14  
JER. 9:3

HE FORGOT HIS BELT! WE WIN THIS ROUND!



HEY! YOU SAID THE RAPTURE WOULD COME IN 1988! NOW I'LL NEVER BELIEVE WHAT YOU CHRISTIANS TELL ME!

THE GUY ON TV SAID IT WAS TRUE! HOW EMBARRASSING!



# GOOD NEWS SHOES

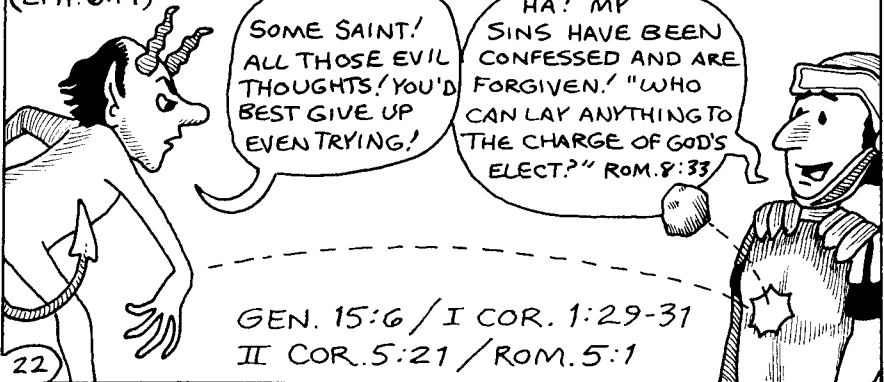
"HOW LOVELY ON THE MOUNTAINS ARE THE FEET OF HIM WHO BRINGS GOOD NEWS" (ISAIAH 52:7)! THOSE FEET WON'T CROSS ANY MOUNTAINS WITH THE GOSPEL UNLESS THEY ARE PROPERLY "SHOED" WITH THE READINESS OF MIND TO SACRIFICE AND, PERHAPS, SUFFER FOR THE SAKE OF TAKING THE GOOD NEWS TO EVERY NATION! SUCH A MINDSET IS PART OF YOUR EQUIPMENT (EPH. 6:15)!



# The BREASTPLATE of RIGHTEOUSNESS

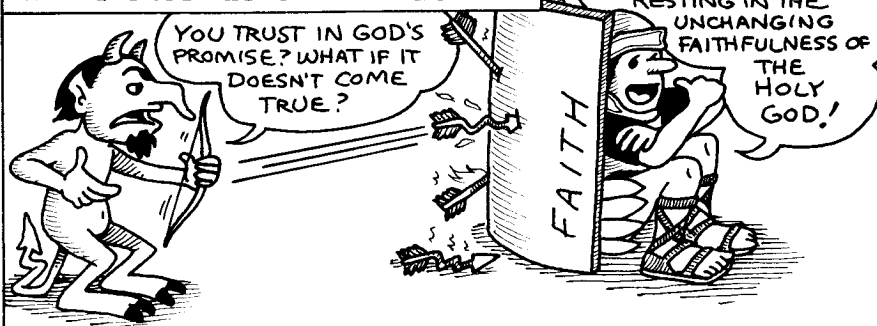
ONE OF SATAN'S FAVORITE ACTIVITIES IS TO PLAY THE ACCUSER (REV. 12:10 / JOB 1-2) WHO MAKES YOU FEEL CONDEMNED (I TIM. 3:6) AND ALIENATED FROM GOD! FALSE GUILT FEELINGS CAN HINDER YOUR PRAYERS AND TEMPT YOU TO BE DISCOURAGED (I JN. 3:20-22). OF COURSE, TRUE GUILT WILL BRING CONVICTION FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT (JOHN 16:8), BUT THAT WILL CEASE WHEN YOU CONFESS YOUR SIN TO GOD AND RECEIVE FORGIVENESS (I JN. 1:9)! THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS PROTECTS YOUR HEART FROM CONDEMNATION! RIGHTEOUSNESS, OR RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, DOES NOT DEPEND UPON YOUR PERFORMANCE, BUT ON GOD'S OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS IMPUTED TO YOU BY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST!

