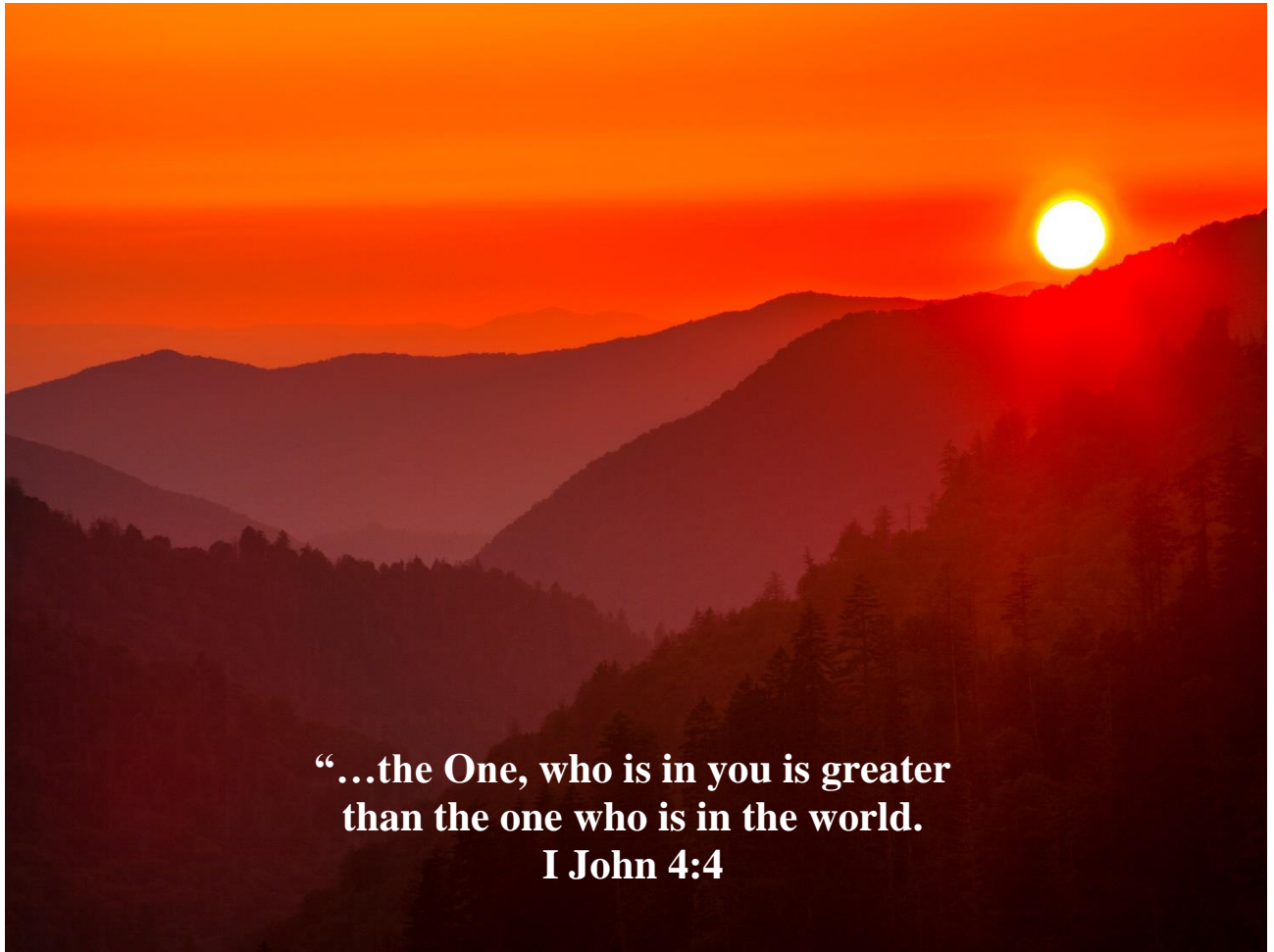


SPIRIT WORLD



A Course in the TRIBE Program from Native Bible Centre

SPIRIT WORLD

A T.R.I.B.E. Self-Study Course

Written by Ken Beichler



**“For our struggle is not against
flesh and blood.....”
Ephesians 6:12a**

Student Name _____

SPIRIT WORLD

A Self Study T.R.I.B.E. Course

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SPIRIT WORLD

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this study on the SPIRIT WORLD. This course is part of the T.R.I.B.E. (Training Resources for Indigenous Bible Education) program of the Native Bible Centre. The SPIRIT WORLD is a required course in the Topical Studies Section.

Often people take two opposite positions on the teaching about Satan. Some people feel that Satan is the cause of everything bad that happens in a person's life. Others feel that Satan never really bothers us. He is too busy working on more important Christians. The truth is that both of those ideas are wrong. Satan does not cause everything bad, but the Bible makes it very clear that he is the believer's enemy and he is out to get you. You cannot afford to live as if he does not exist.

This course will also study the unseen spirits who assist Satan, as well as the good angels who serve God. In the final chapter you will learn about the Bible's view on spiritism and how it is related to traditional Indian religion.

After each lesson there is an assignment. If you are taking this course for credit, **you must complete the assignments, take the final test and mail or scan & email them all to the Native Bible Centre.** The cost for credit is \$5.00 for this course.

