The Invisible War - **wk 2 – Angels and Demons**

**We are in a series about the unseen world of the supernatural**

**Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.**

**We are not alone, and We are in a Spiritual war**

**(Mask) What many think the devil is – More like this – Chains**

**only 68% think he is real. Today we unmask him and his influence**

**Today let’s make Satan uncomfortable – let’s expose him!**

**Who are these spiritual beings - known as angels and demons?**

**(pic) Let’s talk about angels first - This is what we think of when we think of angels - cherubs / fairy like – false notions.**

**The Good Guys - ANGELS**

**They are all around us… Hebrews 13:2 - Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. What is their purpose?**

**Created as worshipers of God - Hebrews 1:6, Nehemiah 9:6, Col 2:18**

* **Primary role is to reflect the goodness of God almighty**

**Created as warriors of God - 2 Kings 19:35, Revelation 12:7, Zechariah**

* **Are very strong - able to take on entire armies of people**

**Popular warring angel – Michael**

**Created as workers of God - Angel = lit means messenger**

* **Messengers - Judges 6:12, Luke 1:30-31 (By name – Gabriel)**
* **Directors - Matthew 1:20, Numbers 22:21-23**
* **Protectors - Psalm 91:11-12, Acts 12:7-8, 11**
* **Ministers - Encourage, serve, help us - Matthew 4:11, Luke 22:43**

**Angels basics**

**Always referred with masculine pronouns, but are non-sexual**

**(Genesis 18:2, Ezekiel 9:2, Matthew 22:30)**

**Can temporarily take on human form**

**(Thru out the Bible, Hebrews 13:2)**

**BTW - You know a real angel by what he says about Jesus**

**Show emotions and exercise will**

**(Luke 2:1:3, 8:28-31; 2 Timothy 2:26; Jude 6, James 2:19, Rev 12:17)**

**Human beings do not become angels - diff beings all together**

**(Gen 1:26, Psalm 8:5)**

**We are never to pray to angels - Jesus alone is our mediator**

**(1 Timothy 2:5, Revelation 22:8-9, Matt 6:9, John 17:1-26)**

**The Bad Guys – FALLEN ANGELS – DEMONS**

**People are fine with angels - but the devil and demons, come on**

**Let’s start with the general – Satan**

**He is named in a variety of ways = His titles reflect aspects of his work**

**• Abaddon (“destroyer”) (Rev.9:11) • Apollyon (“destroyer”) (Rev.9:11)**

**• Accuser (Rev. 12:10) • Adversary (1 Pet. 5:8) • Beelzebub (Matt. 12:24)**

**• Belial (2 Co. 6:15) • Great Dragon (Rev. 12:9) • Deceiver (Rev. 12:9)**

**• Enemy (Matt. 13:28, 39) • Evil One (Matt. 13:28, 39) • Father of Lies (Jo 8:44)**

**• False god & ruler of the world (2 Co.4:4, John 12:31) • Lawless One (2Th. 2:18) • Murderer (Jo 8:44) • Morning Star, Lucifer (Is. 14:12) • Tempter (1 Thess. 3:5)**

**• Prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2) • Serpent (Rev. 12:9)**

**• Satan (Acts 26:18) • The Devil (Luke 4:13) – Jesus mentions Satan 25X**

**From the opening to the closing pages of Scripture - real being**

**Satan is not a metaphor for evil – He is the enemy of God and an enemy of God’s people and all that God loves.**

**2 Co 2:11, Ep 6 - we are to know his tactics, schemes &anticipate his work - so we can live in victory rather than as victims**

**Satan - Behind the Curtain - Who he is and where he came from**

1. **Satan is not equal to the Lord God – there is no deadlock!**

**God almighty is omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent (Daniel 10:13)**

**Jesus is God of eternity in the flesh - The Devil is not in any way equal**

**Are you comparable to an ant? An annoyance – squish it.**

**We have this image of God on a throne and Satan in hell on a throne**

**Listen - Satan does not rule over hell... or over anything!**

1. **Jesus Rules over all things - even Hell**

**Matt 11:27, John 3:35, Eph 1:22, Acts 10:36, Colossians 1:17, Rev 14:10**

1. **Satan's final place will be hell - he does not want to go...**

**Matthew 25:41-"Depart from Me you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared or the devil and his angels...”**