(EPH. 6:14)



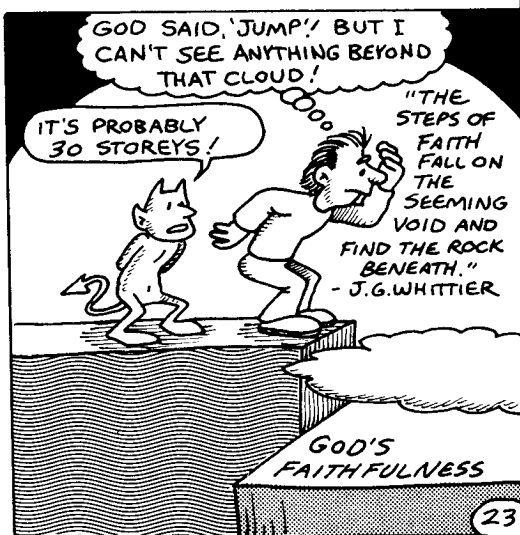
GEN. 15:6 / I COR. 1:29-31  
II COR. 5:21 / ROM. 5:1

# THE SHIELD OF FAITH 000



DOUBTS CAN BE LIKE "FLAMING ARROWS" FROM THE DEVIL (EPH. 6:16), BUT THE SHIELD OF FAITH IS ADEQUATE TO QUENCH EVERY ONE OF THEM! FAITH, BY DEFINITION, IS BELIEF IN THE WORD OF ANOTHER BASED ON THEIR TRUSTWORTHINESS RATHER THAN PROOF THAT WE HAVE SEEN (HEB. 11:1)! WE CONTINUALLY PLACE SUCH TRUST IN THE WORDS OF PEOPLE WHOM WE HARDLY KNOW - HOW MUCH MORE SHOULD WE TRUST THE WORD OF A GOD WHO CANNOT LIE (TITUS 1:2 / I JN. 5:9)! VIRTUALLY EVERY CHRISTIAN BENEFIT IS OBTAINED AND KEPT THROUGH FAITH - EVEN SALVATION ITSELF (JAMES 1:6-8)! A WAVERING FAITH KEEPS A CHRISTIAN VULNERABLE TO EVERY DOUBT SATAN WILL SHOOT HIS WAY!

DOUBT DISHONORS AND INSULTS GOD, SINCE IT CALLS HIS INTEGRITY INTO QUESTION! YOU CAN SWING YOUR SHIELD OF FAITH TO CATCH EVERY APPROACHING DART BY DECLARING: "LET GOD BE TRUE, AND EVERY MAN A LIAR!" (ROM. 3:4)!



## THE HELMET of SALVATION...



THERE ARE THREE ASPECTS OF SALVATION. PART IS SETTLED ALREADY: THE SALVATION FROM THE GUILT & PENALTY OF SIN! THERE IS ALSO THE ON-GOING DELIVERANCE FROM SIN'S CONTINUING POWER OVER US AND THE FUTURE LIBERATION

EVEN FROM THE BODY OF SIN AND THE TRIALS OF THIS WORLD! FOR A HELMET YOU HAVE SALVATION (EPH. 6:17) AND THE HOPE OF FUTURE SALVATION (I THES. 5:8)! THIS HOPE OF FUTURE SALVATION INSPIRES ENDURANCE IN THE FACE OF PRESENT TRIALS AND PERSECUTIONS (HEB. 10:32-39 / 11:35)! THIS SAVES YOU FROM THE TEMPTATION TO DEFECT FROM CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP! THE HOPE OF BEING SAVED FROM

SUCCUMBING TO PRESENT TEMPTATIONS HELPS US "KEEP OUR HEAD" ABOUT US IN THE THICK OF BATTLE! WE ARE PROMISED SALVATION FROM OUR ENEMIES (LUKE 1:71) SO WE CAN ALWAYS MAINTAIN A HOPE OF DELIVERANCE FROM OUR ENEMY SIN!