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SPIRIT WORLD

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LESSON ONE

UNSEEN BUT REAL

(Angels and Demons)



A few years ago, in the month of November, I was teaching an Area Bible School in northern British Columbia. After the service on Sunday morning, I left from Chetwynd to return home.

As I traveled through the Pine Pass it began to snow heavily. The road became covered with wet snow. Because of these conditions, I began to slow down and then suddenly - it happened! On a straight stretch of road the back of the car began to slide around. I tried to correct the slide, but before I could control it, the car completely turned around on the highway, slid off the road and rolled down the embankment, finally landing back up on the tires. I quickly got out of the car. I wasn't hurt. If you were asked to give some possible reasons why this happened, what would you say?

You may have given several answers. Some people told me that my tires were not good enough. Others thought I might have been going too fast for the road conditions. Others blamed it on the snowy road.

Did you think of the possibility that Satanic powers may have rolled my car? You see, in 1 Thessalonians 2:18, Paul says that Satan stopped him from coming to their city. Can Satan still stop Christians? I am not sure of the reason why the car slid off the road, but my point is that we never seem to think of the possibility that Satan or his unseen spirits can be involved in the events of our lives.

In this study you will learn what the Bible has to say about the world of spirits. God's Word contains a lot of information on Satan and his evil demons. Although they are unseen, the world in which you live is populated by many spiritual beings. The good spiritual beings are called angels and the bad spiritual beings are called demons. The diagram on page 9 will help to illustrate the existence of the spirit world.

As you can see, the picture on the opposite page has been divided into three sections. God occupies the top level, and Jesus Christ is represented by the **C** symbol as sitting on God the Father's right. The cross † represents the victory Jesus Christ accomplished over Satan in His death and resurrection. (Hebrews 2:14)

Man is in the bottom section. Man lives on the earth. Mankind can be divided into two basic groups. The first group is called "*believers*." This term shows that these people have accepted Christ as their Saviour and have the Holy Spirit living within them. The other group has been labeled "*unbelievers*." Most of the people in the world fit into this group. They are not part of God's family.

In between God and man is the area of unseen spiritual beings. Spiritual means that they do not have physical bodies like humans. The black star represents Satan and his evil angels. The gold star represents the good angels. The line from God to His angels and on to believers shows that God has sent out His angels to help Christians. (Hebrews 1:14)

The two lines from Satan shows that he works on both believers and unbelievers. 1 Peter 5:8 describes Satan's work against believers when it says,

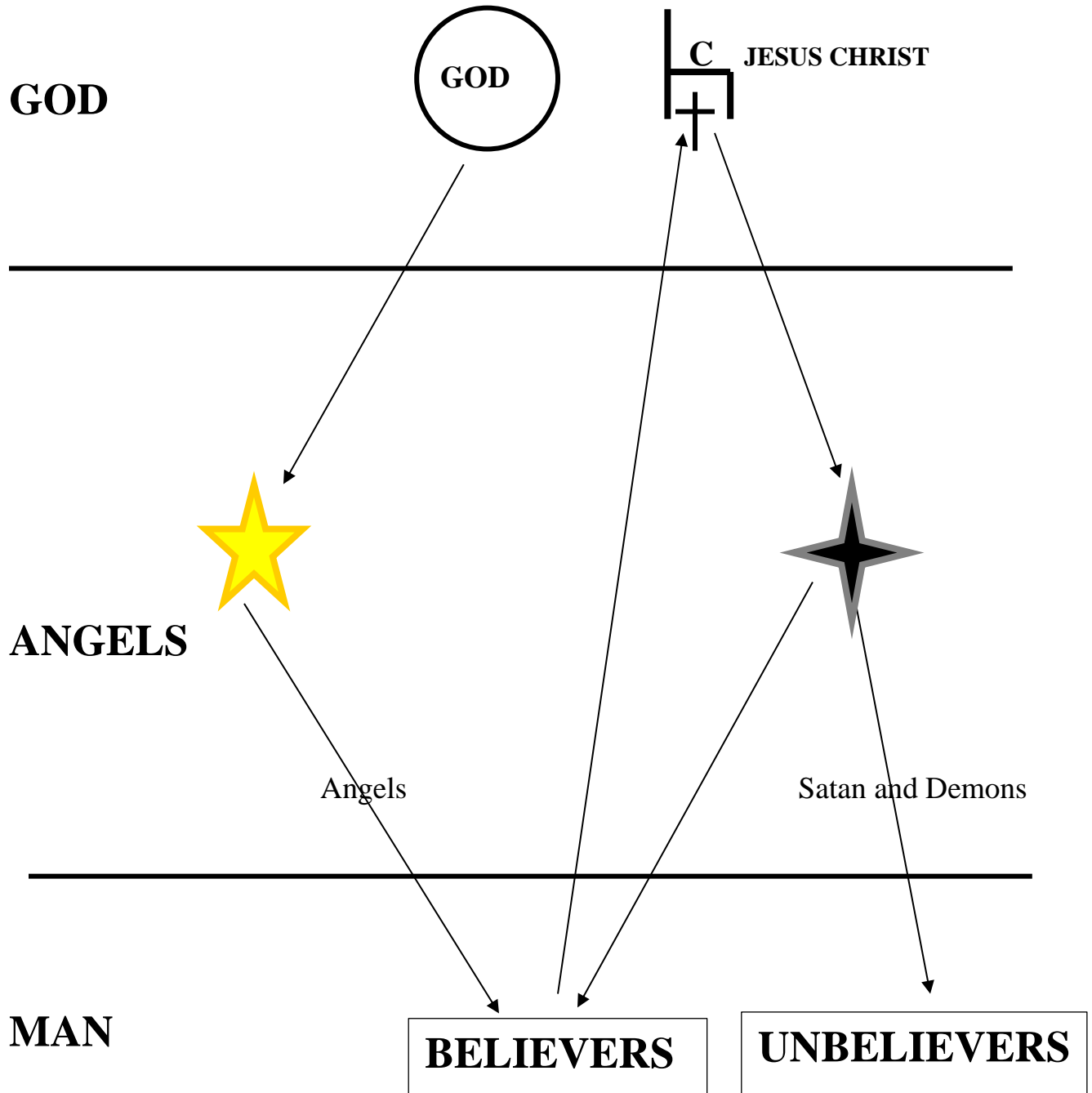
***"the devil prowls around like a roaring lion
looking for someone to devour."***

