



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## God's Leader Series: Intro to Spiritual Warfare

SEPTEMBER 5, 2012

Dave DePue / PO Box 1775, Topeka, KS 66603 / dave.depue@capitolcom.org

*Kansas leaders are dealing with stress in their personal, family, and work related lives. Add to that the dramatically changing political environment during a general election year. These notes add an additional dimension to our previous teaching on prayer.*

### INTRODUCTION

Some quip that “seeing is believing” while others respond that “if you do not believe, you will not see.” There are phenomena all around us that we cannot see. Examples are microscopic organisms as well as other objects that are too far away. Perhaps the best example is the electromagnetic spectrum. This is the range of vibrations occurring in the physical universe, measured in cycles per second or Hertz. The known range is from  $10^4$  to  $10^{20}$  Hertz. Visible light is the fractional area around  $10^{15}$  Hertz.<sup>1</sup> Another example is sound. To a human, sound is merely vibrations between 20 and 20,000 Hertz. Dogs hear slightly higher vibrations than humans but not as low. Other vibrations are occurring around us, we just cannot hear these. Spiritual forces exist around us that typically are not seen but their presence and impact can be felt. The purpose of this mini-study is to show how to deal with spiritual forces that threaten us.

### PRAYER IS OUR SPIRITUAL CONNECTION.

*Matthew 28:18 Jesus came to them and said, “All authority is given unto Me in heaven and on earth.”<sup>2</sup>*

The Book of Job gives us a glimpse into the spiritual realm. Satan, chief of the evil spirits, came before God with a challenge. His contention was that people obey God only for the good that they receive by doing so. Satan further accused God of putting “hedges” of protection around Job, resulting in numerous blessings. God allowed Satan access to test Job, first through his possessions and family, then by attacking Job’s health. Job’s faith in God stood through it all, proving to Satan, and the reader, that faith endures and God is Sovereign. God’s authority structure is outlined in Hebrews 1:1-14. Not all of our troubles come from spiritual attacks, but prayer is our weapon to deal with those unseen forces which menace us and our work.

### A FEW TIPS FOR SPRITUAL WARFARE.

1. **Ask God** if the problem is spiritual indeed. Each believer is given discernment (1 Corinthians 12: 7-14).
2. Focus your attack: ***Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the high places*** (Ephesians 6:10-12).
3. **Do not fear!** This assurance occurs over 300 times in the Bible. ***I will fear no evil: for thou art with me*** (Psalm 23:4). See also Hebrews 2: 14-15.
4. Open your prayer with praise: ***Enter His gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations*** (Psalm 100:3-4). Opening a request in a complimentary manner is powerful. My kids and grandkids know this!

### CONCLUSION

Jesus gave us a model for spiritual warfare. He took on Satan in a direct confrontation at the beginning of His ministry here on earth. Jesus was humble, citing His Father’s authority. Jesus was bold, quoting Scripture in counterattack. Jesus bound the enemy, telling Satan to “go away” in reference to Scripture (Matthew 4:1-9).

### A PRAYER

Father God, I thank you for trusting Your servants with Your work here in the Capitol. It seems that there are evil forces threatening, working against me. Your Word promises that no weapon formed against me shall prosper (Isaiah 54:17). I now claim Your Word, binding Satan and his evil forces from interfering here. I pray in the mighty Name of Jesus. Amen.

<sup>1</sup>[http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/science/know\\_11/emspectrum.html](http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/science/know_11/emspectrum.html)

<sup>2</sup> The Holy Bible, New International Version. (Biblica, Inc.) 1984.