

THE EVIL POWERS OF CANAAN!

By Rodney W. Francis

FRONT COVER

What you see here as a visible, physical happening, is actually what is happening in the invisible, spiritual realm to those whose lives are bound by evil spirits.

They are being dragged downwards to a lost eternity by invisible ropes. Those bondages not only rob people of life in this present world., but also the one to come! This book can help to set those people free! It is an attempt to uncover the works of the devil, as well as to enlighten those who are willing to consider the unseen spirit world that affects our lives more than anything else.



“THE GOSPEL FAITH MESSENGER” MINISTRY

All Rights Reserved: No part of this book may be altered in any way. It may be photocopied for group use to help strengthen others who desire to grow in the Kingdom of God. All inquiries should be sent to:

**“THE GOSPEL FAITH MESSENGER” MINISTRY
P.O. BOX 57
PARAPARAUMU 5254
NEW ZEALAND**

Telephone: (00 64) 4 904 0727

Facsimile: (00 64) 4 904 0726

E-Mail: gfm@gospel.org.nz

Web Site: www.gospel.org.nz

1st Printed (1994)

Updated October 2007

COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Scriptural basis of these studies is taken from The King James Version (KJV) of the Bible. Scripture quotations marked (AMP) are taken from The Amplified Bible. Old Testament copyright © 1965, 1987 by The Zondervan Corporation. The Amplified New Testament copyright 1958, 1987 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

Verses marked (TLB) are taken from The Living Bible © 1971. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, IL 60189, U.S.A. All rights reserved.

Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version marked (NIV). Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Hodder and Stoughton Limited, London, England.

Word meanings marked (Bullinger's) are taken from “A Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament” by E.W. Bullinger. Published by Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506, U.S.A.

Word meanings marked (Wilson's) are taken from "Wilson's Old Testament Word Studies." Published by Hendrickson Publishers, P.O. Box 3473, Peabody, MA 01961-3473, U.S.A.

Word meanings marked (Strong's) are taken from "The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible" by James Strong, LL.D., S.T.D Copyright © 1984. Permission to use granted by Thomas Nelson Publishers, P.O. Box 141000, Nashville, Tenn. 37214-1000, U.S.A.

Word meanings marked (Young's) are taken from "Analytical Concordance to the Holy Bible" by Robert Young, LL.D. (8th edition). Published by Lutterworth Press, London, England.

Word meanings marked (Collins) are taken from "Collins English Dictionary." Copyright © 1979 by William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 476 GPO, Sydney 2001, Australia.

This book is dedicated to all who sincerely desire to learn more from the Word of God in order to live a God-glorifying life-style, and to those who will use it to teach others the positives of God's Word in the here and now.

Contents

FOREWORD

CHAPTER ONE

THERE ARE GIANTS IN THE LAND (NUMBERS 13)

GOD HAS CALLED US TO TRIUMPH

THEIR EVIL REPORT

DEFEATED LEADERS

THE LAND OF CANAAN

THE HITTITES

CHAPTER TWO

MARRIAGE MIX-UPS

MARRYING AN UNBELIEVER BRINGS TROUBLE

A WORD OF WARNING

ESAU

THE HITTITES WORSHIPPED BAAL

THE ELIJAH CHALLENGE

CHAPTER THREE:

THE DOWNFALL OF SOLOMON

THE SPIRIT OF DISOBEDIENCE

THE MOABITES

THE AMMONITES

THE EDOMITES

THE ZIDONIANS

THE HITTITES

ASHTORETH

MOLECH

CHEMOSH

SATANISTS OF TODAY

BEELZEBUB

CHAPTER FOUR:

THE JEBUSITES AND AMORITES

THE AMORITES

MORE ON SATANIC COVENS

CHAPTER FIVE:
THE CONFUSION OF CANAAN
THE HISTORY OF CANAAN

CHAPTER SIX:
FACING THE CONFLICT

CHAPTER SEVEN:
DEALING WITH THE DEVIL
MAKE SURE YOU ARE CORRECTLY DISCERNING THE PROBLEM
WHEN PRAYING FOR THOSE WITH EVIL SPIRITS

IN CONCLUSION

FOREWORD

Everywhere one looks today we can see the evidence of heart-ache, despair, broken relationships, families and homes. Added to this is the growing attraction to (and involvement in) the many aspects of the occult. People are searching for happiness, for power, for satisfying relationships, for love. But they are mostly searching in the wrong direction!

Throughout the history of man God has always had a beautiful plan for man to find the fulfilment he desires. That fulfilment can only be found through a personal commitment of our life to JESUS and then allowing Him to be “Nambawan” (Number One” in Pidgin language) in our lives. Sadly, the majority of people in Western society have chosen to ignore or disbelieve the claims of Christ and have chosen rather to seek the god of materialism and pleasure. It has not worked, and it never will. The tragedy is further strengthened by the flood of alternate religions, alternate life-styles, new age philosophies, drugs and the increasing giving-in to the occult realm, commonly known as witchcraft and its nasty “elder brother” Satanism. Governments are bending over backwards to those nations who have money, totally disregarding the spiritual price-tag that goes with it. For example, New Zealand was once known as “God’s own country” - today its sheep meat trade is almost totally dominated by the Islamic practice of Halal slaughter. Our farming industry and nation has suffered as a result of this.

To the born-again Christian the trends of our Western society are alarming. But few seem to have any power to stand against what is happening. This book is about the enemy infiltrating the Church. It is bringing to light some aspects of God’s Word, the Bible, that we rarely hear about today. And the Bible is true! It stands unconquerable throughout history as a beacon, a guide and a warning as to what happens when man (Christians too!) opens himself up to **“the god of this world”** (2 Corinthians 4:1-4). In the world today (as there has always been) is a very subtle, deceptive spirit realm that seeks to influence, coerce, manipulate and then finally dominate to destroy us from ever knowing the true reality of the presence of God within us. That is tragic!

Many Christians, through ignorance and unbelief, through selfishness and a strong will, are actually selling themselves out to the kingdom of darkness because they don't know what is happening.

The battle of the ages has always been (and always will be) the battle for the souls of mankind. Two kingdoms are in conflict over our souls: the kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness. It is between Jesus the Light of the world and Satan the ruler of the darkness of this world. Right now you and I are living in one of these two kingdoms.

May your eyes be opened to behold more of the purposes of God for you as you read, and may you be willing to let the Holy Spirit guide you. If there are things written in these pages that you recognize as being a problem in your life, then pray to Jesus Christ; yield your all to Him, and ask Him to help you do what is right. If you need to seek counsel, make sure you go to a Spirit-filled man or woman of God who loves you and genuinely desires to help you. It is so important that you find the freedom that Jesus came to give you. Otherwise you will only exchange one kind of bondage for another.

Beware of religious bondage!

Make sure that JESUS CHRIST is at the very centre of everything you commit yourself to

~ *Rodney W. Francis*

CHAPTER ONE

THERE ARE GIANTS IN THE LAND (NUMBERS 13)

GOD has a "Canaan inheritance" for every one of us. God promised the children of Israel that He would give it to them for an inheritance. Moses was commanded of the Lord to send out spies into the land of Canaan, to search it out to see what it was like. Those men were rulers, men of authority, men that had risen to the top within their tribes. They were sent to spy out a land that God had given to them.

Now, remember, the people had not seen the land, but God knew all about it, God knew what was there. Therefore He told the twelve they were to go and spy it out so that they could see for themselves . . . that they could behold a vision, and by faith, go in and conquer the land of Canaan.

GOD HAS CALLED US TO TRIUMPH

Today I believe we have the spiritual application, the working-out of possessing the land of Canaan, and we need to realize what is in the land of Canaan so we can come against those enemies and see them defeated in the Name of the Lord.

I would like to declare and proclaim even to the spirit world right now that JESUS CHRIST IS LORD! I want to declare to the spirit world today that through our God, through the Name of JESUS, we shall triumph and we shall triumph valiantly. Christianity is not for the weak or the fainthearted; it's for people who have got a little bit of "umph"! Somebody once said: "If you put a little "tri" behind the "umph", you'll get "tri-umph"! And that's just what we need! To triumph, and to triumph through the Lord.

They went to the land, they were there for 40 days and then came back to Moses, Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel. They brought back word unto them, showed them the fruit of the land, the land of Canaan, and said,

“We came unto the land where you sent us and surely it flows with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.” (Numbers 13:26-27).

The fruit was one bunch of grapes ~ carried by two men! That’s big!

THEIR EVIL REPORT

“Nevertheless, the people be strong that dwell in the land and the cities are walled and very great, and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south and the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and by the coast of Jordan. And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and he said, Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it. But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against these people; for they are stronger than we. And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land through which we have gone to search it is a land that eats up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, who come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.” (Numbers 13:28-33).

DEFEATED LEADERS

With a confession like that it was no wonder they were defeated before they started! Here were leaders of God’s people coming back with a negative, evil report. They were people who had inferiority complexes; men, who even though they were leaders, had never learned to walk by faith or by the vision that God was implanting into their lives, and so they saw themselves as grasshoppers and their enemies as massive giants. Make no mistake about it, they **were** giants. But, in the Christian life, if we are going to trust in natural ability and natural sight alone, then we will never ever accomplish anything great for the Kingdom of God.

The Christian life is first and foremost a spiritual walk; it is a supernatural life, walking with God, Who causes us to accomplish things that we of our own strength and ability cannot. If we are going around with a confession that we are just “grasshoppers” and everyone else are “giants,” then we are beaten before we start.

The Israelites saw themselves as grasshoppers; the enemy was too big; so the devil in the giants said, “Yes, we are too big for you . . . you are grasshoppers, and we are not scared of you!” God wants us to be conquerors! He wants us to be triumphant!

THE LAND OF CANAAN

Canaan land. Was it a “push-over?” No, it wasn’t. It was sweat and toil, blood and tears; it was fighting, fighting, fighting to go in and to possess the land which God had given to them.

What did they see in Canaan?

First of all, we find that the people were strong. And beloved, the enemy is against you and me today, against the God whom we serve. The people are strong. We need to remember that, and to recognize it. It is no “push-over” going out there to turn the world upside down (or right side up) for Jesus.

Secondly, they said the cities were walled and very great. The people who were living in the land of Canaan were living very secure lives; they were giants, big of stature. They were inside walled cities that were very great and “Why should they fear this bunch of Israelites that were coming into the land?”

Thirdly, there were giants ~ men that were of huge stature, who physically towered over them. Maybe the Israelites were looking eye-ball to knee-cap at them . . . ?

