

**Spiritual Conflict – Volume 3:
God’s People Triumphant**
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— Study Note Outline —
SC3

Six Tape Series

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Five Ways Christ Undoes Satan’s Work
1013

I. Introduction

- A. John 20:21—As the “second Man” and Head of a new race, Christ sends us to fulfill His purpose and will, as He Himself fulfilled the purpose and will of the Father.
- B. 1 John 3:8b—Christ was manifested to destroy (undo) the works of the devil. Believers are responsible to complete this task.
- C. This is related to the results of Adam’s fall, as follows:

II. The Change In Adam’s Nature Reversed

- A. Col. 3:10—We are renewed unto the acknowledgment of the Creator, to reproduce His image
- B. 2 Pet. 1:3–4—Through the acknowledgment of Christ, by the promises of God’s Word, we are enabled to *escape corruption* and to become *partners of the divine nature*. Christ being divine, became also human, that the believer, being *human*, might become also *divine* (compare 1 Pet. 1:23).

III. Satan’s Usurped Authority Transferred To Christ

- A. Matt. 28:18–20—All authority in heaven and earth now vested in Christ and transmitted to His disciples as they obey Him
- B. Eph. 1:20–23—Christ, as Head of the Church, exalted over all rulers and realms of authority (compare 2:9–11; 1 Pet. 3:22)
- C. Eph. 2:5–6—Believers identified with Christ in His exaltation (compare Rom. 5:17; Rev. 1:6; 5:10). The office of priest and king reunited in Christ and in the believer.
- D. Rev. 1:18—The resurrected Christ holds the key of death and Hades.

IV. Believers Given Authority Over Demons

- A. Luke 1:71, 74–75—Believers delivered from oppression and fear
- B. Matt. 10:1; Luke 10:17–19—Believers have authority over all demons

V. Redemption (From “Vanity”) Will Come To Creation Through The Believers

- A. Rom. 8:19–23—The manifestation of God’s sons in their glory at the resurrection will bring deliverance also to creation (compare Col. 3:4)
- B. Is. 11:4–9; 65:17–25—In the millennium there will be partial deliverance
- C. Eph. 1:9–12, Rev. 21:1–5, 24–26—In the fulfillment of God’s eternal purpose, God will dwell in the church in the midst of creation, and deliverance will be complete and permanent

VI. Believers Identified With Christ In Righteousness Become The Instruments To Cast Down Satan’s Kingdom

- A. Rom. 5:1, 8:1, 33–39; 2 Cor. 5:21—Believers are made righteous with Christ’s righteousness, and therefore victorious over “angels, principalities, powers,” etc.
- B. Col. 1:13—Believers are translated from Satan’s realm into the kingdom of Christ
- C. 2 Cor. 10:4–5—Believers have the *spiritual weapons* to cast down every stronghold of Satan, and *every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God*. This denotes the whole of Satan’s kingdom
- D. Matt. 16:18—The gates of Hades cannot withstand Christ’s Church
- E. Rom. 16:20—Satan is to be crushed under the feet of believers
- F. Rev. 12:11—Satan is to be cast down from heaven by *spiritual weapons of believers*. Satan strives unceasingly to keep believers ignorant of these facts

God’s Program For The Close Of The Age

– Part 1–

1014

I. Introduction

- A. Acts 2:16–21—A special intervention of God (in grace) on behalf of His people is promised for the close of this age. No part of the human race will be passed by.
- B. Acts 3:19–21—Four stages:
 - 1. God’s people repent and turn back to God
 - 2. Seasons of refreshing
 - 3. Times (period) of restoration
 - 4. Return of Christ (compare Matt. 17:11)
- C. Is. 59:1—It is the sins of God’s people that keep Him from moving on their behalf
- D. 2 Chron. 7:14—It is the sins of God’s people that keep our land from being healed

II. Theme Of Joel: Desolation—Restoration—Judgment

- A. Joel 1:4–12—*Desolation* through an invading army of insects (= demons). The vine = the Church. The fig tree = Israel.
 - 1. Satan has a “fifth column” inside the Church
 - 2. Until this is eradicated, the Church cannot be completely victorious
- B. Joel 2:21–29—*Restoration* through the outpoured Spirit of God
- C. Joel 1:10; 2:19; 24; 2 Cor. 9:8—“Corn” = God’s Word; “Oil” = Anointing of Holy Spirit; “Wine” = Joy
 - 1. The level of God’s provision is *abundance*
 - 2. Within the Church there are two opposing kingdoms: The kingdom of *David*

is emerging out of the kingdom of *Saul*. The sin of Saul: “incomplete obedience is disobedience.”

