

## SPIRITUAL WARFARE WORKSHOP

### Introduction:

Questions to consider:

What is a worldview:

**“People may not live what they profess, but they will always live what they believe.” The implication of this is that if you want to change the way a person lives, you must first change the way he/she believes.**

Western worldview:

Biblical worldview:

### Five Basic Truths about Spiritual Warfare

1. *There is an \_\_\_\_\_ world.*

The \_\_\_\_\_ world is just as real as the \_\_\_\_\_ world, and both Old and New Testament refer to it often.

- a. 2 Kings 6:15-19
- b. Daniel 10
- c. Ephesians 6:12

2. *We are involved in an \_\_\_\_\_ war.*

Not only is there an \_\_\_\_\_ world, that world is in the midst of an invisible conflict. It is real, it is serious and is ultimate in its consequences. We are soldiers in the battle that matters most.

- a. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- b. 2 Corinthians 4:4

The enemy aims at our minds, our belief systems, and our worldviews.

You can expect spiritual attack when:

3. *Our foe is \_\_\_\_\_.*

Is Satan for real?

- a. Gen. 3:1; 1 Chron. 21:1; Rev. 12:9 The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible.
- b. Matthew 4:1-11 The \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.

4. *We must \_\_\_\_\_ our foe but not \_\_\_\_\_ him.*

**Fear is an unbiblical and inappropriate response. Satan is limited and we have no need to fear him.**

**Satan's names reveal his tactics.**

- Job 1:6-7; 1 Thess. 2:18
- 1 Peter 5:8
- 1 Thess. 3:5
- Rev. 12:10
- John 12:31
- Is. 42:12
- 1 John 5:19

**Satan's deceptions are aimed ultimately at making us question God, doubt His goodness and conclude that He doesn't have our best interests at heart.**