Fourthly, we discover that there were Amalekites there. The Amalekites were a race of “scrapppers” who descended from one by the name of Amalek (grandson of Esau ~ Esau sold his birthright!) They were the people who came to “knock-off” the weak saints. Their task was to get in behind the ranks of the army of God and to pick off the people. They were the people who helped to rob King Saul of his anointing (because of his own disobedience), caused him to disobey God and started him on the long road to destruction (1 Samuel 15). The Amalekites were a people who were doing great damage to the people of God. They did not fear God and were a race who did not wait for the Christians to attack; rather they attacked the Christians. The name “Amalek” means “warlike, dweller in the vale” or “people of lapping” (or licking up).

THE HITTITES

We find also that there were Hittites there; in fact quite a few “ites” in the Old Testament. The principles and the spirits that dominated these people are all closely woven and knitted into our modern-day society. It will do us well to consider them, so that we may understand something of the enemy that we are fighting today. Remember, we are not fighting against flesh and blood; we are not scrapping against one another, but we are fighting principalities and powers (Ephesians 6:10-18). The Hittites were the descendants of Heth (“Heth” means “terror” or “terrible”). I can tell you they were terrible! If the Bible says they were terrible, you can count on it. They were a terrible bunch of people and they caused no end of problems to the children of Israel. Heth was a descendant of Canaan (Genesis 10:15) who was cursed by Noah (Genesis 9:25-26).

CHAPTER TWO

MARRIAGE MIX-UPS

Let’s go to the Book of Deuteronomy 7:1-5 and see something here of God’s warnings to the children of Israel with regard to those people who were inhabiting the land of Canaan. God said to them: “I want you to go in and possess it, overtake it; it’s yours. Get rid of the people that are in there!”

“When the Lord your God shall bring you into the land whither you go to possess it (He’s talking about Canaan), and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites,

and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than you . . .” (verse 1).

The enemy we are fighting is greater than flesh and blood! He's greater than you and me (of ourselves, in our own strength); that is why we need the power of God.

“And when the Lord your God shall deliver them before you, you shall smite them and utterly destroy them; you shall make no covenant with them, nor show mercy unto them; Neither shall you make marriages with them; your daughter you shall not give unto his son, nor his daughter shall you take unto your son. For they will turn away your son from following Me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy you suddenly. But thus shall you deal with them; you shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire” (verses 2-5).

There were to be no covenants made with the Hittites. They were not to agree to do anything with them. They were not to show any mercy and they were not to inter-marry with them; the reason being that those people all had a spiritual background, a spiritual involvement that was with false gods of wood and stone, altars, images, shrines and so on, with which to worship false gods.

If we turn to Judges Chapter Three, we will discover that the children of Israel did not obey God. He gave them the warning that they were not to involve themselves with the people in the land of Canaan, but that they were to destroy them.

But when they got down there, they looked at them and said, “Oh, they're nice; they've got some pretty good things going for them.” The young Israeli men looked at the Hittite girls and said, “They are just beautiful!”

“And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites: And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and forgot the Lord their God, and served Baalim and the groves. Therefore the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel, and He sold them into the hand . . .” (of an enemy king) (verses 5-8).

MARRYING AN UNBELIEVER BRINGS TROUBLE

When we turn to the New Testament, the Bible teaches Christians that we are not to make marriage with the unbelievers. You are asking for trouble, because the spirit that motivates a person who is unsaved is so different from the spirit of the person who is saved. It is the Hittite spirit. Because the spirit of the Hittites has come right down through the ages, we have got today “a mixed society,” “a mixed multitude” within our congregations. The effect of it is to rob the Church of its power. Where there is compromise and disobedience to the Word of God, there is no power. People say, “I'm free to choose whom I want to. If I want to marry an unbeliever, I'll marry an unbeliever.” Well, God won't stop you, but you'll reap the results; you will have trouble, you will have sorrow and problems.

“Do not be unequally yoked up with unbelievers - do not make mis-mated alliances with them, or come under a different yoke with them (inconsistent with your faith). ***For what partnership have right living and right standing***

with God with iniquity and lawlessness? Or how can light fellowship with darkness?

What harmony can there be between Christ and Belial (the devil)? Or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

What agreement (can there be between) a temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in and with and among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (2 Corinthians 6:14-18.) (See also: Exodus 25:8; 29:45; Leviticus 26:12; Ezekiel 37:27; Jeremiah 31:1).

So, come out from among (unbelievers), and separate (sever) yourselves from them, says the Lord, and touch not (any) unclean thing; then I will receive you kindly and treat you with favour, (2 Corinthians 6:14-18.) (See also: Isaiah 52:11).

And I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.” (2 Corinthians 6:14-18, AMP.). (See also: Hosea 1:10; Isaiah 43:6.)

People will know that in certain ethnic groups, if you even marry the same colour outside of your tribe, you have got problems (because of the cultural set-up, the spiritual set-up, the traditional set-up). It is all so totally different and, to try and get two lives from two totally different backgrounds moulded into one, causes problems; especially where there are spiritual forces motivating these problems.

A WORD OF WARNING

It needs to be clearly stated here that under the New Testament teaching of Jesus and Paul we are not to put away or divorce our husband or wife on the grounds that we have married the wrong person (Matthew 19:3-9). The Christian way is to work through our problems by communicating clearly and lovingly with one another, prayer, marriage counseling from a mature Christian counselor, etc. Don't let the problems get too far, or go "beyond redemption" before seeking help. The divorce statistics are increasing at an alarming rate ~ so many marriages could have been salvaged if only professing Christians would do what God's Word teaches.

ESAU

After the selling of his birthright Esau's heart became filled with rebellion, hatred, and murderous thoughts toward his brother Jacob (Genesis 27:41-42). He caused much grief of mind to his parents, Isaac and Rebekah, over the women he married:

“When Esau was forty years old, he took as wives Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite. And they were a grief (“bitterness of spirit” – Wilson’s) ***of mind to Isaac and Rebekah”*** (Genesis 26:34-35, KJV).

The Amplified Bible says those two Hittite women ***“made life bitter and a grief of mind and spirit for {their parents-in-law} Isaac and Rebekah”*** (Genesis 26:35 AMP.).

When it came to marriage JACOB was obedient to his parents' choice:

“So Isaac called for Jacob and blessed him, and said to him: ‘Don’t marry one of those Canaanite girls.

Instead, go at once to Paddan-aram, to the house of your grandfather Bethuel, and marry one of your cousins ~ your uncle Laban’s daughters. God Almighty bless you and give you many children; may you become a great nation of many tribes!

May God pass on to you and to your descendants the mighty blessings promised to Abraham. May you own this land where we are foreigners, for God has given it to Abraham.’

So Isaac sent Jacob away, and he went to Paddan-aram, to visit his uncle Laban, his mother’s brother ~ the son of Bethuel the Aramean” (Genesis 28:1-5, TLB).

When Esau heard that Jacob had been given explicit instruction **not** to marry a Canaanite girl, Esau purposely defied his father’s counsel and went and married two more wives:

“Esau realized that his father despised the local girls, and that his father and mother had sent Jacob to Paddan-aram, with his father’s blessing, to get a wife from there, and that they had strictly warned him against marrying a Canaanite girl, and that Jacob had agreed and had left for Paddan-aram.

So Esau went to his uncle Ishmael’s family and married two additional wives from there, besides the wives he already had. One of those new wives was Mahalath the sister of Nebaioth, the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham’s son” (Genesis 28:6-9, TLB).

When it came to marriage Esau was rebellious against his parents. Esau married into the Canaanite spirit, then into the Ishmael line ~ Ishmael being “half flesh and half spirit” in a spiritual sense. That mixture always takes people into bondage. Galatians 4:22-31 clearly tells us that Ishmael ~ born of Hagar and Abraham ~ was born **“after the flesh”** (not God’s way) and the flesh always takes people into bondage (“slavery”). The “bondage” line actively persecutes the “free” or those “born of the Holy Spirit.” The flesh and the spirit are always in conflict. But there comes a time when God says, “Enough is enough” and issues the decree: **“Cast out the bondwoman and her son”** (Galatians 4:30-31).

The flesh line . . . the Ishmael’s . . . cannot inherit the inheritance of God’s promises! God’s promises are for the free (those separated from the Ishmael and Canaanite influence) . . . for those who are obedient. Esau sold himself out to the Canaanite girls and also the daughter of Ishmael who depicted the bondage line.

Esau (in the natural) obviously was a very successful businessman; he became immensely rich as a cattle rancher (Genesis 36:1-8). Yet, in spite of his wives, children, riches and earthly success, Esau was not a happy, contented man. For years he sought to find a peace of mind - but he couldn’t find it. He spent many hours weeping tears, but all to no avail (Hebrews 12:15-17). What a tragedy!

Let us, today, not under-estimate the price one pays when disobedience and rebellion against God takes over. Disobedience and rebellion will always tie us into the bondages of the Canaanite and Ishmael spirits.

Marriage break-ups are a human tragedy. They represent heartache and sorrow, hurt and ongoing pain, confusion and hatred in children, and often damage a person for the rest of their life. Don’t let the “Hittite spirit” dominate you! Wherever you recognize it,

take the Bible way and genuinely REPENT of it. Renounce its workings within you, your spouse and your children. Let the grace of God work a miracle in your family and bring you through to healing and a new, happy marriage and life-style.

Don't harden your heart – FORGIVE!!

THE HITTITES WORSHIPPED BAAL

The Hittites were a subtle, “winning” type of people who managed to wear the Israelites down and to convince them that they were not really the bad guys that God said they were. The Israelites fell for it. The big problem was that the Hittites’ god was “Baal” (singular) or “Baalim” (plural). “Baal” means “master, possessor” or “the lord (as master, owner).” If you know the Scriptures you will know that Baal is a type of Satan himself. The Hittites were Satan worshippers, and that Satanic spirit was working through the lives of all those people. Every time there was a mixed marriage, that spirit began to infiltrate into the nation of Israel and wear them down spiritually . . . make them weaker and weaker and weaker . . . so that they (Israel) could not destroy them (the Hittites).

THE ELIJAH CHALLENGE

It was the prophets of Baal that Elijah challenged in 1 Kings 18, and he challenged the people of Israel who, by that time, had become so “sold-out” to Baal that they were worshipping him. Elijah came on the scene and challenged them, saying: *“If you really believe that Baal is God, then you serve him; but if the Lord be God, then serve Him”* . . . we need to have a “show-down,” to know who really is God.