**God did not contract hell out to Satan. “I’m looking for… someone evil, are you up to it?” Scripture says he lives on earth seeking out who he can destroy - until his judgment.**

1. **Satan is a created being (created by God)**

**Job 1:6, Colossians 1:16, Matthew 25:41, Revelation 12:7 – Angel**

**Satan is a creation - not a counterpart**

**There is only one creator, everything else is a creation.**

**Satan is a created spirit being - a powerful angel - who committed treason with the creator & seeks to destroy all that God loves.**

**Ezekiel 28:12b “‘You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. (created perfect and beautiful) 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: carnelian, chrysolite and emerald, topaz, onyx and jasper, lapis lazuli, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. (some think he was a crystal, this a reference to apparel) 14 You were anointed as a guardian cherub, (not a fat little baby – but powerful authority - best of the best - anointed = winged / power) for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; (dwelled in very the presence of God) you walked among the fiery stones. (throne of God – created to glorifying and serve God) 15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. 16 Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, (because of rebellion and pride - he traded his created design in) and you sinned. So, I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. (cast from God’s presence) 17 Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. (deceived himself into thinking he is better than he was - narcissism) So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings. (cast from heaven to earth)**

**He grew arrogant, prideful, and rebellious and independent**

1. **Satan is motivated by pride and self glory**

**Satan is the enemy of humility. One of his most powerful weapons in opposing God’s people and plan is arrogant pride and self-reliance.**

**Some of you are a "Satanist" - practical Satanists**

**Quotes form Church of Satan Website - To us, Satan is the symbol that best suits the nature of we who are carnal by birth - people who feel no battles raging between our thoughts and feelings, we who do not embrace the concept of a soul imprisoned in a body. Satan represents pride, liberty, & individualism - qualities often defined as Evil by those who worship external deities, who feel there is a war between their minds and emotions. / As Anton LaVey explained in The Satanic Bible: Man - using his brain - invented all the God's... Since the Satanist understands that all Gods are fiction, instead of bending a knee in worship to - or seeking friendship or unity with - such mythical entities, he places himself at the center of his own subjective universe as his own highest value. We Satanists are thus our own “Gods,” *(and as such)* we offer love to those who deserve it and deliver our wrath upon those who seek to cause us - or that which we cherish - harm. - Does that sound like you?**

**Satan does not seek worship or even to be believed in - he is happy if you worship anything other than the Lord God.**

**Isaiah gives more details - Isaiah 14:11 All your pomp has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps; maggots are spread out beneath you and worms cover you. (you are death) 12 How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, (Helel, Lucifer, light bearer) son of the dawn! (echoed by Jesus in Lu 10:18 - "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.”) You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! (the reason…) 13 You said in your heart, “I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. 14 I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.” (a desire to be like God - the temptation in the garden and still today) 15 But you are brought down to the realm of the dead, to the depths of the pit.**

**When Satan declared war on God - 1/3 of the angels joined him. Judged by God for his sin, he was cast down to the earth.**

**Revelation 12:7 Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. 8 But he (Satan) was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. 9 The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels (spirits) with him.**

1. **Satan has an army of fallen angels (spirits) – demons**

**Let’s talk about these fallen angels - we see an example in Mark 5**

**Mark 5:1 They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. (Gadarene - a Gentile region - a place non-Jews hung out in - explain region - Satan is not omnipresent – implies assigned areas – Dan 10:13) 2 When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit (Demon) came from the tombs to meet him.**

* **Demons are for real**

**Mark 5:3 This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. 4 For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. (he mistook his freedom for being free - chains) No one was strong enough to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.**

* **Demons really do enter people - and can control people**

**What demon possession looks like (Mark 5) - Supernatural strength, drawn to darkness and places of death, anti-social, immodest, personality changes, uncontrollable screams - in pain - tormented - severe depression, paralyzed by fear, cutting self, aggression (demons seek to inflict suffering) counterfeit information.**