His work against unbelievers is mentioned in 2 Corinthians 4:4. It says,

***"has blinded the minds of unbelievers,
so that they cannot see the light of the gospel."***

The last line begins with the believer and goes to Christ and then to Satan. This line shows that the believer's defense against Satan is made only through Christ. The Christian does not stand against Satan in his own power but in the power of Christ. You will learn more about this later in the course.

A Christian does not stand against Satan in his own power
but in the power of Christ.



1. WHAT ARE ANGELS LIKE?

Read the following verses and fill in the blanks.

A. **Colossians 1:16** - This verse shows that by Jesus Christ all things have been _____ . This includes angels as well. This verse also says some things are visible and some are _____ .

Angels fit into this second group. They can take visible form but most of the time they are invisible to us.

B. **Revelation 14:6** – According to this verse angels travel around by _____ through the air.

C. **Hebrews 1:14** – Angels are ministering _____ God has sent out to help _____

D. **Jude 1:14** – According to this verse how many angels are there?

E. **Colossians 1:16** – In this verse Paul uses four terms to describe unseen beings. Fill in the missing terms.

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. Thrones | 3. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 4. Authorities |

The Bible also indicates that there are different ranks among the angels. Some have higher positions than others. **1 Thessalonians 4:16** refers to an archangel whose voice will be heard when Christ returns.

F. There are two kinds of angels mentioned in the Bible. According to

Genesis 3:24 - God placed _____ on the east of the Garden of Eden to guard the way to the Tree of Life.

In **Ezekiel 28:14** we discover that Satan was originally a guardian cherub.

Isaiah 6:2 mentions another kind of angel called seraphs. How many wings do they have? _____

“Seraphs stood over him (Isaiah); each one had six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet and they used the remaining two to fly.”

Isaiah 6:2

G. Angels also have names. What angels are named in these verses?



1. **Daniel 10:13** - _____

2. **Luke 1:26** - _____

2. WHAT ARE DEMONS LIKE?

The following verses from the Bible will give you information about demons. Read the verses and fill in the missing answers.

- A. **Matthew 25:41** – This verse says that _____ has angels. These are the angels who joined Satan in his rebellion against God. These are evil angels and are also called demons or evil spirits in the Bible because they are evil. Matthew 25:41 says there is an eternal _____ prepared for them.

“Then He will say to those on His left, “Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”

Matthew 25:41

B. **Acts 8:7** – Philip went out and preached God’s Word. During his ministry what happened to the evil spirits in many people? _____
This verse calls them evil and shows that they can invade people’s bodies.

C. **Matthew 8:16** – This verse says Jesus “*drove out the _____ with a word.*”
Demons are spiritual beings. This means they do not have human bodies like men.

D. **Ephesians 6:12-13** – These verses describe the evil forces that Christians must wrestle against
Many believe this description shows that demons are organized into these groups.
List the groups.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1. Rulers | 3. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 4. Spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms. |

These verses also show that these evil demons have power. That is why a believer must put on the full armor of God. Spiritual warfare is not to be taken lightly.



TEST YOURSELF QUESTIONS

These questions will help you learn. Do your best to answer them without looking back to the lesson. Then go back and check your answers and make corrections.

1. According to 1 Thessalonians 2:18 what did Satan do to Paul?

2. What does Satan try to do to unbelievers? _____

3. How should a Christian stand up against Satan? _____

4. What are the two kinds of angels?

A. _____

B. _____

5. List two things you know about demons.

A. _____

B. _____

ASSIGNMENT #1

Read the verses and write down your answers.

What do the following verses say about angels?

Daniel 6:21, 22 – _____

Matthew 4:11 – _____

Matthew 22:30 – _____

Hebrews 1:6 – _____

What do the following verses have to say about demons?

James 2:19 – _____

1 Timothy 4:1 – _____

Revelation 9:20 – _____

Revelation 16:14 - _____

Remember: If you are taking this course for credit,
you must complete this assignment and mail, or scan and email it in with the final test.

LESSON TWO

A ROARING LION

(Satan – Leader of Evil Spirits)

A number of years ago I worked as a milkman. I would deliver milk to homes early in the morning. One customer had a very large German shepherd dog to protect his property. They instructed me to honk the horn of the truck when I arrived, and they would take the dog in the house. (He had already bitten another salesman.) The only problem was they were not always home, but the dog was always there. Every time I delivered milk to that house, I was alert! I wanted to know where that dog was because he was out to get me. I was never careless on that property.