All of the people thought that was great. *“Yes, we’ll accept the challenge”*; because they believed that Baal was able to send fire from heaven. They began to cry unto Baal from morning till noon, saying, *“Oh, Baal, hear us: Oh, Baal, hear us”* and so on. Elijah was shouting to them: *“Cry a bit louder; he must be deaf; he’s gone for a holiday”* (1 Kings 18:26-28). He was deriding them, because Elijah knew that he was serving the true and living God who was greater than Baal and the spirit of Baal. But the people were so deceived by the spirit of Baal that they really believed that he was the greatest. Those people were the nation of Israel ~ God’s people!!!

The “show-down” began. Baal could not answer by fire ~ so Elijah prayed to God. God answered and, as the result of that, all the prophets of Baal were destroyed! (1 Kings 18:17-40).

CHAPTER THREE

THE DOWNFALL OF SOLOMON

The Hittites, because of their yielding to the manipulation of the Satanic spirit of Baal through their idolatry, worship, gods, and so on, were the forces of darkness that really got to Solomon. I have wondered for a long time how could a man with the wisdom of Solomon get himself into such a “mess” after God had done so much for him?

Let’s turn to 1 Kings 11. I want you to notice how the spiritual forces that motivate, manipulate and then dominate people, have a habit of inter-weaving with other spiritual forces, other involvements, etc., until everything becomes all mixed up and so totally

confused, to the point that people don't know what is going on. (Another name for this is "Babylon" which means "confusion (by mixing).") They become "tools" or "pawns" in the hands of the devil.

THE SPIRIT OF DISOBEDIENCE

Solomon, the wisest man in all the world, who was walking under the blessing and the anointing of God, slowly but surely began to allow disobedience to enter into his life. It is interesting that Ephesians 2:2 tells us that disobedience is a spirit, and it works in the children of the world.

Everybody who is unsaved is motivated by a spirit of disobedience when it comes to the things of God. Today, many professing Christians are also walking in disobedience. Solomon got out from under the anointing of the Spirit of God. Beloved, it doesn't matter how much you know, or how wise you are, when you begin to miss God's anointing and start walking in disobedience, things will start to go wrong for you.

"But King Solomon loved many strange women . . ." (1 Kings 11:1 KJV).

Now remember, it was the Hittites who weakened the children of Israel's stand in this whole area of human relations and sex. God said they were to utterly have nothing to do with them. They compromised; they let them in, and now we find how the spirit of lust begins to work through a man as wise as Solomon:

"He loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites" (verse 1).

Let's look at those "ites" mentioned in 1 Kings 11:1 . . .

THE MOABITES

They were descended from Moab, a man born out of the incestuous relationship between Lot and his daughter (Genesis 19:30-38). The name "Moab" means "water of a father" or "from father: what father?" The Moabites were spawned in sexual immorality and their descendants continued on in it, creating havoc for the children of Israel.

"And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab" (Numbers 25:1).

". . . The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have not separated themselves from the people of the lands, doing according to their abominations, even of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians and the Amorites. For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons; so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands; yea, the hand of the princes and rulers have been chief in this trespass." (Ezra 9:1-2).

"In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people. And I contended with them, and cursed them, and

smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, You shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves. Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish (“strange, unknown”) women cause to sin” (Nehemiah 13:23-26).

Throughout their history “the Moabite spirit” caused Israel ~ the people of God ~ to fall into sexual sin. This spirit is still actively working today to pull down and destroy the people of God, leaders and congregations alike. Beware of the spirit of Moab!

THE AMMONITES

The Ammonites appeared to be a people who were always contending against the Israelites. It was they who, together with the Moabites, hired Balaam (name means “a pilgrim or lord of the people” or “swallower of the people: confounding the people”) to curse Israel (see Numbers Chapters 22 to 24).

But God turned the curse into a blessing and prohibited the Ammonites from entering into the congregation of the Lord:

“An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the Lord forever. Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when you came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you. Nevertheless the Lord your God would not hearken unto Balaam; but the Lord turned the curse into a blessing unto you, because the Lord your God loved you” (Deuteronomy 23:3-5).

The Ammonites were idol worshippers of false gods (Judges 10:6-9).

THE EDOMITES

These people descended from Esau (Genesis 36:9). Esau is known as the man who sold his birthright to his brother Jacob for some bread and a pot of stew (Genesis 25:21-34). Esau despised (“to look down on with contempt, scorn”) his birthright. He placed more emphasis on feeding his physical body than on his spiritual inheritance. He had so much, but he threw it all away cheaply. He violated and polluted his God-given rights. He lived with the wrong set of priorities and wrong values. The New Testament holds him up as an example to avoid:

“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. Looking diligently (“to search out with careful perseverance”) lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness (“venom”) springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled (“stained, tinged, coloured”); Lest there be any fornicator, or profane (“to pollute, violate”) person, as Esau (“hairy”), who for one morsel (“small piece”) of meat sold his birthright. For you know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing (of his birthright), he was rejected; for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears” (Hebrews 12:14-17).

What a sad summary of a man’s life.

The birthright gave him the rights of the firstborn.

Among the Hebrews it included the double portion, pre-eminence and authority.

But Esau threw it all away for a pot of stew!

THE ZIDONIANS

I do not know much about these people, except that they were worshippers of Baal (“master, possessor” or “the lord – as master, owner”); his female counterparts were Ashtoreth (“thought searching” or “wife”), and Dagon (“the fish-god, from its fecundity”). “Fecundity” means –

1. fertility; fruitfulness.
2. intellectual fruitfulness; creativity” – (Collins).

Baal, Ashtoreth and Dagon represent powerful demon spirits that Christians must not be involved with in any way. When Samson fell through sexual sin in the days of Delilah, it was the Philistines’ god Dagon who was given the glory (Judges 16:23).

THE HITTITES

The aforementioned “ites” were the cause of Solomon’s downfall. Solomon was influenced by these “ite” spirits in the women he loved:

“Of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, You shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love” (1 Kings 11:2).

Solomon knew those warnings, but because he had opened his life to the Hittite spirit, he found himself slowly but surely manipulated to the point of falling in love with those strange women. His heart was going away from God and was more and more turned by the spirit of Baal towards evil.

“Solomon clave unto these women in love. And he had 700 wives, princesses, and 300 concubines (“de-facto’s”) and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods” (1 Kings 11:2-4).

A “concubine” is – 1. “(in polygamous societies) a secondary wife, usually of lower social rank”; or 2. “a woman who cohabits with a man” – (Collins)

Can you imagine 1,000 women coming at you and saying, “Solomon, your God can’t be the only God; what about our gods?” How they worked on him, manipulated him and brought him round to their way of thinking, using the evil powers of generations of demonic, immoral worship to heathen gods.

ASHTORETH

“And his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God . . . For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians . . .” (1 Kings 11:4-5).

It is interesting to note that a man who has a real weakness for women, then gives himself over to a female spirit. Ashtoreth was a goddess, the most powerful female spirit that rules. She was a queen alongside Baal. You see, when people open themselves up to things that are wrong in the flesh, they open themselves up to things that are wrong in the spirit! When King David committed adultery with Bath-sheba (2 Samuel 11 & 12), he was afflicted spiritually with sin and rebellion against God. He got a wrong spirit, came into spiritual bondage, lost his joy and effectiveness to influence others for God. He confesses all ~ and more! ~ to God in Psalm 51.

Witchcraft is a work of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-20), but if it is not renounced and cut off, it goes into the realm of the spirit and becomes a tremendous bondage that, if it is not set free from in the Name of JESUS, it will take people down to the pit of Hell. Solomon with all his wisdom, with all that he knew, and all the commandments of God that had been in his heart, was slowly manipulated by those false spirits from the Hittites, that he finished up worshipping the queen goddess of them all ~ Ashtoreth! In the spirit world she was a wife to Baal.

The spirit of Baal and Ashtoreth wants to become “one” with you in spiritual and physical union, like that of a marriage. To control your mind and thoughts! To rob you of knowing the true Lordship of JESUS CHRIST!! Solomon “opened himself up” to those women because the children of Israel (“ruling with God”) would not listen to God and put away the Hittites. And the Hittites dwelt in the land of Canaan. Spiritual decay always makes people disobey God!

My friend, when you become a Christian, it does not mean you are automatically exempt from temptation. My experience has been that you will be tempted all the more, and you need the power of Jesus Christ within your life to be an overcomer!

MOLECH

Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians and he went after Milcom (the same as Molech, Moloch, Malcam or Malcan). Milcom was the national deity of the Ammonites. Those gods were intellectual spirits, counseling spirits, natural wisdom spirits; and they came along and began to “plug away” at Solomon until he got outside of the anointing of God.

Solomon began listening to the wrong source of information. The spirits got at him through his mind, through his intellect, and they wore him down . . . wore him down . . . until he went after the gods representing those spiritual forces.

“Molech” means “a counselor” or “the king” – again, another prince spirit. Just as in our big businesses today, you have a power structure: you have your big director at the top, then you have your board, and your structure comes down, etc., so in the spirit world you have the same thing where you have Satan right at the top, then powerful prince spirits under him, and so it comes down. Satan has a hierarchy. We need to guard against those things. I don’t want you to take this message as being something very negative, but to be aware that we are called upon to fight against principalities and powers (Ephesians 6:10-18).

CHEMOSH

Then Solomon gave himself over to Chemosh who was an abominable idol of Moab. Chemosh was situated in the strongest place of worship around

Jerusalem. How cunning! Jerusalem (“possession of peace”), the place, the centre of worship for God’s people.

There was old Chemosh, seeking to give a false peace to the people (millions today are living under a false peace). Chemosh was a god of fire (the name means “fire, hearth” or “as if departing: as if feeling”). Around the world today we still have people motivated by the spirit of Chemosh.

They walk on fire, swallow fire, and do all kinds of things with fire - demonic activity. Chemosh was the national idol of the Moabites and Ammonites, but he was a little bit different from Molech. Solomon got caught-up in the worship of Chemosh. It caused him to degenerate so badly that he actually built a high place ~ a sacrificial altar ~ which was used for the sacrificing of animals ~ and even children!

“Then did Solomon build a high place for Chemosh, the abominations of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abominations of the children of Ammon. And likewise did he for all his strange wives, who burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods. So the Lord was very angry with Solomon . . .” (1 Kings 11:7-9).

SATANISTS OF TODAY

Satan worshippers today still call on the names of Chemosh and Molech. They (in spite of their denials) are very much involved in the sacrificing of animals, human fetuses and even live children!! I have personally heard the confessions of several who have been involved in this terrible business within New Zealand and others who have done those despicable sacrifices in Europe, U.S.A., Mexico and Canada.

