

## A Position of Security

**Ps 91: 1-7** He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, And ten thousand at your right hand; But it shall not come near you.

**Eph 6:10-17** Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

### A place of safety

Both psalm 91 and Ephesians 6 refer to the people of God and the attacks of the enemy and both scriptures show that a life in God provides us with safety and a place that the enemy can not penetrate. I often hear the Ephesians passage repeated in the mornings by Christians as if it is a mantra or an armour that they take off at night (like their clothes) and put on again in the mornings. It is neither but it is a reminder of the truth that in Christ we are safe from the evil one.

## Gospel / Post Gospel

- Gospels: Huge amount of localised demonic activity opposing Jesus, His birth, life and ministry
- No one was as yet born again, no one born again needed deliverance!
- Post Gospels: We are born again
- Seated in Heavenly places
- A Temple of the Holy Spirit

**One of the works of the Holy Spirit is to convict us of sin so that with His help we can repent of it and not live under sins power it would be a very strange Holy Spirit who would be grieved by sin but allow a demon to inhabit the temple (you and I) in whom He has made His dwelling.**

**It would also seem very strange to me that is we are seated in Heavenly places, in Christ Jesus, Eph 2, that Jesus would allow us to be in that position spiritually if we had something demonic (spiritually) in our lives.**

That is probably why I do not find any instance of a Christian needing to be delivered in scripture but I do find lots of issues of the soul that are needed to be sorted out in the lives of born again believers including the Apostles. But more of that in week 3.

# St Paul's

## Week 1

WHO  
THE SON  
SETS  
FREE IS  
FREE  
INDEED

# Truth or Lies

- Jn. 8:31-36 “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”...Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.
- Jn 8:44 The devil is the father of all lies.

# Freedom or bondage

- Truth brings freedom
- Lies bring bondage
- Has the ministry you have received or the theology you have believed, brought freedom or bondage? Even bondage to that ministry?

- 1Jn 3:8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
- Col 2:15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.
- Col 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins
- James 4:7 Therefore submit to God and resist the devil and he will flee from you

# Truth brings freedom lies bring bondage

## Freedom

In the group discuss what it means to be set free and what would be the signs or indicators that would accompany freedom.

## Bondage

Discuss what it means to be in bondage and what would be the signs and indicators that accompany bondage.

## Testimonies

Have you personally had experiences of ministry that has either left you in bondage or dependency (same thing) or have you experienced ministry that has brought freedom and empowerment?

## Elijah

- Elijah believed God at mount Carmel and defeated the enemy 1 Kings 18
- He believed a lie from Jezebel and had a breakdown 1 Kings 19

## Biblical Theology v Experiential theology

One of the mistakes that can happen in church life is that if certain subjects are not taught from scripture we are left with a theological vacuum. What then sometimes happens is that someone has an experience, that seems to be successful, and so they develop their theology to match their experience, often finding some proof text to back it up. This is bad theology and we should never be tempted to do, rather we need to interpret life from a biblical perspective and grapple with our experience in light of scripture.

## The Shield of Faith is a Shield of Truth