Satan is out to get you! He wants to ruin your Christian life.

1 Peter 5:8 says,

***“Be self-controlled and alert.
Your enemy the devil prowls around
like a roaring lion
looking for someone to devour.”***

You cannot be careless. You must know about Satan and how he operates.
In this lesson you will learn about your enemy.

1. WHO IS SATAN?

The following verses will give you information about Satan. Fill in the answers that are missing. There are two Old Testament passages, which talk about Satan’s sin. The first is Isaiah 14:12-15 and the second is Ezekiel 28: 11-19. At first it seems like the scripture is speaking to the king of Babylon and the king of Tyre. Many Bible teachers believe this message goes beyond these kings to Satan who was controlling these kings.

A. **Isaiah 14:12** – According to this verse Satan’s original name was Morning _____.

The King James Bible translated Satan’s original name as *Lucifer*.

B. **Ezekiel 28:14** says that Satan was originally a guardian _____.

As you learned in Lesson One, a cherub is an angel. As an angel Satan was not ugly. In fact

Ezekiel 28:12 says that Satan was “full of _____ . and _____
in beauty.”

2. **WHERE DID SATAN GO WRONG?**

A. **Ezekiel 28:15** says that _____

was found in Satan.

B. **Isaiah 14:13-14** describes Satan’s sin.

Read these verses and note the five “I wills”.

In verse 14 what is the **last** “I will”? _____



You said in your heart, “I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain, I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

Isaiah 14: 13-14

Satan wanted to be like God. His pride was the cause of his sin and downfall.

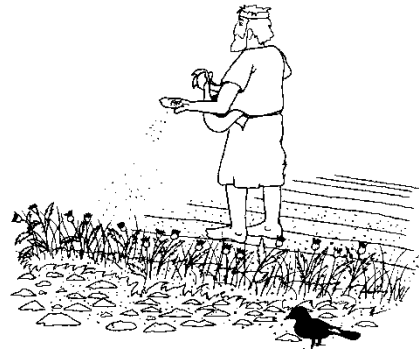
3. **WHAT WERE THE RESULTS OF SATAN’S SIN?**

A. **Matthew 25:41** – Other angels joined with Satan in his sin. The devil and his angels will end up in the _____ fire.

B. **Matthew 13:37-39** – In the parable of the weeds, the devil is described as the _____ of the son of man. When Satan fell into sin he became the enemy of God and God’s children.

C. **Matthew 13:19** – In the parable of the sower, Satan is the one who seeks to snatch away the Word of God which has been sown in men’s hearts. In this verse he is called the

_____ one. Satan is a wicked and evil being. He became evil when he chose to sin against God.



4. **HOW POWERFUL IS SATAN?**

A. **Hebrews 2:14** – Satan has been defeated by Christ. Because of Christ’s victory believers can stand up against Satan.

B. Even though Satan has been defeated he and his demons are still very active in this world.

What do the following verses have to say about Satan’s power?

Ephesians 6:12 - _____

2 Thessalonians 2:9 - _____

“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.”

Ephesians 6:12

5. WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The most common name in the Bible for your enemy is Satan. This name means “enemy”. His second most common name is Devil and it means “slanderer”. Satan spoke evil of Job before God.

What other names does the Bible use for Satan in the following verses?

1. 1 Thessalonians 3:5 - _____
2. 1 Peter 5:8 - _____
3. 2 Corinthians 4:4 - _____
4. John 16:11 - _____
5. Revelation 12:9 - _____
6. What did Jesus call Satan in John 8:44? - _____

“...for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.”

2 Corinthians 11:14

TEST YOURSELF QUESTIONS

These questions will help you learn. Do your best to answer them without looking back at the lesson. Then go back and check your answers and make corrections.

1. What two passages describe Satan's sin?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

2. What does the name Satan mean? _____

3. List two results of Satan's sin.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

4. What was Satan's name before he sinned? _____

5. List two other names for Satan.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

ASSIGNMENT #2

Using a Bible concordance, look up references to Satan in the Bible. Just look up the name “Satan” and not his other names.

Write down **seven** scripture references **and what you learned** about Satan from these scriptures.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

Remember: If you are taking this course for credit,
you must complete this assignment and mail, or email it with the final test.

LESSON THREE

TRICKS AND TRAPS

(The Methods of Satan and His Demons)

I once went with an experienced trapper as he checked his traps and snares. After he removed the animal that had been caught, he would carefully reset his trap. Often bait was placed in just the right place to lure the animal to the trap. And then, before the animal realized it, he had been caught! The Bible makes it very clear that Satan is deceitful. He is extremely tricky and he knows how to trap men and women.



In this lesson you will learn some of Satan’s tricks and traps so that you can avoid them in the future. Since Satan cannot be everywhere at the same time, he uses his evil demons to help him attack believers. Ephesians 6:12 says our battle is not just against Satan but against all unseen evil powers.

1. SATAN TRICKS PEOPLE

In the following verses you will discover how Satan tries to trick people.

A. 1 Timothy 2:14 – In these verses Paul is explaining why a woman in the local church should learn in submission and not have authority over men. One of Paul’s reasons for limiting women in the church was that Adam was created first. In verse 14 he reasons further that Eve, and not Adam, was deceived. Satan tricked Eve. He used lies to trick Eve into disobeying God. Today Satan still uses lies.