Throughout the 1980’s Christians and society alike found it very difficult to believe or accept that these practices could happen today. My wife and I came under all kinds of opposition because we were helping some of these Satanists to find freedom in Jesus Christ. It was difficult enough to withstand the ongoing, never-ending pressures and threats of the Satanists against us, but the most difficult were the comments and insinuations, the accusations from fellow Christians that we were deceived, etc., making our ministry extremely trying at times.

I’m happy to say that in the 1990’s there has come a much better acceptance of the fact that Satanists exist and are active in society today. Christians, Police, Social workers, Child and Ritual Abuse groups, etc., are all becoming aware of the gruesome activities of the Satanists.

Sexual perversion of all ages is a strong part of their activities, for they believe that, through sex, demons are implanted into the lives of the people they want to control. Every initiated Satanist has to be available sexually to every other initiated Satanist in their respective coven, both male and female. Satanism is the Hittite spirit at its worst!

Satanists operate on a highly secretive level and are mostly unknown to be Satanists, except to that closed circle of people who are initiated into their covens. Those initiated ~ an initiation can take three days and three nights ~ are bound by a secrecy vow not to talk about their activities, whereabouts, etc.

A very strong fear of painful torture awaits them if they talk. The leaders make sure they see the kind of punishment they will suffer (if they talk) by watching the disobedient being tortured. Satanists are extremely cruel in their punishments, often including the lowest form of sadism possible.

At initiation they are given a “coven name” which they become known by within their particular group. They are highly mobile and can change their dwelling-place and locality at short notice. Satanists handle large sums of money, which is gained through their control of the drug supplies, criminal activities, insurance rip-offs, etc. Satanists sell themselves to the worship of Satan, calling on him to give them unlimited power to contend against true Holy-Spirit filled Christian believers.

These “Hittites” do not fear nor respect any Christian or Christian organization that is not truly Spirit-filled!! They boast of breaking up Christian marriages, ministers’ marriages, dividing and closing churches.

They manipulate through fear! But the true Spirit-filled Christian is not controlled by the spirit of fear, and therefore does not have to give in to their threats and demands.

BEELZEBUB

In the days of Jesus, the Jewish nation accused Him of casting out spirits by the power of Beelzebub, the prince of the devils. The Jewish people recognized Beelzebub as a prince spirit:

“And He (Jesus) was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered (“were astonished, amazed”). But some of them said, He casts out devils through Beel-zebub the chief of the devils. And others, tempting (“to try, prove, scrutinize, entice”) Him, sought of Him a sign from heaven. But He, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation (“laid waste, come to nothing, become a desert”), and a house divided against a house falls. If Satan (“Satan” is a Hebrew word meaning “to attack, the arch-enemy of good; adversary” and the Greek word is “Satanas” meaning “the devil, the accuser” – Strong’s). Young’s Concordance gives us the meaning as “the hater, accuser, an adversary, opposing spirit”) also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because you say that I cast out devils through Beel-zebub. And if I by Beel-zebub cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore shall they be your judges. But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you. When a strong man armed keeps his palace, his goods are in peace; But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he takes from him all his armour (“whole armour”) wherein he trusted, and divides his spoils (“booty”). He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathers not with Me scatters.

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he (the spirit) walks through dry (“waterless”) places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, I will return to my house whence I came out (notice the evil spirit claims the person as “my house”). And when he comes, he finds it swept and garnished (“adorned, put in proper order, decorated”).

Then goes he and takes to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in (re-enter the same person they inhabited before deliverance), and dwell (“to house permanently, literally reside, settle down”) there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first” (Luke 11:14-26. See also Matthew 10:25; Matthew 12:22-30, and Mark 3:22-30).

Beel-zebub (or “Beel-zebul”) is the same Philistine heathen god as Baal-zebub of the Old Testament (2 Kings 1:2-3, 5, 16).

Spirits are eternal; they don't disappear or become extinct because a person or peoples or a nation passes out of existence. Those spirits move on from person to person, peoples to peoples, nations to nations, generation to generation. That's why Christians need to have their ancestral bondages broken in the All-Powerful Name of JESUS CHRIST.

"Beel-zebub" and "Baal-zebub" simply means "lord of the fly" or "lord of the opening." That's just how the old devil works ~ like a fly. He flits here, he flits there, and you don't become aware of the fact that sometimes in his flitting he finds an opening and lays an egg; but you don't see or know an egg has been laid until you see a maggot crawling around.

It takes a bit of time, but by the time the maggot is hatched, that fly is away doing damage somewhere else!

I want to tell you in total assurance ~ to those who walk in obedience toward God and know the Spirit-filled life ~ you have perfect security, perfect protection through the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ that was shed for us at Calvary.

"So be subject to God. Stand firm against the devil; resist him and he will flee from you" (James 4:7, AMP.).

The evil spirits of the land of Canaan way back in the Old Testament are still actively working to blind, deceive, entice, manipulate, dominate, control and ultimately destroy humanity into a Christless eternity. The only difference is that today they operate under different names! And their names today are made to be "popular," accepting and even appealing! Today it's called "freedom," "having fun," "pleasure" ~ whatever is acceptable to you sexually is okay.

Our governments legalize homosexuality; many churches are now accepting it to the point of ordaining homosexuals into the ministry. Strip-shows, blue videos, occult-inspired movies and pornography are accepted as being harmless. The end result of all this is spiritual and moral degradation, and every possibility of ending up in Hell (unless there is true heart repentance **before** one meets his Maker). (Tragically, very few Christians really believe in Hell anymore, which makes the warnings of the Bible all the more difficult to be accepted today.)

Surely the demise of King Solomon should be a very sobering challenge to every person of the reality of the dangers that exist around us. If a man of his wisdom and stature could be enticed and caught-up by the Hittite spirit, then we need to be alert and on-guard against letting it happen to us.

"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon Him; for He cares for you.

Be sober ("sober-minded, watchful, circumspect" – Bullinger's). ***be vigilant*** ("keep awake, be watchful" – Strong's); ***because your adversary*** ("enemy, accuser, opponent") ***the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour*** ("to swallow up"): ***Whom resist*** ("stand against, withstand, oppose") ***steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions*** ("hardships, sufferings, pain") ***are accomplished*** ("finished, perfected") ***in your brethren that are in the world.***

But the God of all grace, Who has called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that you have suffered a while, make you perfect ("make fully ready, put in full order, perfectly equip, prepare fully" – Bullinger's), ***stablish***

("to set fast, make steadfast, fix firmly"), **strengthen, settle you. To Him be glory and dominion** ("strength, power in action, force, superiority" – Bullinger's) **for ever and ever. Amen"** (1 Peter 5:6-11).

The tactics of our enemy are varied and often it is the slower, wearing-down ones that are most dangerous. Daniel 7.25 shows us the devil's tactics are **"to wear out the saints of the most High"**!! Solomon would have had his convictions weakened over a period of time until his emotions ~ in the name of love! ~ gave in to all those women. They would have looked lovely on the outside, but were motivated on the inside by cunning evil spirits. And great was the downfall of that famous man. Solomon fell so far that he finished up building the altars of sacrifice upon which animals and children were offered to the devil!!

He married women who were controlled by anti-Christ spirits ~ Hittite spirits.

Many marriages today are wrecked by Hittite spirits.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE JEBUSITES AND AMORITES

Who else were in Canaan?

1. THE JEBUSITES:

The spies came back and said there were Jebusites there (Numbers 13:29). The Jebusites ("belonging to Jebus;" Jebus means "trodden down" or "he will be trodden down") were tough characters. Jebus was the name of the city before it was called Jerusalem. The Jebusites inhabited Jerusalem!

They were so sure of themselves because they had not been beaten in over 400 years. The children of Judah should have conquered them years before (approximately 1490 B.C.), but were unable to:

"As for the Jebusites the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the children of Judah could not drive them out: but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Judah at Jerusalem unto this day" (Joshua 15:63).

Judah couldn't drive them out, so they were forced to live in compromise with this mocking, contemptuous people. It was not until came along (approx. 1048 B.C.) that the Jebusites were routed out of Jerusalem:

"And the king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land: who spake unto David saying, Except you take away the blind and the lame, you shall not come in here: thinking David cannot come in here. Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion: the same is the city of David. And David said on that day, Whosoever gets up to the gutter ("a hollow culvert"), and smites the Jebusites, and the lame and the blind, that are hated of David's soul, he shall be chief and captain. Wherefore they said, The blind and the lame shall not come into the house.

So David dwelt in the fort, and called it the city of David. And David built around about from Millo and inward. And David went on, and grew great, and the Lord God of hosts was with him” (2 Samuel 5:6-10).

It took David, the man with the Holy Spirit anointing, to go in and conquer the Jebusites.

We cannot conquer spiritual forces with natural means. It takes Spirit to conquer spirit! The Jebusites were a defiant spirit that sought to prevent the Israelites from entering into the land of Canaan. They were successful in creating fear in the hearts of ten of the twelve leaders of the tribes of Israel (Numbers 13:26-33), **but they did not faze the men of the Spirit:** Joshua, Caleb, and later on David.

2. THE AMORITES:

There was another race of people in Canaan called the Amorites (Genesis 10:15-19).

“‘The Amorite’ means literally ‘the high one,’ whence the name Amorites is very generally supposed to mean ‘highlanders’ (Numbers 13:29; Deuteronomy 1:7-20; Joshua 10:6); or ‘tall ones’ (Amos 2:9). The Amorites were so prominent that their name seems sometimes to be used for Canaanites in general (Joshua 24:8) . . .” (Unger’s Bible Dictionary). They were giants who lived up in the mountains and who would come down in marauding parties to beat up other nations, etc. People feared when they turned up!

According to Young’s Concordance the Amorite means “mountaineer” and was “a race or tribe descended from Canaan, the fourth son of Ham, the younger son of Noah; it is mentioned after the Jebusite and before the Girgashite (Genesis 10:16; 1 Chronicles 1:13); some of them dwelt in Hazezon-tamar, or Engedi, on the West of the Salt Sea, and were smitten by Chedorlaomer, in the days of Abraham, B.C. 1913 (Genesis 14:7); three of their chiefs, Mamre, Eschol, and Aner, were confederates of Abraham (Genesis 14:13); the iniquity of the tribe (as the representative of the Canaanites generally) was not yet full (Genesis 15:16,21); they seem to have contended unsuccessfully with Jacob (Genesis 48:22); they are mentioned between the Hittites and Perizzites, as inhabitants of Canaan (Exodus 3:8,17; Judges 3:5; Nehemiah 9:1); between the Hittites and the Hivites (Exodus 13:5); before the other tribes (Exodus 23:23); between the Canaanite and the Hittites (Exodus 33:2; Joshua 11:3); before the Canaanites and the other tribes (Exodus 34:11); as dwelling in the mountains of Judah (Numbers 13:29); as having the river Arnon as their dividing line from Moab (Numbers 21:13); as having a king named Sihon, B.C. 1452, who not only refused to let Israel pass, but came and attacked them at Jahaz, when he was defeated and his land taken possession of by Israel (Numbers 21:21-23); it was given to the two-and-a-half tribes (Numbers 32:33).