- D. Joel 2:22—Restoration for Israel and the Church proceeding side by side since about 1900 A.D.
- E. Luke 21:29–31—Jesus here refers to Joel 1:12. The shooting forth of the fig tree (Israel) shows that spiritual restoration is also taking place in the vine (the Church).

God’s Program For The Close Of The Age

– Part 2 –

1015

I. Review Theme Of Joel: Desolation—Restoration—Judgment

A. Four Preparatory Phases For The Church:

1. Is. 59:19b—God’s people regather around the Holy Spirit’s uplifted standard (compare Is. 10:18; John 16:13–14)
 - a. Heb. 13:8—This standard is “Jesus Christ the same, yesterday, and today, and forever”
 - b. Gen. 49:10—This is the only focal point for the gathering of God’s people
2. Joel 2:25, 32—God’s people are delivered from demon infiltration. Their joy, which had withered away is restored.
Obad. 17—Deliverance and holiness are necessary, before God’s people can “possess their possessions”
3. Acts 2:17–18—God’s people are reequipped with the supernatural gifts of the Spirit. These are *tools*, not *toys*
 - a. 1 Cor. 1:7–8—the Church that is to be ready for Christ’s return must not be lacking in any gifts
 - b. Rom. 15:18–19—The demonstration of God’s supernatural power is needed to bring forth true obedience from the Gentiles
4. Ezek. 37:7–10—God’s people are regrouped. This demands order, discipline, submission
 - a. 1 Cor. 14:12, 14, 21—All the members need each other
 - b. Eph. 4:16—Each part must fit into its place under the sole Headship of Christ
 - c. Is. 60:1–5—A prophetic picture of God’s people after restoration (compare Song 6:10; Mal. 4:1–2; Is. 30:26)

B. Three final objectives for the Church:

1. Ingathering of earth’s last great harvest:
 - a. Deut. 11:14—*Rain* always given for sake of *harvest*. Note: Corn, wine, oil (compare Joel 2:19, 24).
 - b. Jer. 5:24; James 5:7–8; Matt. 24:3, 14—The final *sign*; the preaching of the kingdom Gospel to all nations.
2. Preparation of the Church as bride to meet Christ as Bridegroom.
Eph. 5:25–27; Rev. 19:7–8—Before the marriage of the Lamb can be celebrated, the bride must “make herself ready” (compare 2 Cor. 11:2; 1 John

- 3:3)
3. Restraining and final casting down of Satan's kingdom
 - a. 2 Cor. 10:4–5; Rev. 12:11—It is by the spiritual weapons of the Church that Satan's kingdom must be cast down from the heavenlies
 - b. Victory in this area is essential for the fulfillment of objectives 1 and 2 above

Satan's Program For The Close Of The Age

1016

I. Introduction

- A. Eph. 2:2–3—Through the disobedience of Adam, Satan became ruler of the realm of authority originally committed by God to Adam. Satan has two final objectives:
 1. To gain complete political control on earth
 2. To receive for himself the worship of the whole world
 - a. There is one main force that hinders Satan from achieving these objectives: The working of God's Spirit, turning men back to God in repentance and submission
- B. Ps. 14:13; 53:1–3; Luke 4:5–8—Left to themselves without God's Spirit, men will not turn and seek God
 1. Satan is looking for a man of outstanding ability and personality who will fully submit to him. Through this man, Satan will then control the world and will receive universal worship.
 2. Jesus, the true Christ, refused.
 3. Antichrist, the false Christ, will consent
 4. Satan works along two lines:
 - a. Direct intervention by spiritual agents from Satan's kingdom
 - b. The outworking of sin's corruption, producing progressive moral and ethical decline

