

Web of Fears Sermon Notes Week 2

Intro: What the world is scared of' – top five things Americans fear the most are as follows:

1. Walking alone at night
2. Becoming the victim of identity theft🔒
3. Lack of safety on the Internet
4. Being the victim of a mass/random shooting
5. Public speaking

What are YOU afraid of?

1. Personal friend who feared spiders
2. Stephanie and mysterious cab in Nashville, TN

Recently, on Church 212 Facebook post and in an E-blast I wrote: There are numerous myths held by Christians and society about Satan and his power. Some believe he has lost all his power; some think he has great power; still others see him as simply the "dark side of the force"; Satan worshippers view him as 'god'. **Where are you? What do you say about Satan?**

Satan various identifying names (see expanded list):

Historical Perspective:

1. The devil appears a crafty serpent to beguile Eve
2. He comes to argue before God about Job
3. Jesus' ministry begins with 40 days with God & Satan; His ministry encounters demons in people

Ephesians 6:10 – 12 The Battle “Against”:

1. “FINALLY, be strong in the Lord...put on His armor”
2. To be prepare for Satan’s schemes...
3. We struggle “AGAINST” four levels of devils:
 - a. rulers
 - b. authorities
 - c. powers of darkness (earthly realm)
 - d. spiritual forces of evil (heavenly realms)

Ephesians 6:13, 14a What to do when you’ve done all you can...WITHSTAND THE DAY OF EVIL...STAND ...STAND, THEREFORE...”

Ephesians 6:14 – 17 STAND WITH THE ARMOR:

1. “Belt of TRUTH” (John 17:17)
2. Breastplate of righteousness (protects vital organs)
3. Feet ready with the Gospel of Peace (walk)
4. Shield of faith (body armor)
5. Helmet of salvation (protect the head)
6. SWORD OF THE SPIRIT (THE WORD)

Ephesians 6:18 – 20 WHY WE NEED TO SUIT UP?

1. Pray for all saints
2. Pray for ministers for “words to be given to me concerning the Gospel...AND fearless preaching of the Word”

Ephesians 1:16 – 23 “I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. **17** I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious

Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. **18** I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, **19** and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength **20** he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, **21** far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. **22** And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, **23** which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way” ...**Ephesians 2:6 – 8** “And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, **7** in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. **8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— **9** not by works, so that no one can boast.”

Summary: Satan works hard, through deception, to either mask his presence OR exalt his power. The wise Christian seeks to remain aware of the Devil’s desire to entrap people while keeping his/her eyes on Jesus who has rendered his defeat. The armor of God is defensive armor to keep the believer from Satan’s attacks. It also

includes offensive armor – the “Sword of the Spirit” (God’s Word) – to plunder Satan’s kingdom. That is why the serpent fights to keep you away from God’s Word . He seeks to “steal it”; “pressure heat it”; “choke it” or simply tempt us to “doubt it” or “fail to practice it”. Jesus modeled how to defeat Satan’s temptations with “...it is written...”. Note: the defensive AND offensive armor is all “Word” related. “My people {God said] are destroyed for a lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6). Let’s encourage one another with God’s Word each day and live victoriously!

Memory Verse: *“In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one” (Ephesians 6:16 NIV).*