The chief city of the south portion of the tribe was Heshbon (Deuteronomy 1:4); the ‘mount of the Amorites’ was apparently another name for Canaan (Deuteronomy 1:7,19,20); Israel was afraid of them (Deuteronomy 1:27); and was beaten by them in Seir, even unto Hormah (Deuteronomy 1:44); their land was to be possessed by Israel (Deuteronomy 3:2), even from the river Arnon to Mount Hermon, including the land of Og, who reigned in Edrei in Bashan (Deuteronomy 3:8-9; Deuteronomy 4:46-47); mentioned between the Girgashites and the Canaanites (Deuteronomy 7:1); between the Hittites and the Canaanites (Deuteronomy 20:17; Joshua 9:1; Joshua 12:8); Their fate seems to have terrified the other peoples (Joshua 2:10; Joshua 9:10); mentioned between the Girgashites and the Jebusites (Joshua 3:10); mentioned along with the Canaanites as the sole inhabitants of the land the Jordan (Joshua 5:1); alone mentioned as such (Joshua 7:7); five of their kings besiege Gibeon, but are defeated (Joshua 10:5-12).

They had a variety of gods (Joshua 24:15; Judges 6:10); they forced the children of Dan into the mountains (Judges 1:34); they were reduced to tribute by the house of Joseph

(Judges 1:35); their border was from the ascent of Akrabbim northward (Judges 1:36); they were at peace with Israel in the days of Samuel, B.C. 1171-1061 (1 Samuel 7:14); the Gibeonites were a remnant of them (2 Samuel 21:2); Geber, the son of Uri, was over their land East of the Jordan in the days of Solomon, B.C. 1014 (1 Kings 4:19); their remnant was reduced to servitude by Solomon (1 Kings 9:20-21; 2 Chronicles 8:7); their idol worship was followed by Ahab, B.C. 899 (1 Kings 21:26); also by Manasseh (2 Kings 21:11); their abominations by the Jews under Ezra (Ezra 9:8).

The overthrow of Og and Sihon was celebrated (Psalm 135:11, Psalm 136:19-20); Judah, because of her sins, is represented as having an Amorite for a father, a Hittite for a mother, and Samaria and Sodom for sisters (Ezekiel 16:3,45); the Amorite is represented as tall and strong, yet destroyed before Israel, to whom his land was promised (Amos 2:9-10); – end of quote from Young's.

I do not believe the Bible gives us the history of people and nations for purely historical reasons. There are spiritual principles, connotations and lessons for us to learn. The numerous "ites" mentioned represent spiritual powers at work in the human race even today, and especially working to distract and pull-down the truly born-again, Spirit-filled believer in Jesus Christ. Our refuge is in God alone, and what He has provided for us in the life, death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ His Son.

But back to the Amorites. We read in the second and third chapters of Deuteronomy about the Amorites resisting the children of Israel as they passed through their land. The Amorites were governed by two kings called Sihon ("great, bold" or "sweeping away: scraping away") and Og ("long-necked giant" or "hearth-cake").

Let's read about Sihon:

"The Lord said, 'Cross the Arnon River into the land of King Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon. War against him and begin to take possession of his land. Beginning today I will make people throughout the whole earth tremble with fear because of you, and dread your arrival.'

"Then from the wilderness of Kedemoth I sent ambassadors to King Sihon of Heshbon with a proposal of peace.

'Let us pass through your land,' we said. 'We will stay on the main road and won't turn off into the fields on either side. We will not steal food as we go, but will purchase every bite we eat and everything we drink; all we want is permission to pass through. The Edomites at Seir allowed us to go through their country, and so did the Moabites, whose capital is at Ar. We are on our way across the Jordan into the land the Lord our God has given us.'

"But King Sihon refused because Jehovah your God made him obstinate, so that he could destroy Sihon by the hands of Israel, as has now been done.

"The Lord said to me, 'I have begun to give you the land of King Sihon; when you possess it, it shall belong to Israel forever.'

"King Sihon then declared war on us and mobilized his forces at Jahaz. But the Lord our God crushed him, and we conquered all his cities, and utterly destroyed everything . . . Not one city was too strong for us, for the Lord our God gave all of them to us . . ." (Deuteronomy 2:24-37, TLB). (See also Numbers 31:21-35).

And Og:

"Next we turned toward King Og's land of Bashan. He immediately mobilized his army and attacked us at Edrei. But the Lord told me not to be afraid of him. 'All his people and his land are yours,' the Lord told me. 'You will do to him as you did to King Sihon of the Amorites, at Heshbon.' So the Lord helped us to fight against King Og and his people,

and we killed them all. We conquered all sixty of his cities, the entire Argob region of Bashan. There were well fortified cities with high walls and barred gates. Of course we also took all of the unwalled towns. We utterly destroyed the kingdom of Bashan just as we had destroyed King Sihon's kingdom at Heshbon, killing the entire population. We now possessed all the land of the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan River. We had not conquered all the cities on the plateaus, and all of Gilead and Bashan. "Incidentally, King Og of Bashan was the last of the giant Rephaim. His iron bedstead is kept in a museum at Rabbah, and measures thirteen and a half feet long by six feet wide" (Deuteronomy 3:1-11, TLB).

According to Joshua 24:12 the Israelites had some supernatural help when they defeated Sihon and Og:

"And I sent hornets ahead of you to drive out the two kings of the Amorites and their people. It was not your swords or bows that brought you victory!" (TLB). (See also Exodus 23:28).

The defeat of Sihon and Og gets special mention in the Scriptures: they represent the spirit of anti-Christ that manifested itself in arrogance, idolatry (Joshua 24:15; Judges 6:10) and utter disrespect for the things of God.

They got themselves a name as being "great and famous," but God brought them low:

"Who smote great nations, and slew mighty kings; Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan: And gave their land for an heritage unto Israel his people" (Psalm 135:10-12).

These kingdoms were conquered through a fight. It also takes a fight to conquer Satan's kingdom today.

MORE ON SATANIC COVENS

Back in Chapter Three I shared a little about the existence of Satanic covens here in New Zealand. Let me share some more:

The first coven we "locked horns" with was at that time (1981) the strongest coven in New Zealand. Its name was called "Black Emmanuel" and operated out of Ponsonby, Auckland. When my wife and I began to help a young lady to escape from that coven, we began to come under all sorts of threats, phone calls, etc., "to let her go and to stop messing in their affairs or I'd be dealt with." Because of what God had been doing in our lives over the previous five years concerning His ability to set the captives free, we knew that God was bigger than the enemy. I might add that we had never experienced the work of the enemy ever like this before. And so began several years of hectic, head-on confrontation with the powers of darkness that has opened our eyes to the tactics of Satan like never before.

Because so much fear existed amongst the Christian community, we soon found that we had to be discreet as to what we could share. It is an amazing thing how ignorant Christians often are over the strategies of our arch-enemy, Satan.

- **Ignorance breeds fear and fear will always make us reject!**

The Apostle Paul could say he was not ignorant of the devil's devices (2 Corinthians 2:11), but unfortunately not many can honestly say that today. Listening to some preachers

and Christians one would have to question whether they even believe in the existence of the devil and Hell anymore!

Satanists thrive on the ignorance and fear of the Christians concerning their activities. They even go to church and pass off as respected citizens in the community. But privately and secretly they are working against the Spirit of Jesus Christ in the believers and in the Church.

For two years we had the young lady we were helping living in our home with us. We discovered after some time that the initiated Satanists all take on a "coven name," which they are known by (usually just a single name). All Satanic covens are not the same and they are not always linked. In New Zealand the main ones I've dealt with are either linked in to Alistair Crowley (United Kingdom) or Anton Szandor LaVey (U.S.A.) the "author" of the Satanic Bible. "Black Emmanuel" is linked into LaVey. The two groupings do not get on with each other.

Because of the "secrecy vow" entered into at the time of initiation, it is extremely difficult to get any of those people wanting to escape a coven to speak about what goes on. Some will try for hours to speak, but all you get is a silent phrasing of words with no sound. I've seen the fear on their faces as I questioned them about it. One young lady ran screaming from my home through the fear that the coven would know if she talked to me, knowing she would be severely punished and cruelly tortured over a period of time.

Our ignorance over these secrecy vows made it very difficult to make progress. But God in His grace and goodness would bring different ministries into our church and home who would have "keys" to take us to the next step.

One very well known minister got a word of knowledge on a name that proved to be the unlocking and unfolding of the names used in "Black Emmanuel." Amazingly, we had revealed that the coven names given with Black Emmanuel were taken from the Bible!! Yes, they even used the Christian Bible! We knew there was a hierarchy of position and authority operating, so we sought the Lord for the keys to unlock the situation. This minister got one small word of knowledge, but he felt it was so silly that we would only laugh if he told us. We assured him that we wouldn't but he still wouldn't tell. Finally I really pressured him, again promising not to laugh. We were desperate and we needed a breakthrough. So he took me aside and whispered the name "Og." I did laugh! But that little name was to prove to be a very big key in the unlocking of so many things.

I whispered that name into the ear of the young lady and got such a spiritual re-action I knew we were on to something. Og was the coven name of the high priest: the one who introduced her into Satanism in the first place. He had seduced and deceived her, introducing her to heroin and then initiating her. Og had been physically dead for several years, yet his spirit (a prince demon) still ruled in her life. By words of knowledge we started to get other names: hers was "Hannah" to remind her of the curse of barrenness that they had placed upon her (she always miscarried prior to the curse being broken ~ now has a lovely daughter).

The queen who was ruling at the time was known as "Hagar" ~ the usurper of authority. These keys made me search the Bible more and more to find out how the enemy operates. It (the Bible) is certainly not silent on the existence and strategies of the devil!

Another coven, "Order of the Left Hand Path" (O.L.H.P.) is linked into Crowley and inter-woven into freemasonry. This one advertises itself more openly, with leaflet drops

into letter-boxes attacking Christians for sexual child abuse, and generally promoting Satan.