II. Pattern From Noah's Days:

- A. Gen. 6:2, 4—Satanic spirits have intercourse with human women (compare 1 Pet. 3:19–20; Jude 6–7)
- B. Gen. 6:5, 11, 12—Moral decline:
 1. Evil imagination
 2. Violence
 3. Sexual corruption
- C. Gen. 6:3; 7:1, 4, 7, 10—God's Spirit worked through Noah and his family. When they entered into the ark, God's Spirit was withdrawn from the rest of the race. For several days Satan's spirit had free rein. Then final judgment came.
- D. Luke 17:26—This pattern will be repeated at the close of this age

III. Pattern From Ahab's Days:

- A. 1 Kings 16:29–33; 21:25—As king of Israel, Ahab sold himself to Satan, a type of the false Christ. He was stirred up by Jezebel, a type of the false Church

- B. 1 Kings 18:4, 13, 19—Jezebel killed the true prophets and promoted the false prophets
- C. 2 Kings 9:22—Jezebel practiced immorality and *witchcraft*
- D. 1 Kings 17:1; 18:1—This union of political power with satanic spiritual power brought forth the ministry of Elijah
- E. Mal. 4:5—At the close of this age the same situation will bring forth the same ministry

IV. Similar Trends Predicted For The Close Of This Age:

- A. Satanic supernatural intervention:
 1. Matt. 24:11, 24—False prophets and false Christ's with signs and wonders
 2. 1 Tim. 4:1—Deceiving spirits seducing Christians by false doctrines
 3. 2 Tim. 3:13—Evil men and *magicians* growing worse and worse
 4. 2 Tim. 3:8–9—Such men will resist the truth of the Gospel as the magicians of Egypt resisted Moses (see Ex. 7:8–13, 19–22; 8:5–7, 16–19)
- B. Progressive moral decline:
 1. Matt. 24:12—Abounding lawlessness will cause the love of many Christians to grow cold
 2. 2 Tim. 3:1–5—Moral and ethical breakdown, allied with false religion (compare 2 Tim. 2:19–22)
 3. Rev. 22:10–12—The parting of the ways
 4. Joel 3:14—The valley of decision

Restraining And Casting Down Satan 1017

I. Review:

- A. Satan has established a rival spiritual kingdom in opposition to God, ruling over fallen angels in the heavenlies and demons on earth
- B. God's objectives on earth:
 1. To reap earth's last great harvest of souls;
 2. To prepare the Church as a bride for Christ
- C. Satan's objectives on earth:
 1. To gain complete political control;
 2. To receive universal worship.
- D. Christ has committed to his disciples two special responsibilities:
 1. To restrain Satan's purposes on earth until God's purposes of grace have been fulfilled
 2. To cast down Satan's kingdom from the heavenlies

II. The Power Of Believers To Retrain Satan:

- A. Matt. 5:13—The *salt* of the earth. Two functions of salt:
 1. To give flavor:
 - a. Gen. 18:23–25—God will never deal with the righteous as with the wicked
 - b. Gen. 18:26–32—Ten righteous men in Sodom could have saved the city

- c. 2 Kings 6:17—The chariots and horses of God all centered around one man: Elisha
 - d. Ps. 106:23—The intercession of Moses saved all Israel
 - e. Ezek. 22:30–31—One man standing in the gap could have saved Israel in Ezekiel’s day (compare 2 Chron. 7:14)
 - f. Acts 27:24, 37—For Paul’s sake God saved about 275 persons on his ship. The same principle applies today. The presence of true believers makes a difference.
 - g. 2 Cor. 5:20—We are heaven’s *ambassadors*. Before God declares total war on a Christ-rejecting earth, He will withdraw His ambassadors.
2. To restrain corruption:
- a. 2 Thess. 2:3—Only through an “apostasy” within the Church will the way be opened for antichrist. Apostates are “salt that has lost its savor.”
 - b. 2 Thess. 2:6–7—The “corruption” of “lawlessness” is already at work, but held in check by the presence of the Holy Spirit within the Church. “Lawlessness” within the Church promotes “lawlessness” within secular society.
 - c. Luke 17:26—The presence of Noah and his family restrained the final manifestation of lawlessness, until God withdrew them into the ark. The Holy Spirit as a *Person* came to earth on the day of Pentecost to form a *Body for Christ*. When that body is complete, the Holy Spirit will return to heaven, taking the body of Christ with him.