B. 2 Corinthians 11:3-5, 13-15 - Read these verses and write down what you think Satan was using to trick the Christians in Corinth.

When Paul talks about *false apostles* and *deceitful workmen* he is describing false teachers. He says they were presenting themselves as apostles of Christ when they were really working for Satan.

Satan uses false teaching to deceive people and lead them away from the truth. He continues to work this same way today. This is why it is so important to teach new believers God's Word so they will not be misled into false teaching.

What kind of false teaching is Satan using today? _____

C. 1 Corinthians 10:18-22 – Read these verses.

The Christians in Corinth were arguing about eating meat that had been offered to idols. Before they became Christians their religion involved idols. Even the meat sold in the market had connections with idolatry. Some Christians felt they had the right to eat this meat while other believers felt they should not eat it. In 1 Corinthians 8 Paul answers their questions about eating this meat.

In 1 Corinthians 10:18-22 Paul explains to them another problem. When they would eat the meat offered to idols in the idol temple, they were actually involving themselves with the demons behind the idols. Satan still wants to trick people by telling them there is nothing wrong with certain religious practices. Paul wants them to realize that there can be a connection between some kinds of religious worship and demons.

Can you think of activities in Native religion that have connections with evil spirits?



2. SATAN TRAPS PEOPLE

In 1 and 2 Timothy Paul warns Timothy of three traps Satan uses to catch people.

- A. In **1 Timothy 6:9-10**, Paul mentions the trap of _____. Satan has caught many people in this trap. Those who want to get rich end up in ruin and destruction. The worst part of falling into the trap of money is that it can cause you to drift from the faith.

- B. **1 Timothy 3:7** – In this chapter Paul is giving the qualifications for church elders. In verse seven he says a church leader must have a good _____ with _____ people so that he will not fall into disgrace and the devil’s trap. If a local church does not examine a man’s standing in the community it may make a leader out of someone who has a bad testimony and therefore fall into disgrace and the devil’s trap.
- C. **2 Timothy 2:24-26** – These verses talk about another trap which has already been listed in this lesson. What trap of Satan is found in these verses?
-

Those who opposed Paul were teaching wrong things. It is clear from these verses that those who were caught in the trap of false teaching could be rescued.

3. Satan Tempts Believers



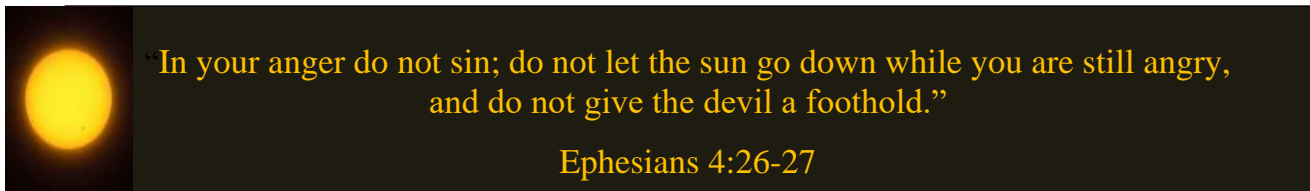
As a Christian you still sin. The reason you sin is because you still have a sin nature. This is also called the “flesh”. It is probably true that most of the times we are tempted it is just our “flesh” acting up. But the Bible also teaches that Satan can tempt our old natures to sin.

- A. Read **1 Corinthians 7:1-5**. Some of the people in Corinth had asked Paul about sexual sin. In these verses Paul says that one practical reason for marriage is to have your sexual desires met in the right way (in marriage). It may have been that some married couples in Corinth thought that if they denied their sexual needs they would be more spiritual. In 1 Corinthians 7:5 Paul tells them not to deprive each other of sex except if they both agree to do so for prayer. This was only to be for a short time so that Satan might not tempt them to be involved in sex sin outside of their marriage because they lacked self-control.

Who did Satan tempt in Genesis 3:1-6? _____

How did Satan appeal to this person? _____

- B. **Ephesians 4:26-27** – When a Christian sins, he gives Satan a _____ in his life. If you do not confess your sin right away, Satan can use this foothold to get a greater hold on your life.



4. SATAN WANTS TO DIVIDE CHURCHES

God has put the church on earth to carry out His program of sharing the gospel with all the peoples of the world. Satan knows that if he can keep the church fighting and divided it will not be able to do an effective job.

A. In **2 Corinthians 2:5-11** Paul is discussing an individual in the Corinthian church who had been punished by the church and now needed to be forgiven and received back into fellowship. This is probably the man the church was to discipline in 1 Corinthians chapter five. Apparently, he had repented of his sin and now the church was expected to forgive him just as Paul also had forgiven him.

In **2 Corinthians 2:10-11** Paul says he has forgiven this person, *“in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not ignorant of his schemes.”* Paul knew how Satan operated. A failure to forgive could be used by Satan to cause division in your church. Are there people you need to forgive?

B. Read **Acts 5:1-11**. How did Satan try to divide this church?

C. What does Satan use today to cause problems and divisions in churches?

5. SATAN’S DEMONS CAN ATTACK AND INVADE PEOPLE’S BODIES

In the ministry of Jesus, people who were possessed by demons often confronted Him. Demons can still possess the bodies of people today. Bible teachers differ on whether or not demons can live inside of Christians. Scripture does clearly teach, however, that Satan and his demons are out to harass believers in Jesus Christ. The enemy does not want a believer to wa in obedience to the Lord’s commands or to tell others the way of salvation.