The harassment these people apply to those who want “out” of coven life is enormous. Most Christians give up on them, which is all part of Satan’s strategy to make us reject them as not being genuine in their desire for freedom. The horrendous things they have been through ~ often over many years ~ has left very, very deep scars upon them. The sacrifices they have to make (to lock them into Satan and to keep them from talking) are absolutely revolting. The saddest confessions I have ever heard have come from those who want to escape. It is no wonder they find it extremely difficult to behave “normally” in the accepted way that most Christians expect. It can take years for some of the suppressed atrocities and experiences to be faced, dealt with and worked through.

Far too often Christians expect “perfection” in the first week, run out of patience very quickly and reject them as not being genuine. I have heard enough stories from enough people, and heard the consistency of expectations placed on them by non-understanding Christians, to know there is truth in what I am writing. In my estimation there is a real lack of understanding, patience and people skills amongst us today. It is a real tragedy that when people reach out to Jesus for help, it is often the Christians who get in the way ~ modern day scribes and Pharisees.

Even as I write this, there are more “Og’s,” “Sihon’s,” “Hittites,” “Moabites,” “Ammonites,” “Edomites,” “Zidonians,” and the spirit of Baal, Ashtoreth, Chemosh, Molech, etc., that are dominating through the spirit of fear the lives of multitudes of this present generation, taking them down-hill to a lost, Christless eternity.

My prayer is:

“Dear God, open our eyes to see the truth of what is happening in our society today. Give us the grace, strength, wisdom, courage and Holy Ghost power to help see the captives set free into the glorious liberty that the true sons and daughters of the Living God enjoy. Deliver Your people from the fear of man and the devil, and help us to rise and conquer the enemy in the Mighty Name of JESUS CHRIST OUR RISEN, LIVING LORD. Amen.”

God’s will is for **us** to bring the enemy down:

“I destroyed the Amorite before them, though he was tall as the cedars, and strong as the oaks. I destroyed his fruit above and his roots below. I brought you up out of Egypt, and I led you forty years in the desert to give you the land of the Amorites. I also raised up prophets from among your sons and Nazarites from among your young men. Is this not true, people of Israel?” declares the Lord. “But you made the Nazarite drink wine and commanded the prophets not to prophesy” (Amos 2:9-12, NIV).

(The Christians are their own worst enemies!!!)

God has not called us to be afraid of the devil, or to give-in to his works, but to resist and conquer him in that Name **above all Names, JESUS CHRIST.**

What many Christians call Old Testament history is often the keys that help us to unlock those who are captive to the devil. We are called to overcome the evil powers of Canaan today!

To the true believer it matters not how big or how strong someone is naturally, or even spiritually. If he/she is motivated by wrong spiritual forces they are working to bring disgrace to the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has commanded us to conquer those spirits in the name of the Lord.

“Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood” (1 John 4:1-6, NIV).

The way we tell the difference between truth and error, the Holy Spirit and evil spirits, is in the answering of the question, “Who is Jesus?” All who confess that “Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God” (Matthew 16:13-19), meaning that Jesus is “God manifested in the flesh” (1 Timothy 3:16) is born of the Spirit of truth. But every confession that strips and denies Jesus of His Deity ~ that JESUS IS GOD ~ is of the spirit of error or antichrist. It does not matter how religious, sincere or moral a person is: the bottom line is, “Who is Jesus Christ?”

It is not by accident that the witchcraft scene is “open” to all kinds of religious people **except** the truly born-again, Spirit-filled Christian. It is also not by accident that the Satanists only fear the truly Spirit-filled Christian!

The Bible is quite clear in its statements that one of the big deceptions of these last days would be that people would have “a form of godliness, but denying the power of it.” This hypocrisy has opened the flood-gates to so much of what we see before our very eyes today:

“But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God – having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them” (2 Timothy 3:1-5, NIV).

Religious, yet anti-Christ!

A form of godliness, but powerless!

How we need to be like the sons of Issachar and what the Scriptures declare of them:

“And the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know (“declare, discern, instruct”) what Israel (“ruling with God”) ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment” (1 Chronicles 12:32, KJV).

The word “understanding” means “to mark, to discern, to understand, all which depend on the power of separating, distinguishing, discriminating; specially, to discern, perceive, to know” (Wilson’s).

The Living Bible states it this way:

“From the tribe of Issachar there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives ~ all men who understood the temper of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take.”

CHAPTER FIVE

THE CONFUSION OF CANAAN

One of the main reasons why we do not see greater revival in our churches today is because the saints:

- (1) **Do not know who their true enemy is ~ or his strategies,**
and ~
- (2) **We do not really know who we are in Jesus Christ.**

We do not know the power of God that is available to us! Too often we are afraid to let ourselves get into situations where the power of God has to come through.

For a long time I have felt there are too many of us who are believing “unproven theories” ~ in other words we have never allowed our beliefs to be tested in the battle. It is a fact that when we are merely a part of a congregation we can afford to believe what we like (in one sense). But when we become leaders, what we believe, and the decisions we make, will affect other people and also be the means of “success” or “failure.”

In the area of deliverance, evil spirits, Satan’s strategies, etc., this is very true. Because, often, our leaders have not come out with clear Scriptural guide-lines on these matters, it has been left to novices “to up the tabs” in their desire to help people. Tragically many have not been anointed or qualified for the task and much disrespect has resulted. Lives have been “messed up” even further, which has allowed the negative voices within Christendom to point the finger and warn people to keep well clear of such involvements.

As far as I am concerned, I’m not surprised that the subjects of demonism, evil spirits, witchcraft and Satanism create the most “division” or controversy in the Christian ranks. Satan is certainly not wanting to be exposed for his real self. The only true grounds for basing belief on the above subjects is the Bible.

And the Bible has a lot to say about these things! The Bible shows us the way the enemy works against us and seeks to pull us down. He is subtle, crafty and deceptive! Look at the lives of Eve, Samson and Solomon and see how he likes to bring the mighty down.

- **We must know who we are fighting!**

Too often we simply do not know who we are fighting, or what is going on in the spirit world. God has commanded us to fight against these principalities and powers ~ which all have originated out of what we call the land of Canaan; the evil powers of Canaan. He promised His people the land of Canaan, giants and all. Yes, there were giants there, just as Satan presents himself to us today as a huge giant to confuse, to make us doubt and fear his “roarings”:

“Be sober (“sober minded”), **be vigilant** (“awake”); **because your adversary** (“an opponent in a law-suit, an enemy or accuser”) **the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour** (“to swallow up”): **Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions** (“hardship or pain, sufferings”) **are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered** (“to experience a sensation or impression ~ usually painful” – Strong’s) **a while, make you perfect** (“to complete thoroughly”), **stablish, strengthen, settle you.** To Him be glory and dominion (“strength, power in action, force, superiority” – Bullinger’s) **for ever and ever. Amen”** (1 Peter 5:8-11, KJV).

Yes, the devil will roar at us; even cause us some tough times and pain; but we have authority to stand up to him and resist him in the Name of JESUS, knowing that our God stands with us to see him conquered.

Unfortunately, the majority of Christian believers are still like the leaders of the tribes back in the days of Moses:

“And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler (“prince, king, captain, chief, governor”) **among them. And Moses by the commandment of the Lord sent them . . . to spy out the land of Canaan ... And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel . . . and brought back word unto them . . . and showed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, and said, We came unto the land where you sent us, and surely it flows with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.**

Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak (“neck-chain: long-necked” or “giant”) **there.**

The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess (“to occupy - by driving out previous tenants, and possessing in their place” – Strong’s) **it; for we are well able to overcome it.**

But the men that sent up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we. And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eats up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, who come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight” (Numbers 13).

Out of the twelve leaders sent to spy out the land of Canaan, only two ~ Joshua and Caleb ~ chose to believe God was with them and that they could go in and possess the land for themselves and the glory of God. It hasn't changed much today. When it comes to things of dispossessing the devil's captives, there is still a vast disunity and confusion about head-on, confrontational, devil-fighting Christianity.

The ten "unbelieving" believers were walking by sight more than faith; they saw the giants as being too big for God! They were controlled by fear! What is more tragic is that the voice of the majority prevailed.

It cost Israel dearly ~ 40 years in the wilderness until all that generation died! Guess who survived through all that? The two "believing" believers, Joshua and Caleb (Read Numbers 14:22-38). The two confrontationalists were the survivors!

THE HISTORY OF CANAAN

The name means "trafficker" or "low, flat".

"The name denotes both the people who sprang from Canaan and the country in which they dwelt, which lay chiefly in the low districts along the East coast of the Mediterranean, North of the Philistines . . . The earliest inhabitants were a race of giants called Anakim, Avim, Emim, Horim, Rephaim, Suzim or Zamzummim, remnants of whom continued until at least the time of David, B.C. 1000.

But they had much earlier been supplanted by the Amorites . . . the Arkites . . . the Arvadites . . . the Gargashites . . . the Hamathites . . . the Hittites . . . the Hivites . . . the Jebusites . . . the Perizzites . . . the Sinites . . . the Sidonians . . . the Zerahites . . .

The moral state of these tribes gradually became so bad that the land is represented as 'spewing' them out. Under Joshua they were gradually subdued, but were never wholly exterminated, so that even at the present day there are relics of them to be found in the hill country. The land, being repeatedly promised to Abraham, received among his descendants such names as the Land of the Hebrews, of Israel, of Judah, of Canaan, of Promise, the Holy Land, and Palestine, which latter was derived from the Philistines who dwelt in the South West at the sea shore. Joshua divided it by lot to the twelve tribes, arranged in four divisions; the northern part was assigned to Asher, Naphtali, Zebulun, and Issachar; the middle part to Ephraim and the half tribe of Manasseh; the southern part to Benjamin, Dan, Judah, and Simeon; and the eastern part, beyond the Jordan, to Reuben, Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh. Solomon's division into twelve sections for governmental purposes may be seen in 1 Kings 4:7-19.

After the secession of the ten tribes under Rehoboam, the territory of the tribes of Judah and Benjamin (with the intermixed cities of Dan and Simeon) were called 'Judah,' and the others 'Israel,' until the captivity of the latter, B.C. 728, after a separate existence of 250 years.

In New Testament times Canaan was divided into a variety of provinces . . . " (excerpts from Young's Concordance).

Canaan was made up of a mixture of all those different tribes of people with all their religious beliefs, and so on. Nevertheless, it was God's will that His people go in and possess that land for their own inheritance.