**\*\*\* Be aware - not all of this can be attributed to demons**

**Why don't we see it as much? possession on missions - Actual worship of evil spirits - Strongholds are diff here.**

**We do not know how this man in Mark 5 got demon possessed - but**

**There are things the Bible says stir up and invites demonic activity**

* **Pursuing evil (sin) Doing what the enemy wants invites demonic activity & bondage - Ignoring God's will for your life.**

**Not all demonic activity seems evil - it might come with good feelings and a form of love.**

* **Flirting with Darkness**

**Deut 18:10-12 - Those who practice divination, sorcery, interpret omens, witchcraft and paganism, a medium, spiritist, consults the dead = abomination**

**Things like new age activities, horoscopes, fortune tellers, occult symbols, movies, music, books, games, fascination with darkness and evil – they invite demonic activity.**

* **Demonic Supernatural Lies**

**Fortune telling - God's Word is the source of wisdom and future - (Isa 8:19-20)**

**Reincarnation – Appointed to die once - one life - (Hebrews 9:27)**

**Ghosts / Hauntings - Either heaven or hell (Phil 1:21-23; 2 Co 5:8, Lu 16:23-24)**

**Like angels - demons can take on temporary human form**

**Demons are liars, they want to confuse you about life & death. They use their knowledge of people to deceive. Most is fake, the rest is the work of demons.**

**Back to the man of the tombs - Mark 5:6 When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. (They ran to worship him - Satan cannot stop Jesus) 7 He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? (God of all eternity in the flesh)**

* + **Demons know who Jesus is – and they are afraid**

**They understand his power and prominence - before Jesus no one had power over demons - this is big! And now they must obey Jesus!**

**James 2:19 - You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder. (a belief God is not enough)**

**Mark 5:7b In God’s name don’t torture me!” 8 For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!” 9 Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” “My name is Legion,” he replied, “for we are many.” (army of 6,000) 10 And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area. (possibly the region assigned to by Satan) 11 A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. (confirmed the gentile region - pigs) 12 The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.” 13 He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. (the pigs went crazy from all the demons)**

**Demons want to fill and torment living creatures – not objects**

**Not houses, books, and places - things that stir up darkness, fear, and anxiety - are not of God.**

**Mark 5:14 Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. 15 When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. (you would think they would be happy)**

1. **Only Jesus sets people free – from the power of the enemy!**

**A large part of Jesus ministry on earth was casting out demons - you know why? When God shows up demons run!**

**Maybe you a person of the tombs - in a dark place - feel alone - living w/ secret pain - crying out at night, no one can touch you - an unseen enemy fills you w/ shame and chains**

**That was me… then here came Jesus - this new life is extended to you. And with one word - you can be free! Chains!**

**Back to the story - Mark 5:16 Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. 17 Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region. (Leave? They were afraid of him) 18 As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. (Powerful - can I go - please!) 19 Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20 So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis (10 city Greek metro area) how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.**

1. **We are to spread this message of freedom!**

**Satan does not want us to spread the news – he is a loser!**

**Jesus crushed the head of Satan at the cross – Step on the mask**

**The grave is empty - Satan and sins power, the sting of death, hell, and the grave – are all defeated by Jesus! (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)**

**Christian, understand Satan’s power - but never fear him**

**Ezekiel 28:18-19, Romans 8:37-39, 1 John 3:8, Hebrews 2:14-15, Psalms 7:10, 18:2, 1 John 4:4, Colossians 2:13-15, 1 Corin.15:56-58, Jude 9**

**Satan's Final Fate – Satan is going straight to hell!**

**Revelation 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. / 2 Peter 2:4 – God sends fallen angels to hell in chains of darkness!) / Jesus declares - Matthew 25:41 - the eternal fire of hell was created for the devil and his angels.**

**Why does he continue his war against God even though it is clear he is defeated? Maybe it’s his intense hatred for God and you, his pride, or even deceived himself.**

**All Satan does is opposes God’s work - all we have to do is align with Jesus work. His victory is our victory! This is not our power – but his!**

**Rejoice in this - Luke 10:17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” 18 He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. (that aint nothin’) 19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. 20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” (heart check!)**

**Rejoice today – Christian – you are free!**

**Rejoice those in chains – Freedom has come for you!**