III. The Power Of Believers To Cast Down Satan’s Kingdom:

- A. Eph. 6:12—Our wrestling match is against Satan’s kingdom in the heavenlies. Committed to this by the design of God. The outcome must be victory.
- B. 2 Cor. 10:3–5—Spiritual weapons for spiritual warfare, able to cast down every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. This includes the whole of Satan’s kingdom in the heavenlies.
- C. Dan. 10:12–12, 20—Angelic warfare in the heavenlies, precipitated by Daniel’s prayer on earth. Daniel’s prayer the decisive factor.
- D. Rev. 12:7–11—Likewise at the close of this age: Angels at war in the heavenlies, saints at war on earth. The final casting down of Satan attributed to the saints on earth
- E. Rev. 19:11, 19–21; 2 Thess. 2:8—Final destruction of antichrist on earth will be accomplished by Jesus Himself

Spiritual Weapons: The Blood, The Word, Our Testimony 1018

I. Introduction

- A. 2 Cor. 10:3–5—Spiritual weapons for spiritual warfare
 - 1. Rev. 12:1—The *blood* of the Lamb and the *word* of the *testimony*.
 - 2. We must testify personally to what the Word says that the blood does.
 - 3. Without our personal testimony, the blood remains ineffective.
- B. Ex. 12:6, 12–13, 21–23; 1 Cor. 5:7—Salvation for Israel was through the blood of

the lamb, but *the blood in the basin saved no one*.

1. The blood was transferred to each home by the *hyssop*.
2. The hyssop that makes the blood of Christ effective in our lives is our *personal testimony*.

II. What The Word Says About The Blood

- A. Eph. 1:7—*Redemption* (in Christ) (compare 1 Pet. 1:18–19)
1. Ps. 107:2—Redeemed *out of the hand of the devil*. Effective only when we *say so*
 2. Ps. 91:2—*I will say . . .* Right testimony is the *entrance* into the *complete protection* of Psalm 91
- My testimony: Through the blood of Jesus I am redeemed out of the hand of the devil.
- B. Eph. 1:7—*Forgiveness of sins* (compare Matt. 26:28) *redemption* is coextensive with *forgiveness*. Incomplete forgiveness provides only incomplete redemption.
- My testimony: Through the blood of Jesus all my sins are forgiven.
- C. *Cleansing from all sin*. Note three things that are interrelated:
1. Walking in the light
 2. Fellowship
 3. Cleansing.
 4. Out of fellowship = Out of the light. *The blood cleanses only in the light*.
 5. 1 John 1:9—*Confession* (when needed) is *coming to the light*
- My testimony: The blood of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is cleansing me, now and continually, from all sin.
- D. Rom. 5:9—*Justified* = made righteous; “just-as-if-I’d” never sinned (compare Rom. 3:24–25; 2 Cor. 5:21)
1. Prov. 28:1—Righteousness gives *boldness*
 2. Is. 32:17—Righteousness produces *peace, quietness, assurance*
- My testimony: Through the blood of Jesus I am justified, made righteous, “just-as-if-I’d” never sinned.
- E. Heb. 10:29; 13:12; 1 Cor. 6:13
1. *Sanctified* = Made holy, set apart to God
 2. *Translated* out of the realm of darkness into the kingdom of God
- My testimony: Through the blood of Jesus I am sanctified, made holy, set apart to God.
- F. 1 Cor. 6:19–20—The believer’s body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, bought by the blood of Jesus
- 1 Cor. 6:13—The body for the Lord, the Lord for the body
- My testimony: My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, redeemed, cleansed, sanctified by the blood of Jesus, therefore the devil has no place in me and no power over me.

III. Conclusion

- A. 1 John 5:6—The *Spirit* bears witness to the *water (Word)* and the *blood* (compare Eph. 5:25–27)
- B. Ecc. 4:12—*A threefold cord* is not quickly broken