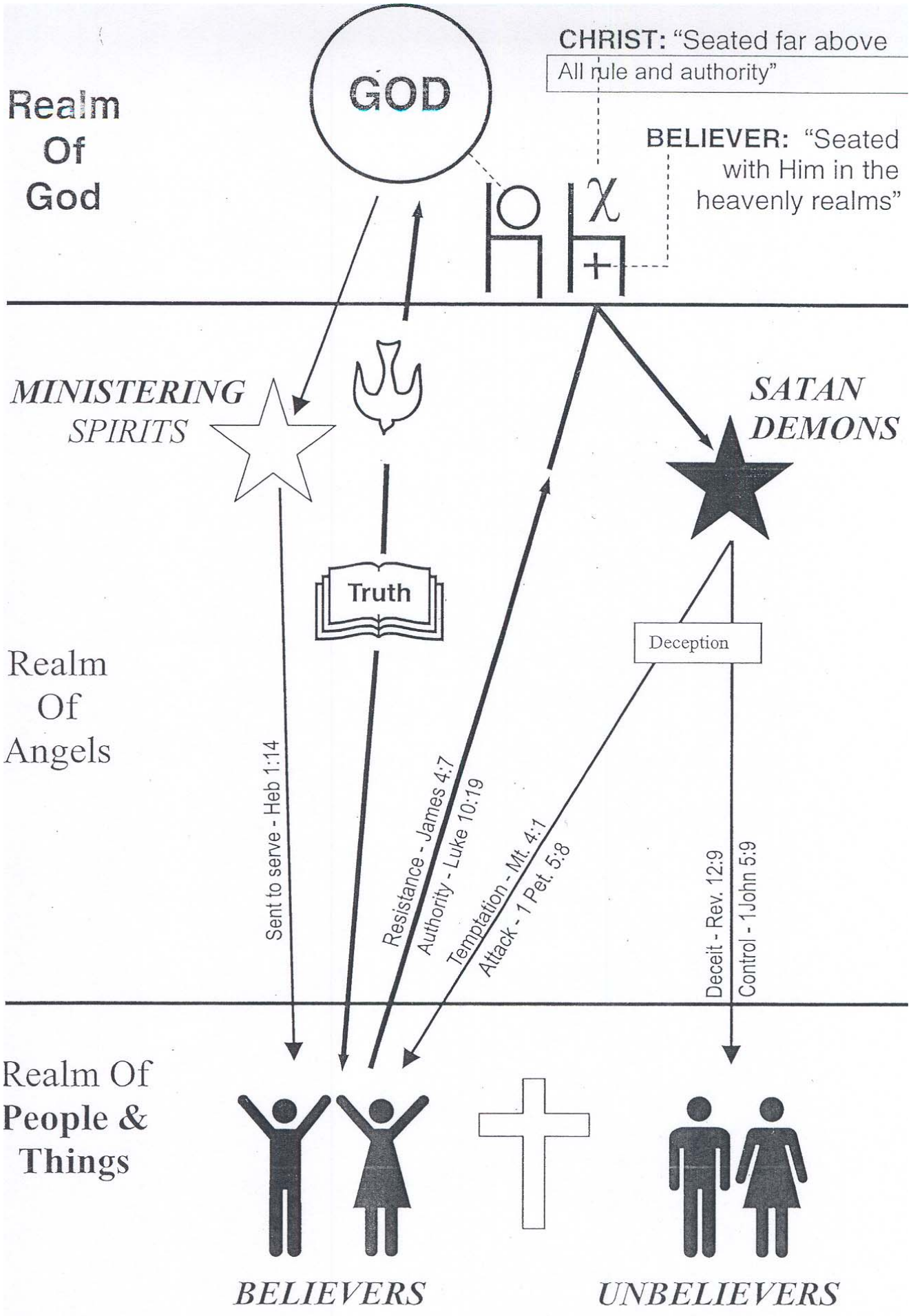
**Satan's power is limited**

- He is created, therefore not omniscient (all knowing) or infinite.
- He can be resisted by the Christian. James 4:7
- God places limitations on him. Job 1:12

5. *We do not fight \_\_\_\_\_ victory, we fight \_\_\_\_\_ victory.*

**Satan is a defeated foe. The crucifixion, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ have won for us everything we need in this battle. The Bible has given us numerous promises of victory over the power of the enemy.**

- a. 1 John 4:4
- b. 1 John 5:4-5
- c. Revelation 12:11
- d. James 4:7



CHRISTIAN WORLD VIEW OF WARFARE RELATIONSHIPS

## **Recommended Reading – Spiritual Warfare**

**Spiritual Warfare by Timothy M. Warner**

**The Invisible War by Chip Ingram**

**31 Days of Power by Ruth Myers – Multnomah Press**

**31 Days of Praise by Ruth Myers**

**The Steps to Freedom in Christ by Neil Anderson**

**Victory Over The Darkness by Neil Anderson**

**The Beginner's Guide to Spiritual Warfare by Neil Anderson and Timothy Warner**

**Taking Every Thought Captive by Alaine Pakkala – Lydia Press  
([www.lydiapress.com](http://www.lydiapress.com))**

**The Adversary, Overcoming the Adversary by Dr. Mark Bubeck**

## TAKING CHARGE OF YOUR THINKING

A. Battlefield is in the mind. These battles determine how we live out each day. Our thoughts are the starting points for our actions as well as our reactions.

II Corinthians 4:4 “He blinded minds of unbelieving that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

II Corinthians 10:3-5 “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God. And we are taking every thought captive to obedience of Christ.”

B. The enemy does not want us to trust God with our thoughts or exalt Him as in Genesis 3 and II Corinthians 11:3. God wants us to be like Christ—letting Christ live His life through us—but the enemy wants us to take the counterfeit path in being like God—exalt self/pride.

C. Thoughts have direct bearing on all our other functions. What we think on causes a reaction of our will (choices), or body (desires) and our emotions (feelings). Our thinking will also begin a process that will lead to other thoughts.

Kay Arthur says “The acceptance of a wrong thought can then lead to an action

Which creates an appetite

Which becomes a weakness

Which becomes a habit

Which brings oppression from the enemy”

D. Your thoughts may not be caused by you.

1. They may be caused by the flesh. Mark 7:21-22

2. They may be caused by the world I John 2:16

3. They may be caused by Satan and wicked spirits

Genesis 3:1-5 Eve Matthew 4:3 Jesus

E. Your thoughts are not authoritative.

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1. Simply having a thought does not mean it indicates who or what you are. To accept your thoughts as authoritative opens one up to profound error.
  2. The presence of a thought in our mind does not mean we must obey it.
  3. The presence of a wrong thought, as in temptation does not make us sinful or guilty.
  4. The presence of a thought does not mean it has come to pass or will come to pass. We do not create reality by our thought life.

F. We must learn to reject wrong thoughts

1. When a thought is not in harmony with the Bible and is not what you desire or believe, then you have not originated that thought, it has come from some other source.
2. Learn to monitor thought life. If you have any question as to the origin of a thought, ask yourself what effect the thought has on you. Does it edify you or others? Does it upset you? Is it confusing you? Is it distracting you? Is it condemning you? Is this lustful or bizarre?
3. Evaluate our thinking using Phil. 4:8
4. Reject wrong thoughts. Pray:  
“In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I take charge of my thinking and reject that thought of \_\_\_\_\_. I bring all my thinking into subjection to the Lord Jesus Christ and choose to believe the truth as revealed in the Bible.”

G. We must learn to think correct thoughts.

1. Make a list of your negative thinking and correct it from the Bible. Reject negative thinking then correct it whether you feel like it or not. Feelings are not our authority, but God’s word is.
3. Meditate on and memorize Scripture---picking up sword Eph. 6:17 Romans 12:1-2 Renew your mind. Read the word slowly, ask questions, memorize.
4. Praising God corrects wrong thinking.

H. The motivation is to glorify God and to live victoriously.

*Adapted from Victor Matthews outline and book by  
Alaine Pakkala Taking Every Thought Captive*