Canaan is Babylon (meaning “confusion (by mixing)”) which is the world system ~ a mixture of spirit, religion and godless intellectualism.

We have never lived in an age where there is so much confusion reigning. Wrong is being promoted as right. The basic foundations of life have been undermined to a point where humanity no longer has any security. Marriages and family life have especially been eroded to the point where the statistics for marriage break-ups and divorces are alarming; where extra-marital relationships are encouraged; mental health is failing in the lives of many, and things like drug taking and suicide are at an all-time high. Experts tell us the main cause of these things is depression.

I believe it is all a symptom of a world that has got away from God and, in their desire for the supernatural, have opened up to the demonic realm through violating God’s principles laid down for righteous living. There is a price to pay for unfaithfulness to God!

There is a price to pay for unfaithfulness to wife, husband and family. There is a price to pay for a life-style of sexual immorality, greed, selfishness, pleasure and putting “the mighty dollar” before all else. These are all “signs of the times” to the people of God. They are the manifestations of a world that has chosen to live by the rule, “Whatever feels good and right, be free to do it.”

When everyone “does what is right in their own eyes” (Judges 17:6; Judges 21:25, Deuteronomy 12:8), then a very carefree, yet careless attitude develops within us. We forget that God has given us His Word for our good. When we despise its instructions, we open ourselves up for the enemy to gain inroads into our lives. Once we no longer know the basis for life and living laid down for us by God Himself, we enter into confusion. Confusion gets us so mixed up we don’t care any more. Life loses its sense of purpose and direction; discouragement, then depression sets in. In far too many cases people are self-destructing today because life has become such a misery.

Jesus clearly warned us:

“The thief’s purpose is to steal, kill and destroy. My purpose is to give life in all its fullness” (John 10:10, TLB).

A very clear difference!

A very clear choice!

Choosing to live for the thief (Satan) brings death and destruction.

Choosing to live for Jesus Christ brings life in all its fullness.

That choice is no different today. They are still the only two options we have. You make the choice for you, and I make the choice for me.

One is the way of sin and death; the other is the way of life, righteousness, joy and peace.

CHAPTER SIX

FACING THE CONFLICT

There have been a lot of Scriptures presented in this book to this point, all seeking to show you from the Word of God that there is a very real conflict in life. It is spiritual and is between the God of Love and Light, and the Devil of Evil and Darkness. Regardless of what religious anti-Christian people will tell you, God's Word, the Bible, declares very clearly that the devil exists, is very active in the affairs of men, and seeks to take humanity into a Christless eternity. Every individual has to decide for himself/herself what he/she is going to believe.

You may not understand very much about the spirit world at all and, whether you do or don't, it all essentially comes down to a very simple, clear-cut choice that we are called upon to make in this life. It comes down to a very personal question that each of us needs to answer NOW.

The question:

“IS JESUS CHRIST THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE?”

What is **YOUR** honest answer?

If you can answer “YES” to that question, then you will know very definitely that something has happened in your life and you now have a freedom in your life that you never had before you made Jesus LORD. It is a definite happening.

When I married my wife Jean, I did not get the “marriage religion” and carry on the same as before. Likewise, when I received Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Saviour, I did not get the “Christian religion”; I received a real Person into my life. Just as Jean and I share our lives together in marriage as real people, so Jesus and I share our lives together in a real spiritual relationship. Jesus is very real to me. We have walked together for over 33 years now.

“IS JESUS CHRIST THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE?”

If you have answered “NO” to that question, can you honestly say why?

- **So many want to give their lives to Jesus Christ, but discover that they somehow are never able to make the definite decision.**

Maybe you are feeling like that right now?

- **Why can't you yield your whole life to Jesus Christ right at this moment?**
- **Do you feel an inner resistance to making such a decision?**
- **Do you feel that things have happened in your life that have made you unworthy of God?**
- **Do you feel you are too bad for Jesus to forgive?**
- **Are you afraid of what others will say?**
- **What really is blocking and stopping you from making a definite move toward Jesus Christ?**

The answer is that you are facing a spiritual conflict right now. Satan, the prince ruler of the kingdom of darkness, does not want you to make a decision to go God's way; to

believe on Jesus Christ; to ask him to become LORD of your life; spiritual forces are at work to make you say "No!"

All the wrong things you have ever done are suddenly becoming too big and too bad for God to forgive! But that's the devil's lie! JESUS is standing, waiting with outstretched arms to receive you into His Kingdom of Love and Light. You must decide . . . what is it to be?

- **Until you take a very bold step and ask Jesus to step into your life as LORD AND MASTER, the devil is going to trick you into believing you don't need Jesus . . . you won't be forgiven . . . the Bible is not true . . . nothing will change with Jesus, etc.**
- **It's a spiritual conflict and it is real!**
- **You must see that the devil is a liar!**
- **Know that JESUS CHRIST is the way, the truth, and the life; there is no other way to God than through JESUS (John 14:6).**

I am not talking about going to church or belonging to a religion, or doing good works. They are all substitutes, distractions if you like, to the real issue.

- **Christianity and the power of God is based in One Person, and One Person alone ~ JESUS CHRIST. If we want peace with God, forgiveness of sins and eternal life in God's presence, we have to face up to JESUS.**
- **What are YOU doing with JESUS? Is He really your LORD? Or is He a "prayer escape" in emergencies?**
- **Is He really your LORD?**
- **Or do you use Him as a "conscience-easer"?**
- **Is He really your LORD Who changed your life, values, attitudes, heart, morals . . . everything?**
- **Or is He a "religious crutch" to make yourself look good and acceptable in the community?**

There is a conflict in deciding for Jesus Christ.
There is an ongoing conflict in living for Jesus Christ.

We enter into spiritual conflict, warfare, pressure, as people discover how different we really are. They resent the Spirit of Christ within us.

Why?

Because the Spirit of Christ convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment to come (John 16:7-15).

A spiritual conflict is taking place ~ **and the Christian has the greater power and authority through JESUS CHRIST!**

"Greater is He that is in us, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5, NIV).

Jesus gives us power to conquer the inner conflicts of our mind and life, i.e. doubts, imaginations, disobedience, unbelief, etc. He also gives us power to conquer the outer conflict:

“When the seventy disciples returned, they joyfully reported to Him, ‘Even the demons obey us when we use Your Name.’ “Yes,’ He told them, ‘I saw Satan falling from heaven as a flash of lightning! And I have given you authority over all the power of the Enemy, and to walk among serpents and scorpions and to crush them. Nothing shall injure you! However, the important thing is not that demons obey you, but that your names are registered as citizens of heaven” (Luke 10:17-20, TLB).

- **Why is JESUS CHRIST so important? Because He is the Registrar of Heaven, and no one gets there except through HIM!**

“There is salvation in no one else! Under all heaven there is no other name for men to call upon to save them” (Acts 4:12, TLB).

The world tells us there are many ways to God, even many gods ~ **but the Bible tells us there is only one God and only one way to God. That is through JESUS CHRIST.**

Think about this!

God our Saviour:

“Who wishes all men to be saved and increasingly to perceive and recognize and discern and know precisely and correctly the [divine] Truth: That there [is only] one God, and [only] one mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, Who gave Himself a ransom for all [people, a fact that was] attested to at the right and proper time” (1 Timothy 2:4-6, AMP.).

To choose to believe the Bible will bring you into direct conflict with every section of society today ~ even a good percentage of professing Christians. But that is where it is at.

It wasn't only Joshua and Caleb who were completely outnumbered back in Moses' day ~ **the same spiritual conflicts face us right here and now.**

- **Who will you listen to?**
- **Who will you believe?**

The Holy Spirit and Word of God, or all the modern “ites” dressed up in all kinds of fancy names, but in reality are the ongoing evil powers of Canaan!

Generational spirits presenting themselves in attractive, acceptable ways to deceive and seduce the unwary. **Beware!**

Throw yourself on the only Protection Who gives total Security and Safety ~ **JESUS CHRIST.**

In closing this chapter I want to leave a simple prayer for those who have honestly answered “No” to the question, **“IS JESUS CHRIST THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE?”**

You have considered what you have read and know deep in your heart that JESUS CHRIST is real, that He loves and cares for you, and that He is waiting to forgive you of all your past.

You ask: *“What do I do?”*

My answer: From the depth of your being, pray this prayer after me:

“Dear God, I come to you in the powerful name of Jesus Christ Your Son. You know all about my life. Nothing is hidden from You. Right now I come to You, believing You are the Son of God; believing God has raised You from the dead. Therefore You are alive right now at this very moment to hear my heartfelt prayer. Please forgive me, Lord Jesus! Come into my life and change me into a better person for You. I’m sorry for the sin and rebellion I’ve held against You. I repent of it now. I give all my life to You, Lord Jesus. I accept Your Forgiveness and Salvation into my life. I renounce all the generational spiritual bondages that have affected my life. I break them off in the Mighty Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Cleanse me through and through with Your Precious Blood. I love You, Jesus; I thank You, Jesus; I praise You, Jesus, for hearing and answering my prayer, Amen.”

I say a loud **“Amen”** to that prayer with you. Ask God to direct you to a true Christian ~ or Christian church ~ who can help you grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Write to us and tell us what you have done. We will do what we can to help you develop in your Christian life.

Write to:

**“The Gospel Faith Messenger” Ministry,
P O Box 57
PARAPARAUMU 5254
New Zealand.**

Thank you very much and God bless you.

CHAPTER SEVEN

DEALING WITH THE DEVIL

This book would not be complete if I did not include some practical advice in dealing with demonic problems. To start with, avoid the extremes of –

- (1) Seeing every problem as demonic; or

(2) The devil no longer exists and all problems are psychological.

There is a devil and there are demonic forces that are out to wreck us. An open-hearted study of the Scriptures will confirm that.

Jesus certainly cast them out of people ~ religious and otherwise ~ in His ministry on earth (Mark 1:12-13, 23-28, 32-34, 39; Mark 3:10-11, 22-30; Mark 5:1-20; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 4 and Acts 10:38 are a few references to help you).

Jesus also taught His followers to cast out evil spirits from the people, which they did ~ Mark 16:15-18; Matthew 10:1, 16, 24-28; Luke 9:1; Luke 10:17-20; Acts 5:1-11; Acts 8:5-8, 9-25; Acts 13:4-12; Acts 16:16-34; Acts 19:13-20 and Ephesians 6:10-18 are a few more to look up.

If you are one who is involved in ministering deliverance from evil spirits, it is very important that you know the Scriptures. Make sure what you do is based on the Word of God.