24) MATT. 1:21 / ROM. 6:14



# Spiritual Aggression

THUS FAR, WE HAVE MOSTLY DISCUSSED THE DEVIL'S ATTACKS AGAINST YOU AND HOW TO RESIST THEM! NOW WE MUST CONSIDER HOW YOU ARE TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST HIM! THE PURPOSE OF ARMOR IS FOR DEFENSE; THE PURPOSE OF WEAPONS IS OFFENSE! YOUR WEAPONS - LIKE YOUR WARFARE - ARE NOT PHYSICAL IN NATURE BUT ARE MIGHTY THRU GOD TO THE PULLING DOWN OF STRONGHOLDS AND RECAPTURING THE MINDS OF MEN FROM THE CAPTIVITY OF THE DEVIL FOR OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST (II COR. 10: 4-5). SATAN'S BULWARKS CAN'T RESIST OUR WEAPONS.



## BASIC EQUIPMENT:

**BRAIN:** TO PROCESS AND RETAIN TRUTH FOR LATER DISEMINATION.

MATT. 16:18

**EARS:** TO HEAR THE CRY OF THE NEEDY AND TO HEAR TRUTH

**EYES:** USEFUL FOR BEHOLDING THE FIELDS THAT THEY ARE WHITE FOR HARVEST

**MOUTH:** TO COMMUNICATE THE TRUTH TO EVERY CREATURE

**HEART:** TO FEEL THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST & SENSE HIS BURDENS

**FEET:** TO WALK, RUN, AND SCALE HIGH MOUNTAINS TO CARRY THE GOSPEL TO ALL THE WORLD!

**HANDS:** TO DO CHRIST'S WORKS: TO HEAL, TO HELP, AND TO GIVE TO THE POOR!

← YOUR MOST BASIC WEAPONS ARE THE PARTS OF YOUR OWN BODY, PUT TO RIGHT USE! YOUR BODILY MEMBERS ARE CALLED "WEAPONS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS" (ROM. 6:13, IN THE GREEK ORIGINAL)! WHEN YOU PRESENT YOUR BODY TO GOD (ROM. 12:1), IT BECOMES A WEAPON IN GOD'S HAND (SEE: JER. 51:20). YOUR ACTIONS CAN GREATLY ADVANCE GOD'S CAUSE (MATT. 5:16)! ANOTHER USE OF YOUR BODY (REPRODUCTION) CAN PRODUCE ADDITIONAL "ARROWS" FOR THE BATTLE (PS. 127:4-5)! (25)