A. In the verses below, out of whom did Jesus cast demons?

Mark 5:1-8 - _____

Mark 16:9 - _____

Luke 11:14 - _____

In **2 Corinthians 12:7** Paul talks about his thorn in the flesh. He is probably describing a physical problem with his eyes.

Paul's thorn is called a _____ of Satan.

In **Job 2:7** Satan attacks the body of Job with terrible boils that put Job in tremendous pain. Even though Satan had God's permission this shows what Satan can do to our human bodies.

B. In **1 Peter 5:8-9** Peter makes a direct connection between Satan and the suffering and persecution of Christians. Many Christians in other countries face tremendous trials and suffering. Satan may very well be involved in these difficulties.



C. According to **2 Corinthians 4:4**, what does Satan do to unbelievers?

“The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

2 Corinthians 4:4

TEST YOURSELF QUESTIONS

These questions will help you learn. Do your best to answer them without looking back to the lesson. Then go back and check your answers and make corrections.

1. List two ways Satan tricks people.

a. _____

b. _____

2. List two ways Satan traps people.

a. _____

b. _____

3. What is one way Satan tempts people? _____

4. What does Satan want to do to churches? _____

5. What does Paul call his “thorn in the flesh”? _____

6. According to 2 Corinthians 4:4 what does Satan do to unbelievers? _____

ASSIGNMENT #3

Read Job 1:2-10 and then write down at least three things you learned about Satan or the way he can work on Christians.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Read Matthew 4:1-11 and then write down three things you learned about Satan's methods and how to have victory.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Remember: If you are taking this course for credit,
you must complete this assignment and mail or scan and email it with the Final Test.

LESSON THREE

DRESS UP AND STAND UP

(The Believer's Defense Against Satan)

Satan is a powerful, evil and deceitful enemy. He will do anything to destroy your life. He does not want you to be faithful to God. He does not want you to tell others the "Good News". The Bible tells you to "stand firm" against Satan. You do not need to live in fear. You do not need to be defeated by this enemy. In order for you to stand against Satan, God has provided some armor for you to wear. Once you *dress up* you will be able to *stand up* against the devil's flaming arrows.

Principles For Defeating Satan



Ephesians 6:10-18

(Read these verses carefully before you continue on in this lesson.)

You can stand up against Satan, but you will only be victorious if you depend on God's mighty power.

1. RELY ON THE LORD'S MIGHTY POWER. Ephesians 6:10

You must remember you are no match for Satan by yourself. In the Old Testament young David once faced an enemy much more powerful than himself. David was still able to defeat the giant Goliath. His key to victory is found in **1 Samuel 17:47**:

*"All those gathered here will know
that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves;
For the battle is the Lord's, and He will give all of you into our hands."*

In Ephesians 6:10 Paul instructs the Christians on how they will be able to stand up against Satan and his evil powers,

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power..."

2. ALWAYS BE ON THE ALERT. Ephesians 6:12,18

In **Ephesians 6:12** Paul gives the reason for what he said in verse 11. In verse 11 he tells the Ephesian Christians to put on the full armor of God. The reason they need the armor is because their enemy is not flesh and blood but unseen, powerful, and evil spiritual beings. When you are up against Satan and his forces you cannot afford to be careless or lazy.

In Ephesians 6:18 he tells them to be _____
Satan and his demons never go on vacation.

3. PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD. Ephesians 6:14-17

Paul was placed in prison a number of times for preaching the Gospel. He knew what a soldier was and what a soldier wore.

In this chapter Paul uses the picture of a soldier to illustrate how a Christian should prepare to battle with the enemy. Many Christians get themselves into trouble because they are not properly dressed for the battle.



If Paul had lived in Canada maybe he would have used a hockey goalie's equipment for his illustration. Paul lists six parts of the armor.

A. BELT OF TRUTH – verse 14



Paul is referring here to a leather apron worn by soldiers to protect the lower part of the body. It was also used as a sheath to hold the sword.

Paul is speaking about practical truth in the life of the believer. Satan hates the truth. As you learned earlier Jesus even called him a liar. If you are to have victory over Satan you must walk in God's truth.

What does Paul say about truth in Ephesians 4:15? _____

In Ephesians 4:21? _____

If there is deception in any area of your life you will not be able to stand against the devil.

B. BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS – verse 14



The breastplate was an important part of the armor for a Roman soldier. It covered the soldier both front and back from the neck to the thighs and protected all of his major organs. The Christian receives this breastplate of righteousness at the time of salvation, but he must put it on and use it every day.

Paul is talking about living right every day. God has shown you from the Bible how He expects you to live. You cannot experience victory over Satan if there is sin in your life.

Recently I learned of a woman who was being bothered by evil spirits but could not gain any victory even though she had prayed. Others had also prayed with her. At the time this was happening she was living with a man to whom she was not married. She was not **using** her breastplate of righteousness.

What does 1 John 1:6-7 say about this? _____

C. FEET FITTED WITH THE READINESS THAT COMES FROM THE GOSPEL OF PEACE

Ephesians 6:15



In your battle against evil forces your footwear is very important. In Paul’s day a Roman soldier wore sandals that were attached to his feet with leather straps. The Christian is to have his feet covered with the readiness of the gospel of peace.