- **Pray for God's wisdom!**
- **Pray for the discerning of spirits!**
- **Pray for the word of knowledge!** (see 1 Corinthians 12:1-11).
- **Counseling is a very important part of deliverance.**
The counselor should listen to what the person is saying. Often what is being said will give you the clues to the real problem. Most "deeper" problems will have a "surface" problem that gets talked about rather than the real root-cause.
- **Give the counselee time to talk and share their heart.**
- **Listen!**
- **Don't preach at, or load them with Scripture quotations as though they are a "magic" answer to their reason for seeking you out.** They have most likely sought several others previous to their coming to you ~ all without workable answers (as far as they are concerned).
- **Be on guard against being influenced by pre-conceived ideas and opinions that others may have "warned" you about.**
- **Guard your own attitudes toward the person who has come to you for help.**
- **Keep confidentiality.**
Counseling sessions often contain sordid confessions of all kinds, which can cause us to reject what they are saying because we can't believe such things happen in our community.

We are there to help and heal, not to spread their past or present life-style as gossip around the church! So many people have been really hurt through the breaking of trust and confidentiality.
- **Build love and trust.**
Know that that will take time in a lot of situations. Shattered lives do not love and trust easily (when they did that before, they were let down, bitterly disappointed and hurt deeply). Anyway, why should they trust you in their first appointment?
- **Take time.**

We must take time to build relationships of love, trust, caring, understanding and patience.

- **Help the counselee to be relaxed as possible.**
Heavy and tense situations do not usually bring good results.

MAKE SURE YOU ARE CORRECTLY DISCERNING THE PROBLEM

- **Are you sure it is an evil spirit?**

The problem just may be rooted in any of the following areas:

1. **Spiritual:** (“relating to the spirit or soul”).
2. **Emotional:** (“caused, determined or activated by emotions, rather than reason”). Emotions are strong feelings, as of joy, sorrow, or fear.
3. **Psychological:** (“the mental make-up or structure of an individual that causes him to think or act in the way he does; relating to the mind”).
4. **Natural:** (“according to human nature”). Over-weight, how one looks, self-esteem, etc.
5. **Inherited:** (“a characteristic through genetic transmission from one generation to another ~ ancestral”).
6. **Self-pity:** (“sympathy or sorrow felt for one’s self, which affects the life-style negatively”). Drawing attention to self. Problem with jealousy.
7. **Product of circumstances:** some examples would include: loss of a loved one; marriage break-up; family problems; rebellious children; rejection from others; misunderstanding; rape; incest; mental and physical abuse; ritual abuse; violence; fear of man.
8. **Church related problems:** some examples would include poor, or lack of relationship to leadership and church people; rejection through criticism; knocked back in their usage of talents or Gifts of the Spirit; wounded spirit, etc. It can also include being in submissive in the true meaning of Bible submission (unfortunately much teaching on submission has produced more harm than good); an unteachable spirit or attitude; sin in the lives of trusted church members; breaking of confidences, etc.

The above eight areas can often be inter-twined, so do not seek to rigidly separate each one. **Most problems can be spiritually related, but not all problems are demonic.**

- **I ask again: Are you sure it is an evil spirit?**
You cannot cast an evil spirit out of a person if there is not one there in the first place!!
- **Do not be “performance” orientated.**
By this I mean seeking to make sure there **has** to be a manifestation of a spirit before it can be cast out. I have personally found some of those with little or no manifestation during the prayer time turn out to be the best results. At the same time be aware that in deliverance the unexpected can always happen!

It does concern me when praying with someone for the first time how often people turn on to “manifestation mode” as though they have been taught that they have to do that. Sometimes it will take several appointments to tactfully get them out of that mind-set and to rather relax instead.

- **Total honesty.**

This is a crucial key to deliverance from evil spirits. No one will be set free from evil spirits until there is a total honesty about the situations and problems for which they are seeking help. Evasion, half truths and lies will keep people locked up in their bondages. The Holy Spirit, Who is the Power of God, is the Spirit of Truth. He doesn't tell lies or anoint lives that tell lies! (Lying spirits can be renounced!). Until the truth is out, don't expect great results to your deliverance prayers.

It needs to be said that in dealing with those trying to escape the deeper witchcraft and Satanic covens, these people are not able to freely speak out the truth. There is a real prince spirit of fear that binds them; also a “control” spirit that controls them from their particular group or coven. They will lie for self-protection and self-preservation sake!

So do be discerning. Some cases are not going to be only one-time appointments ~ they could take months of ongoing relationship, love and trust building before the **real** problem ~ the root cause ~ exposes itself.

Some cases will not change until there is an environmental change; that is, they are living in a situation where their warlords or queens are not able to have free access to them. They will need to be placed somewhere where they can have protection from those people (the tragedy is there are so very, very few “houses of protection” where they can be placed: nobody seems willing to open their homes to bring that sort of attention against it). If you do find yourself counseling a coven person, then try and get others involved with you. It will be hard, normally, to find those who will stand with you, but you must try. The devil's tactics are to get you isolated in such situations so that over time he can discredit you through your fellow Christians. Sad, but true.

When you are effective against the devil's kingdom, then he will do his best to discourage, deceive and discredit you. He hates his works being exposed and defeated. The power of doubt is another trick of his. I have never experienced the power of doubt so strongly as when I have been engaged in unlocking those bound up in Satanic covens. I must also say I've never experienced the power of God so strongly as in that kind of spiritual warfare. I am alive today because of the power of God that came through at just the right time.

There have been threats, contracts on my life, phone calls, letters, harassment by being followed, that, in the normal course of life would have seen my body picked up in some not-so-nice place. But the Holy Spirit has spoken, and guided me in such a way as to have kept me “one step ahead of the enemy” and I live today to declare the works of my Mighty, Living God over the power of the enemy, Satan.

I can say I have seen the power of Satan's opposition; and I have also seen the power of God, which is far greater to deliver and keep in times of trouble.

WHEN PRAYING FOR THOSE WITH EVIL SPIRITS

- Unless the evil spirits you are contending with are ancestral (“of, inherited from, or derived from ancestors” – Collins ~ which means the person has inherited them at conception, in the womb, or at the death of a family member . . . another name used is “hereditary” meaning “1. of, relating to, or denoting factors that can be

transmitted genetically from one generation to another . . .” – Collins), then the evil spirit(s) have entered the life through an “open access” or a violation of the protection of God. Drugs, sexual immorality/perversion, rebellion, arrogance and wilful unforgiveness are examples of this. Even born-again Christians can open themselves up to the kingdom of darkness through the above things.

- **Forgiveness:**

Forgiveness is a powerful thing. A lot of pride, hate, anger and bitterness is the direct result of unforgiveness. Each of them can be evil spirits at work. The one wanting deliverance must be willing to release the pent-up pressures that unforgiveness creates. **Christians especially, must repent of unforgiveness.** It is one of Satan’s strategies against Christians. He wants us to get so hurt from fellow Christians that we won’t forgive them. **Unforgiveness plays right into Satan’s hand!**

“A further reason for forgiveness is to keep from being outsmarted by Satan; for we know what he is trying to do” (2 Corinthians 2:11, TLB).

Forgiveness releases! It gives us power over the devil!

- **Renounce the evil spirit(s).**

Before I take authority over evil spirits, I get the person to speak out a prayer of renunciation. If they have an unclean spirit I get them to renounce the unclean spirit in the name of Jesus Christ. If it is adultery, witchcraft, murder, whatever . . . get them to release their will in a prayer of renunciation ~ audibly!

It is a public confession before God and you. Often there will be a need to actually lead them in a prayer of renunciation. Get them to repeat a prayer after you.

- **Take authority.**

Once they have renounced the evil spirit(s), then take authority over them and command them to leave that person’s body in the Mighty Name of JESUS CHRIST.

When the person you are praying for has come to a place of as total honesty as possible, shows a genuine will to be free from the devil’s works, then there is no reason why the evil spirit(s) should not depart. **They have to bow in obedience to the Name of Jesus Christ!**

- **The timing of deliverance.**

The timing of deliverance can be immediate, in a short while, or a gradual process of release and healing over a longer period.

If there is no change whatever, then it could be:

1. The person is not fully ready for deliverance (there is still more preparation needed through confession, honesty, forgiveness, or a strengthening against fear being manipulated from other people).
2. The “problem” is not an evil spirit at all. It could be emotional, psychological or physical (as mentioned earlier). An understanding Christian doctor can be helpful in such cases.
3. The “root-cause” has not been discovered.
4. A lack of discernment and wisdom on the part of the counselor.
5. A lack of Holy Spirit anointing, power and authority.

6. The timing is not right (God wants other areas to be faced first, which will bring about a better end result).
7. Deliverance is an “excuse” or “escape” for some people. What is really needed is a changing and developing of character ~ strengthening weak areas like indecisiveness, personal discipline, getting right motivation, changing habits or life-styles that leave the doors open for more evil spirits to enter. Drugs, the occult, sexual immorality and pornography involvement all demand definite decisions to break out or away from.
8. You may need more help and experienced people to be involved with you.

Be open to God.

Be open to learn.

Nobody knows all the answers in this ministry. So, let us help one another, to the end the captives will be set free.

IN CONCLUSION

I am aware that I have touched on a vast subject in this book. The surface has really only been scratched. There is so much more that could be (and maybe should be) included in these pages. What has been written has come to you with the prayer and desire that it will help you to know something more of what is contained in the Word of God. My heart is to see those bound by the devil set free. I want to see the prevailing ignorance in the Church about the devil's strategies broken. Satan's strategies haven't really changed over the centuries; he is still using his same old ploys to discourage and defeat Christians ~ just like he did right back in the beginning. He uses whatever he can to “cloud, block or bind” our spirit from coming under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. He really doesn't care how religious we are, or how often we go to church, or how full of good works of generosity; **the thing he hates is our coming under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.**

I ask the question again:

“IS JESUS CHRIST THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE?”

Unless JESUS IS LORD we will never ever live in victory over Satan and his hordes. Settle that question today with a very positive “YES” and know the difference!

God bless you.

Rodney W. Francis has other writings to do with the strategies of Satan and how to defeat them.

They are:

- Baal (or Baalim) Worship
- Curses
- Spiritual Warfare
- Unbelief ~ The Power That Needs To Be Broken
- Counselling And Deliverance,

- Counselling And Deliverance (Seminar Manual)

Write to:

**“THE GOSPEL FAITH MESSENGER” MINISTRY
P. O. BOX 57
PARAPARAUMU 5254
NEW ZEALAND**

E-Mail: gfm@gospel.org.nz

Visit our Website: www.gospel.org.nz