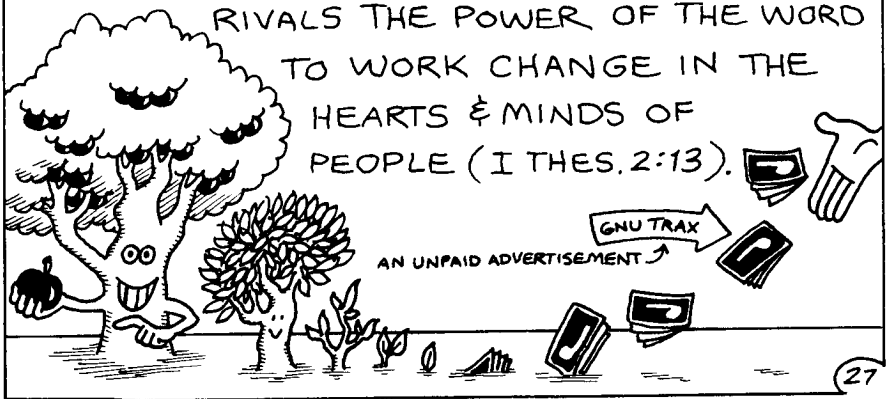


## The Two-Edged Sword...

ONE OF YOUR "MIGHTY WEAPONS" IS THE "SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD" (EPH. 6:17/HEB. 4:12). REMEMBER, SATAN'S STRENGTH IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF HIS ABILITY TO KEEP THE TRUTH FROM PEOPLE! THE TRUTH CONTAINED IN THE GOSPEL IS THAT SATAN HAS BEEN DEFEATED, AND JESUS CHRIST IS NOW LORD OF ALL! THOSE WHO KNOW AND RECEIVE THIS TRUTH INVARIABLY ESCAPE FROM SATAN'S DOMINION AND DEFECT TO CHRIST! WHERE SATAN IS ABLE TO KEEP PEOPLE IN IGNORANCE OR DECEPTION, HIS ILLEGITIMATE REIGN REMAINS UNCHALLENGED AND INTACT! IN BRINGING THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD TO THOSE WHO REMAIN IN DARKNESS, WE TAKE TERRITORY FROM SATAN AND ENFORCE CHRIST'S VICTORY HERE ON EARTH! WE ARE COMMANDED TO "TAKE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD". WHERE ARE WE TO TAKE IT TO? TO ALL NATIONS AND TO EVERY CREATURE! THIS MEANS A) PREACHING "THE WORD OF THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL" (COL. 1:5) TO NON-CHRISTIANS, AND B) TEACHING THE COMMANDS OF CHRIST TO BELIEVERS (MATT. 28:20) SO THAT THEY MIGHT LEARN TO WALK IN HIS WAYS, RATHER THAN "CONFORMING (THEMSELVES) TO THE FORMER LUSTS, AS IN (THEIR) IGNORANCE." (I PET. 1:14)!

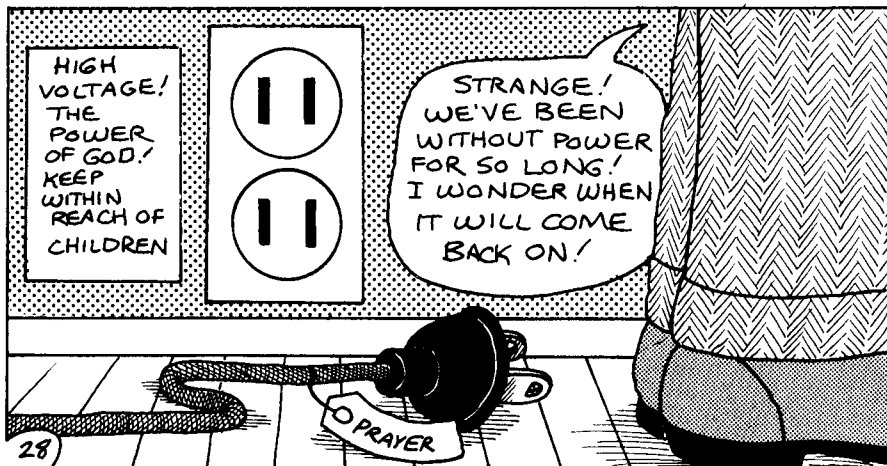
SATAN AND CHRIST BOTH SEEK DOMINION OVER THE SAME PLANET THROUGH THEIR INFLUENCE OVER PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS! PHYSICAL WEAPONS CAN NOT BRING MINDS INTO CAPTIVITY, WHICH IS WHY SUCH WEAPONS ARE NOT TO BE USED IN THE CAMPAIGN FOR GOD'S KINGDOM (EPH. 6:12 II COR. 10:4-5)! THE WORD IS BOTH SWORD AND SEED. SCATTERING THAT SEED, AND CULTIVATING IT, REPLACES, FOR US, THE USE OF PHYSICAL WARFARE AS A MEANS OF CHANGING THE WORLD (JOHN 18:36 / ISAIAH 2:4)! WHAT GOD'S KINGDOM PRODUCES IS SPIRITUAL FRUIT IN THE LIVES OF ITS SUBJECTS (MATT. 21:43) AND IT IS THE WORD OF THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL THAT PRODUCES THIS FRUIT (COL. 1:5-6)! THE WORD (MESSAGE) OF THE KINGDOM IS FRUIT-BEARING SEED (MARK 4:14-20)! NOTHING

RIVALS THE POWER OF THE WORD TO WORK CHANGE IN THE HEARTS & MINDS OF PEOPLE (I THES. 2:13).