The good news of Christ brings peace to those who are lost in sin. God’s program involves invading Satan’s territory with the gospel that gives men peace. You need to be a witnessing Christian who is always ready to share the gospel.

What does Paul say about sharing the gospel in Ephesians 6:19?

Do you have on the proper footwear for standing up against Satan?

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”
1 Peter 3:15

D. SHIELD OF FAITH – verse 16



Roman soldiers faced enemy arrows. Sometimes they were even burning arrows. Their defense against these arrows was the shield. These shields were quite large and were made of wood covered with cloth and leather. Sometimes they were dipped in water so the fiery arrows would stop burning when they hit the shield.

Satan also shoots fiery arrows at Christians. He will try to get you to doubt God’s Word. Your defense is your shield of faith. You must live each day by faith in God’s Word. Faith means you will take God at His word and obey even if you do not know what lies ahead.

What does Hebrews 11:1 say about faith?

Those who are assured of their salvation will be able to stand firm against the enemy.

How did Abraham show he had faith? Read Hebrews 11:8-9

E. HELMET OF SALVATION – verse 17



The Roman soldier never entered battle without his helmet. His helmet was made of bronze with a leather strap. For the child of God, victory over Satan is directly related to his helmet of salvation. If a person is not saved he cannot stand up against Satan’s attacks.

God’s salvation has delivered you from the **penalty** of your sins. They have been forgiven. Because you know Christ as your Savior you can be saved each day from the **power** of sin. One day in the future you will be saved from the very **presence** of sin.

F. SWORD OF THE SPIRIT – verse 17

Most of the armor Paul has listed is for protection. The shoes and the sword suggest that the Christian is to advance into Satan’s territory and attack.



The Roman soldier carried a short, straight sword used for close fighting. Satan has his fiery darts but he also moves in for closer attacks. The very powerful sword that God has given to us is **His Word**.

What does Hebrews 4:12 say about the Word of God? _____

You are in a spiritual battle and you must have a spiritual weapon. When you resist Satan James 4:7 says, “...*he will* _____ *from you.*”

Being able to quote some Bible verses is not enough. You should study the Bible daily, meditate upon it, understand it and obey it. You will never stand against the unseen powers of evil without it.

4. PRAY AT ALL TIMES. Ephesians 6:18

You need a spiritual defense for a spiritual battle because you cannot see your enemy. The world of unseen spirits is very real. When you pray, you release God’s power into this area of the spirit world. If you truly understand the nature of the battle you will pray. We do not wrestle with flesh and blood.

When you pray, do not forget that the real battle is an unseen battle.

In Ephesians 6:18 how often does Paul say to pray? _____

In verses 19-20 for what did Paul ask the Ephesians to pray? _____

ASSIGNMENT #4

Read **Acts 19:11-20** and answer the following questions.

1. In whose name was Paul casting out evil spirits? _____

2. What did the evil spirit say about the seven sons of Sceva? _____

3. The evil spirit in the man gave him the strength to do what?

4. What did the people who came to Christ do with the scrolls used in sorcery?

5. What application does this have today for people who become Christians but who formerly practiced a religion that did not give worship to the one and only God? _____

Remember: If you are taking this course for credit, you must complete this assignment and mail or scan & email it to the Native Bible Centre with the final test.

LESSON FOUR

SPIRITS, SPELLS & SHAMANS

(The Bible's View of Spiritism)

Throughout the Bible God warns against being involved with unknown spiritual powers. *Spiritism* can be used as a general term to describe the various aspects of spirit involvement. Some people feel that spirits are spirits of their dead family members or ancestors. What many people do not realize is that these unknown spiritual powers are evil spirits.

All of the practices mentioned in this lesson are still being done today. Some of these can also be found in the Native religion. You must decide what the Bible teaches in these areas and then live as God instructs.

1. CONTACTING MEDIUMS

A medium is a person who acts as a mediator between a person and the spirit world. Mediums possess the power and knowledge to deal with the spirit world. In different groups of people these individuals have different names. Among Native people they are often called shamans or Indian doctors. As a Christian you do not need the help of these people when you face the powers of evil. You have Christ's power and the armor God has given to you.

A. **Leviticus 19:31** says, "***Do not turn to _____ or seek out _____.***" It is wrong for a Christian to turn to a medium.

B. In **Leviticus 20:27** the Bible even goes further when it says that mediums should be _____. This should show you how strongly God feels about being involved with mediums.

When fears and worries strike, how good it is to read David's prayer in Psalm 34!: "I sought the Lord, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears" (v. 4). And how does God deliver us from our fears? When we "look to Him" (v. 5), when we focus on Him, our fears fade; we trust Him to be in control. Then David mentions a different type of fear—not a fear that paralyzes, but a deep respect and awe of the One who surrounds us and delivers us (v. 7). We can take refuge in Him because He is good (v. 8).

2. CONSULTING WITH THE DEAD

Even today people attempt to consult with the dead so they can gain information. In the Old Testament **Isaiah 19:3** says that the Egyptians consulted with the spirits of the dead.



Recently I read an article that said thousands of Mexicans give food to the souls of the dead who are supposed to return each November 1 and 2.

Many people who worship their ancestors still fear they can bring harm to the living.

What does **Isaiah 8:19** say about consulting the dead?

