

# ESCAPING THE DARKNESS

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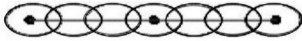
Escaping the darkness;  
Living in the Light.

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# Introduction



In most mysteries, we are tasked with uncovering "who did it." Here, however, the challenge lies in understanding "what has been done." The New Testament frequently warns us about our spiritual adversary—the devil, also known as Satan. Operating under the disguise of darkness, Satan works to steal, kill, and destroy, **John 10:10**. Even though his methods are insidious, he persuades us to accept the problems and disasters that come at us as simply byproducts of a broken and fallen world.

It might seem obvious that we need to escape all forms of darkness. Yet, having been immersed and conditioned in this semi-darkness since birth, most of us have grown either complacent or oblivious to it, and we see no need to take any action. However, semi-darkness harbors the same capacity for evil as absolute darkness does. Much like the proverbial frog in a slowly heating kettle, we gradually adapt to the corruption around us without realizing the dangers of its encroachment. And over time, the darkness deepens until one day, we awaken to find ourselves entirely engulfed and feeling hopelessly trapped.

We have become hoodwinked by our enemy, leading us to believe that reliance on worldly

methods is the only way to meet our needs. Thus, we find ourselves playing by his rules, reaping only the inadequate rewards that this world has to offer. For our enemy is terrified of the day when we realize who we were created to be. That we are made in the image and the likeness of God, given the authority to speak His Word, and that our enemy is not only under our feet, but he is also subject to us.

One of Satan's earliest deceptions was convincing mankind that all trials and evils we face are simply due to living in a fallen world. However, this is not the whole truth; not only is this a fallen world, but we also contend with a spiritual adversary who actively works against us. Recognizing this dual reality is crucial. For, without this understanding, we blur these two truths together, overlooking the real source of most of our suffering, which is our spiritual enemy, Satan, and his band of demons.

This journey began over 6,000 years ago in the Garden when Adam and Eve partook of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. That single act set the course for all of mankind, setting every generation to discern good from evil. And to learn love and compassion for one another.

Since we're all born into this semi-dark world, it's quite natural for us not to question its system. Yet we must put the teachings of scripture and the Words of Jesus above our earthly reasonings and

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experiences. For Jesus testified of the deeds of the world as being evil. And before we can escape the darkness, we must agree that there is darkness, that we need to escape.

The world cannot hate you; but Me it hates, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil, John 7:7.

The book first looks at the creation of the world when God's creation was in perfect harmony, then Lucifer's rebellion, and how Satan and the serpent later orchestrated the fall of mankind and the changes that came about. We'll examine all of the players involved in the crime, their motives, and the reasoning that each one had for doing so.

As we unravel this conspiracy, we look into the judgments that were given to the parties involved in the crime and the consequences that followed. For when Satan and the serpent enticed mankind to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, it was not for mankind's benefit; rather, it was due to Satan's prideful scheme. Showing us that Satan has been against us since the beginning of creation.

Friends, we live in a dark delusion that we consider to be normal, and we are living under our enemy's dark and corrupted system. This system is still playing out today, for Satan is the god of this world, the prince of the air, **Ephesians 2:2**. However, as we look into the events that took place, we'll

realize that we can break free of living under Satan's corrupted plan, for it is solely contingent upon mankind's continual disobedience to the LORD God.

The modern-day church has, for the most part, stopped even acknowledging that we even have a spiritual enemy, much less one that is capable of bringing chaos, wars, and destruction to our world. For, the church has also viewed the hardships that we go through in the same manner that the world does, as just being the natural ways of this world. Presumed to be entirely due to mankind's fallen condition, or worse yet, thought to be God's plan and will for His people.

Using this reasoning, the church has blamed mankind for nearly every hardship and issue that happens to him on this earth. Whereby mankind does have his sins and iniquities, and sometimes our own decisions ensnare us. However, we must also acknowledge the blood of Christ and that we are now a new creation in Him, **2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17**.

This is addressed further in the book, but for now, I'll simply say, "If we feel we are part of the problem, telling others that we were born in sin and iniquities, we cannot be part of the solution."

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God,

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### Romans 12:2.