# PRAYER:

OUR ONLY HOPE OF CONQUERING ON CHRIST'S BEHALF IS THAT GOD'S POWER IS RELEASED THROUGH OUR PRAYERS! THE DEVIL MAY BE A WIMP, BUT HE AND HIS FOLLOWERS STILL HAVE US OUTNUMBERED, WHEN WE LOOK AT THE SITUATION IN NATURAL TERMS. HOWEVER, WHEN GOD'S RESOURCES ARE BROUGHT INTO THE EQUATION, THE BALANCE OF POWER IS SQUARELY IN OUR FAVOR AND WE FIND THAT "THOSE WHO ARE WITH US ARE MORE THAN THOSE WHO ARE WITH THEM" (II KINGS 6:16)! GOD'S POWER IS INFINITELY GREATER THAN SATAN'S, SO WE MUST ENLIST HIS POWER IN THE BATTLE! THIS IS DONE THROUGH PRAYER, WHICH IS ANOTHER OF YOUR MAJOR WEAPONS (EPHESIANS 6:18)! GOD HAS HONORED MANKIND IN GIVING US THE PRIVILEGE OF FIGHTING HIS BATTLES, BUT DON'T BECOME PROUD OR SELF-CONFIDENT! WE CAN ONLY SUCCEED THROUGH HIM (PSALM 60:12)!



PRAYER IS TOO OFTEN BOTH MISUNDERSTOOD AND NEGLECTED. IT IS NOT AN "ALADDIN'S LAMP" FOR USE IN OBTAINING FOR OURSELVES A COMFORTABLE AND CHARMED LIFE AT HEAVEN'S EXPENSE! ITS PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IS SEEN IN THE FIRST PETITIONS OF THE (SO CALLED) "LORD'S PRAYER" - "HALLOWED BE THY NAME! THY KINGDOM COME! THY WILL BE DONE!" BY PRAYER, HUMANS INVITE GOD TO DO WHAT HE WANTS TO DO IN THE WORLD THAT HE HAS GIVEN US TO MANAGE FOR HIM (GENESIS 1:28 / PS. 8:6 / 115:16)! IT IS NOT FOR BUILDING OUR OWN LITTLE

SUDDENLY THAT SCRAWNY, LITTLE MISSIONARY DOESN'T SEEM ALL THAT APPETIZING! I THINK I HEAR A ZEBRA OVER THERE!



KINGDOMS AND GETTING OUR WAY! READ THE PRAYER OF THE DISCIPLES IN ACTS 4:24-30 AND NOTE HOW OFTEN THEY SAY "YOU" AND "YOUR" AS OPPOSED TO "I", "WE", OR "OUR"! OF COURSE, THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH PRAYING FOR THINGS FOR ONESELF (MATT. 6: 11-13 / 7:11), IF THEY ARE THINGS THAT GOD WANTS FOR YOU TO HAVE!

I JN. 5:14

HEY! WHAT HAPPENED? I'M HEALED!



C'MON! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE QUICK!



FOR SOME REASON, I FEEL THAT I MUST VOTE ACCORDING TO MY CONSCIENCE!



O, FATHER...



FOR THE FIRST TIME, I FEEL BOLD ENOUGH TO SPEAK TO MY BOSS ABOUT THE LORD!

# POWER IN PRAISE...

NOT ALL OF PRAYER CONSISTS OF ASKING FOR THINGS! ANOTHER ASPECT OF PRAYER IS PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING TO GOD. PRAISE IS THE VERBAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GOD'S GREATNESS AND GOODNESS, WHILE THANKSGIVING IS THE EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE TO GOD FOR THE SPECIFIC BENEFITS ONE HAS RECEIVED FROM HIM! PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING ARE SAID TO BRING US INTO GOD'S PRESENCE (PS. 100:4) AND TO BRING HIM INTO OURS (PS. 22:3). PRAISE IS OFTEN SUNG (PS. 100:2) ACCOMPANIED BY INSTRUMENTS (PS. 33:2-3 / PS. 150), RAISING OF HANDS (PS. 63:4 / I TIM. 2:8), SPONTANEOUS DANCING (PS. 30:11 / 149:3), SHOUTING AND CLAPPING (PS. 47:1)! SUCH DISPLAY MAKES SOME PEOPLE UNCOMFORTABLE (II SAM. 6:14-16), BUT, IF SINCERE, IT PLEASURES THE LORD (PS. 141:2 / HEB. 13:15-16) AND HAS A POWERFUL EFFECT AGAINST AN ALREADY NERVOUS AND TREMBLING DEVIL (JAMES 2:19)! THERE IS A ROLE PLAYED BY PRAISE IN THE BINDING AND INCAPACITATING OF THE ENEMY (SEE: PS. 149:5-9 / COMPARE PS. 8:2 WITH MATT. 21:16)!