“When men tell you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead, on behalf of the living?”

Isaiah 8:19

It does not make sense to seek information from the dead when God has already given us His Word. Isaiah asks this question, “...*should not a people inquire of their God?...*”

1 Samuel 28:3-19 is the account of Saul consulting a medium. Read these verses and answer the following questions.

1. What was the situation that caused Saul to go to this woman?

2. Why do you think the woman screamed when she saw Samuel?

3. What message did Samuel have for Saul? _____

Saul disobeyed God by going to a medium. The witch screamed when she saw Samuel because she was surprised her normal demon did not appear. God actually chose to have Samuel appear so he could give Saul God's message.

It is good to have respect for your ancestors but you do not need to fear their spirits or seek to make contact with them. Do not let Satan trick you in this area.

3. INVOLVEMENT WITH WITCHCRAFT AND SPELLS

Witchcraft is the use of bad medicine (black magic) to control people or situations. A spell is a word or formula that is believed to have magical power. People today are still using bad medicine on others. A Native believer told the story of people who put a curse on him and his family, but God protected them from this witchcraft.

The Babylonians thought their witchcraft would protect them from God's judgment. What does **Isaiah 47:9** say?

What does the Bible call the practices of King Manasseh in **2 Kings 21:1-6**?

In **Galatians 5:20** Paul says witchcraft is a fruit of the sinful nature. What are some other sins listed along with witchcraft? _____

The powers of evil around you are no match for the power of Jesus within you!

4. INVOLVEMENT IN DIVINATION

Divination is the practice of trying to gain information about the future or other matters which one



would not normally know. People still have the desire to know what is going to happen in the future. In the Bible those who used divination would consult a being (human, spirit being or dead person) or else they would observe certain objects or actions. For example, people would use the liver of an animal in order to gain information. Sometimes they would observe the movement of birds in hopes that they would gain information.

What did the king of Babylon use according to **Ezekiel 21:21**?

A. Read **Acts 16:16-18**

This girl had the power to tell the future, but she had this power through an evil spirit. It was not of God.

The **WHAT** of our future is determined by the **WHO** of eternity!

What did this girl continue to shout about Paul and his companions ?

How did Paul respond ?

In **Deuteronomy 18:10-11** God sums up His view of spiritism.

“Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. “

When you are desperate for information about your future, turn to the sovereign God of heaven. He is the only One who holds the answers you seek.

In verse 12 it says that anyone who practices these things is “...*detestable to the Lord.*” These are the scriptures and principles that you must use to evaluate Native religion.

For many years Satan has kept people in fear and slavery. They lived each day afraid that they might offend the spirits. As a Christian you never need to live that way again. If you or someone you know is involved in spiritism, you should follow these steps for deliverance.

1. You must want Satan’s power to be broken in your life. You must be willing to follow God’s way completely.
2. Understand that complete deliverance is only possible through Jesus Christ.

1 John 3:8 – *“He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.”*

3. If you are not a Christian you need to accept Jesus Christ as your Savior.

John 14:6 – *“Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

4. You must destroy all objects related to spiritism. Pipes or other objects used in spiritism can still carry power. You should destroy **all** of these things.

What did the believers in Acts 19:18-19 do?



5. You must pray to renounce the power of evil spirits in your life. You must turn your back and walk away from all forms of spiritism. You must not go back to them.

6. You must continue to stand up against Satan by using the full armor God has given.
 - a. Study the Word daily.
 - b. Pray regularly.
 - c. Attend a Christian fellowship for support.
 - d. Share your faith with others.

Ephesians 6:14-18.

*Stand firm then,
with the belt of truth buckled around your waist,
with the breastplate of righteousness in place,
and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.
In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith,
with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
Take the helmet of salvation
and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.
With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.*



**“..the One who is in you is greater
than the one who is in the world.”**

I John 4:4

TEST YOURSELF QUESTIONS

These questions will help you learn. Do your best to answer them without looking back to the lesson. Then go back and check your answers and make corrections.

1. What does God say about contacting mediums? _____

2. What is *divination*? _____

3. List the six steps for deliverance from spiritism.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

f. _____

ASSIGNMENT #5

A friend of yours has just accepted Christ as his Savior. Up until now he has been involved with Native religion. What instructions would you give him/her?

**Remember: If you are taking this course for credit,
you must complete this assignment and mail, or scan & email it in with the final test.**

Name _____ Date _____

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SPIRIT WORLD FINAL TEST

1. List two truths you learned about angels.

a. _____

b. _____

2. List two truths you learned about demons.

a. _____

b. _____

3. What was Satan originally ? _____

4. What was Satan's sin ? _____

5. List two results of Satan's sin.

a. _____

b. _____

6. List three other names for Satan.

a. _____ c. _____

b. _____

7. Name two of Satan's traps.

a. _____

b. _____

Fill in the blanks:

8. When you sin, you give Satan a _____ in your life.

9. Satan wants to divide _____.

10. Satan _____ the minds of the unsaved.

Answer these questions:

11. Give one example of demon possession from the Bible. _____

12. What Scripture describes the believer's armor? _____

13. What are four principles for defeating Satan ?
a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
d. _____

14. What is God's view of consulting mediums ? _____

15. What is *divination*? _____

16. A friend of yours has been involved in Native religion but has recently accepted Christ as Savior. What advice will you give him/her ?

17. What has been most helpful to you in this course? _____

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