For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he should instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ. **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:16.**

But thanks *be* to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ, **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:57.**

We may not be able to see it with our natural eyes; however, we should not undermine or take lightly the spiritual war that we are in. For our enemy isn't just trying to make our life difficult or unbearable; instead, he only wishes to steal, kill, and destroy. However, God has given His people provisions to defeat the enemy and to choose life, even as He also told the Israelites to choose life.

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: **Deuteronomy 30:19.**

God gave mankind free-will at creation, being able to make their own decisions and choices, whether good or bad. The first occurrence of this is when Adam and his wife were tricked by the serpent to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, which brought all of humanity into this spiritual war that we are now dealing with.

Thus, at creation, mankind was pulled into this

spiritual war due to Lucifer's pride. However, the war and trials that we see and go through here on this earth are only a reflection of the war in the heavens. Much of this war is hidden from us, for it is in the spiritual realm. Yet we must be aware of this spiritual war so that we do not end up like a pawn on a chessboard tossed about and played by Satan.

Living in a cursed and fallen world does not necessarily have an evil component to it, and this by itself would not allow mankind to learn good from evil. However, when you add a spiritual enemy into the mix who has a vendetta against God's people, you then have a world where mankind can then learn and experience good from evil.

Thus, our real enemy is Satan and his fallen angels. The church, however, is not informing us of this age-old war, for to a great degree they have been compromised and lulled to sleep by the prince of this world. However, our enemy is now escalating their war, and the church (*God's body of believers*) needs to wake up, mount up, and become bold, being able to fight using God's mighty Word.

Currently, only a remnant in the church can spiritually discern or is even aware of this war of good and evil being played out here on the earth. For our enemy is a master of deception, and many strategies of warfare are a matter of deception and subversion. This is where Satan (*our enemy*) excels,



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for he is the father of lies and a master deceiver. Thus, we need to be aware of Satan's tactics so we can war against him with God's powerful Word.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. **Ephesians 6:12.**

Whereby living in a fallen world is difficult and has its challenges, but living in a world with a spiritual enemy over us is evil. We often read the scriptures, such as the one above, that we wrestle against powers and principalities, and we do not take them to heart or even realize what that means. However, the days we are living in are increasingly pointing to the end times and Christians need to learn their rightful authority in Christ Jesus.

<sup>17</sup> And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the demons are subject to us through Your name. <sup>18</sup> And He said to them, I saw Satan fall from Heaven like lightning. <sup>19</sup> Behold, I give to you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the authority of the enemy. And nothing shall by any means hurt you, **Luke 10:17-19.**

We're currently living under a new generation of warfare, a war from within, not only within each individual but also applies to countries. This war is not being fought with physical bombs and guns,

although some of those conflicts also exist. This war is being waged through psychology, manipulation, and control. It is a war that's well planned out to take hold of a nation and its people without firing a shot.

This method of warfare is called subversion. This strategy was first documented in the book "The Art of War," 2,500 years ago by author Sun Tzu. It begins through the demoralization of the education system, or you could say brainwashing our students. This takes about two or three generations, resulting in the students being fully indoctrinated with foreign ideology, eroding their foundational principles.

Once demoralization has taken root across several generations, the destabilization phase begins. During this stage, extremist groups emerge, and instigators incite protests and riots. Society descends into chaos and crisis, creating the perfect opportunity for the last stages to occur. This is where external force(s) step in under the guise of restoring order. And this is when the enemy, already embedded in the country and one's personal philosophy, can easily take over under the pretense of restoring order, now to their foreign system.

This is the warfare that we face today. Our spiritual enemy may be powerless against God's Word, but in the natural, he is very cunning. The only defense against such tactics is to seek out

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wisdom and understanding from the Lord; we must embody the scripture in, **Matthew 10:16**, being "wise as serpents" yet "harmless as doves.

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou has rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to Me: seeing thou has forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children, **Hosea 4:6**.

How much better *it is* to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is rather to be chosen than silver! **Proverbs 16:16**.

Currently, we are walking in a season of darkness. Psalm 23 addresses this very well: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou *art* with me; . . ." (*verse 4*). Thus, as we go through this battle, know that God is with us, for His Word says He will never leave us or forsake us, **Hebrews 13:5**.