SOME IMPORTANT BATTLES ARE WON BY PRAISE ALONE (II CHR. 20:22 / JOSH. 6:20).

INSINCERE PRAISE, HOWEVER, IS WORSE THAN NONE AT ALL (ISA. 29:13-14 / PROV. 21:27)!

OUR PRAISE MUST BE MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE

TO GIVE GOD HIS WELL-DESERVED HONOR & GLORY (PS. 29:2 / 96:8), NOT TO

BRING HONOR NOR ATTENTION TO OURSELVES

(PS. 115:1 / GAL. 6:14)

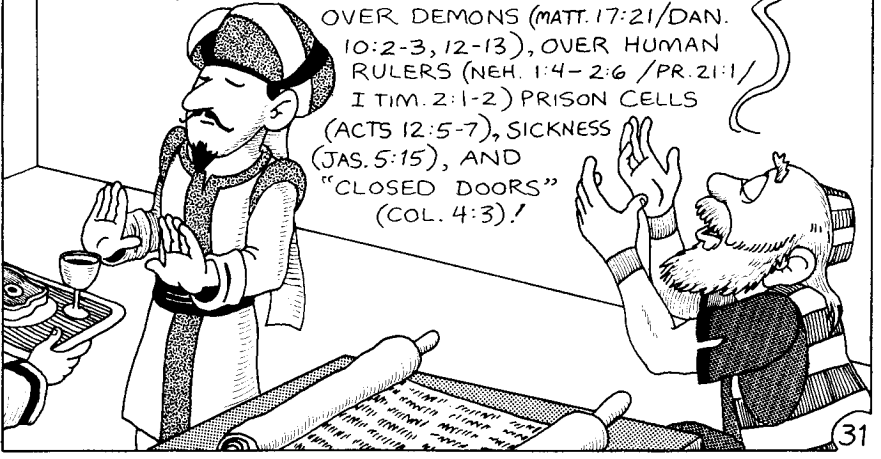






OUR WARFARE IS NOT A SHAM BATTLE OR "SHADOW BOXING" (I COR. 9:26)! IN THOSE SHADOWS LURK REAL SPIRITUAL ENEMIES, WHO AFFECT WORLD EVENTS AND HUMAN DESTINIES! WE MUST FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH (I TIM. 6:12), BOTH BY KEEPING OURSELVES PURE AND BY PUTTING TO DILIGENT USE OUR ASSAULT WEAPONS: THE WORD OF GOD & PRAYER! THE LATTER MAY PROFITABLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY FASTING AND WATCHING (MEANING TEMPORARY ABSTINENCE FROM FOOD AND/OR SLEEP (MATT. 17:21 / ACTS 13:2-3 / MATT. 26:41 / EPH. 6:18). SUCH PRAYING MAY OBTAIN POWER

OVER DEMONS (MATT. 17:21 / DAN. 10:2-3, 12-13), OVER HUMAN RULERS (NEH. 1:4-2:6 / PR. 21:1 / I TIM. 2:1-2) PRISON CELLS (ACTS 12:5-7), SICKNESS (JAS. 5:15), AND "CLOSED DOORS" (COL. 4:3)!



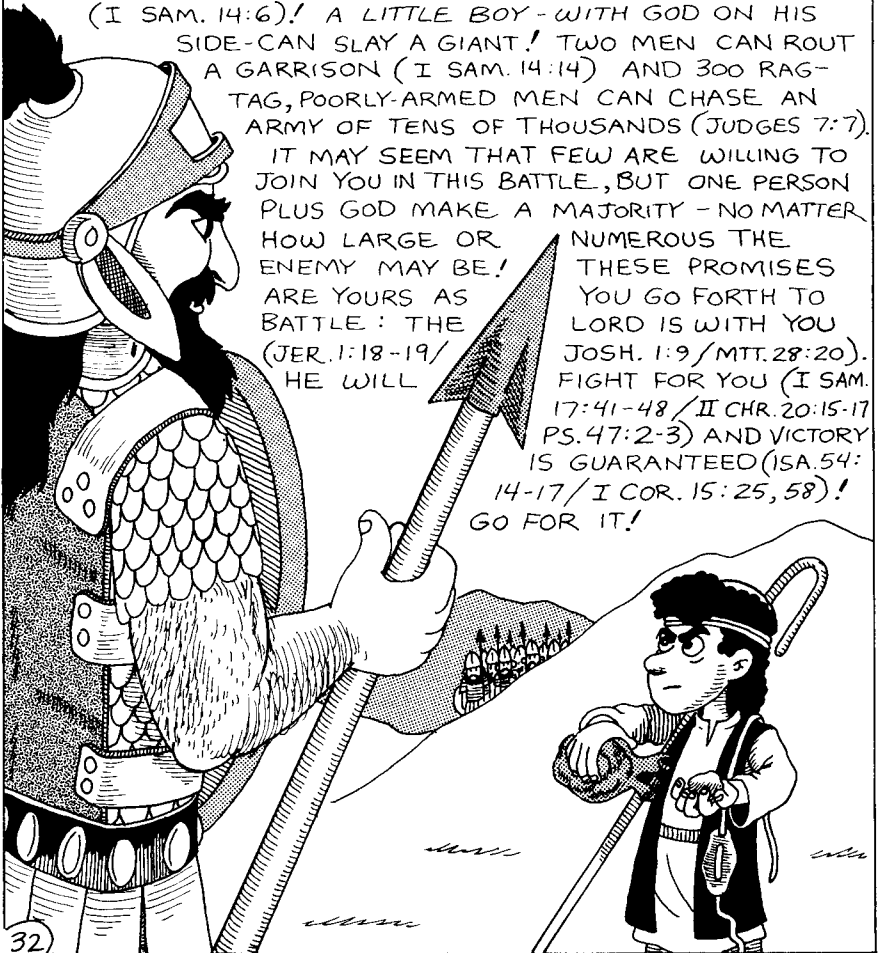
# The Battle is the Lord's!

THE VICTORY IS ACCOMPLISHED IN HEAVEN, BUT THE ENFORCEMENT OF IT IN THE EARTH IS OUR TASK! IT IS AS WHEN DAVID KILLED GOLIATH - THE WAR WAS WON AT THAT INSTANT - BUT THE ARMIES OF ISRAEL STILL HAD TO PURSUE THE PHILISTINES TO MOP-UP THE REMAINING RESISTANCE AND TO PLUNDER THEIR POSSESSIONS (I SAM. 17:51-53). IT IS ALSO LIKE THAT STORY IN THAT THE ENEMY SEEMS ENORMOUS AND OUR OWN ARMY PITFULLY SMALL. APATHY AND FEAR HAVE PREVENTED MANY CHRISTIANS FROM ANSWERING THE CALL TO WAR, BUT "NOTHING RESTRAINS THE LORD FROM SAVING BY MANY OR BY FEW" (I SAM. 14:6)! A LITTLE BOY - WITH GOD ON HIS

SIDE - CAN SLAY A GIANT! TWO MEN CAN ROUT A GARRISON (I SAM. 14:14) AND 300 RAG-TAG, POORLY-ARMED MEN CAN CHASE AN ARMY OF TENS OF THOUSANDS (JUDGES 7:7).

IT MAY SEEM THAT FEW ARE WILLING TO JOIN YOU IN THIS BATTLE, BUT ONE PERSON PLUS GOD MAKE A MAJORITY - NO MATTER HOW LARGE OR ENEMY MAY BE! ARE YOURS AS BATTLE: THE (JER. 1:18-19/ HE WILL

NUMEROUS THE THESE PROMISES YOU GO FORTH TO LORD IS WITH YOU JOSH. 1:9 / MTT. 28:20). FIGHT FOR YOU (I SAM. 17:41-48 / II CHR. 20:15-17 PS. 47:2-3) AND VICTORY IS GUARANTEED (ISA. 54: 14-17 / I COR. 15: 25, 58)! GO FOR IT!



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STEVE GREGG



"FOR THIS PURPOSE THE SON OF GOD WAS  
MANIFESTED, THAT HE MIGHT DESTROY  
THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL" (1 JOHN 3:8)  
"HE ALSO BECAME A HUMAN BEING SO  
THAT BY GOING THROUGH DEATH AS A  
MAN HE MIGHT DESTROY HIM WHO HAD  
THE POWER OF DEATH...THE DEVIL" (HEB. 2:14)

