

## SATAN'S DEMISE AT CALVARY

A Christian must appropriate the fact that Satan was defeated at Calvary. Until that fact is acknowledged, accepted, yielded to—and walked therein, there can be no permanent victory in the life of the Christian. Down through the years the Church as a whole has struggled with this truth and therefore, we see the flood of satanic power rising throughout the earth today. The Body of Christ is in its last battle—a final conflict with Satan—and if the believer approaches this conflict from any other viewpoint other than Calvary, he will court disaster.

Sad to say, many of the Churches today have fallen short in the teaching of spiritual warfare and equipping the saints with the proper weapons to use in the conflict with Satan. It is time for the clarion call—for the army of God to put on their battle clothes, and in preparedness, step into the fray; to fight not in ignorance, but in the truth of biblical awareness and clear understanding of their position as God's children. Do not let vanity and pride cloud your mind, but submit to the leading of the Holy Spirit and humble yourself under His teaching and guidance.

### **Let's review some facts in order to gain a clearer understanding of this final conflict with Satan.**

John 12:31, 32 (NLT) says that *“The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out. And when I (Jesus) am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.”* Satan was stripped of his power at the Cross, and God wants His children to have the clearest possible understanding of the work completed through Calvary in order that the child of God can wield that victory over satanic invasion whenever and wherever it rears its ugly head.

Revelation 12:10, 11 (KJV) – *...Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the world of their testimony; and they love not their lives unto the death.*

We see unrest in nation after nation. Men's affairs are out of hand and fear is reaching out its tentacles with deadly intent to destroy mankind. We see the same unrest in the religious world as well. Fear reaches out to lay a hold of minds and hearts in an effort to undermine the very foundation of our faith. Striking fear in the hearts and minds of men is an old *ploy* (A tactic or maneuver intended to gain an advantage for the speaker) of Satan, and he uses it well against those who have let their guard down or chose to remain ignorant regarding spiritual warfare. Some Christians think if they don't acknowledge the warfare, then they don't have to do it, to enter into the battle. This is a DECEPTION ploy that is straight from the

enemy. We are seeing evil deeds manifesting in city after city; and America is appalled at the floodtide of satanic power which is pouring out without rhyme or reason upon our lands.

Another fact—when the enemy comes in like a flood and threatens to overwhelm us; then God intervenes. The Holy Spirit is the restraining One who is keeping this evil power in check. Church, we must wake up. Isaiah 59:19 says *...when the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.* You may be asking—what is the “standard” that the Holy Spirit will lift up in checking the enemy? And the answer is CALVARY! Do not be vague in your understanding of the work of Calvary. Can you not see how important it is for the believer to understand Satan’s defeat at Calvary and to appropriate and boldly proclaim this truth? It is part of spiritual warfare. How can we raise the standard of the Cross as the instrument of Satan’s defeat, if we are vague in mind of its purpose and completed work—the demise of Satan. 2 Timothy 2:15 –*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

Let’s look at the Word of God and see what it says regarding the conquest of Satan at Calvary. Read Hebrews 2:14, 15—*Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death he might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.* Simply put, THE CROSS HAS PUT THE DEVIL OUT OF ACTION. THE CROSS HAS RENDERED THE DEVIL POWERLESS! But understand this—in order for this truth of fact to work, the saints have to appropriate the fact and apply it to the need. You want to see Satan defeated—to see his demonic activities stopped, to walk in power and authority? Then step up to the plate and hit that home run by proclaiming the truth of Calvary; put your faith to work. Be prepared! Study the Word of God. Learn all you can about spiritual warfare and remember what Calvary stand for—the defeat and demise of Satan.

When I accepted the Lord into my heart in a little Pentecostal Church back in 1960, I remember the sermon was about Calvary and how the devil was put out of action. The love of Jesus for mankind, for me, was shared and I was invited to come and kneel at the altar, and there at the foot of the Cross, with tears streaming down my face and hope in my heart for a different life, I asked Jesus to come into my heart. Jesus Christ has potentially delivered every soul from Satan’s power, but I needed to proclaim it and start walking out my salvation in faith. That responsibility rested upon me.

And oh, how I loved singing the old hymns about Calvary, the Cross and the Blood of Jesus. 40 years later I am still praising the Lord for dear Brother Patterson—for that man preached weekly on the Cross and Calvary. He preached! He taught! I listened! Brother Patterson also taught his congregation how to do spiritual warfare against Satan and his powers of darkness. It was the season of weekly revivals; one would end and another would start. The first few years of my Christian walk, I was in church nearly every

night and soaking in His holy presence as I filled my heart nightly with the Word. Down through the years I have taught spiritual warfare classes and in August my Spiritual Warfare Training Manual was published.

Thanks Bro. Patterson! You held my feet to the fire and taught me to use the Word when faced with adversity. You taught me and my family that spiritual warfare is very much a part of growing (maturing) in the Lord. You taught me to use all aspects of spiritual warfare in the ensuing battle of life as a believer against the powers of darkness. You taught me not to fear the battle, but to be wise and always, always use the Word of God as I walked in the wisdom, power and authority of the Holy Spirit.

To this day when I enter a church and see the altar, I quietly give thanks to the One who gave His life that I might live. I will often go kneel at the altar and let my thoughts drift back to that Sunday morning when my soul was set free, and through Calvary, I was accepted into the family of God.

In the 40 years I have served the Lord, Calvary has always held a special place in my heart. I realized that since Calvary, Satan has no rights whatsoever, and I, as a child of the King, can resist his power and tell him to flee from my presence. In fact it is the duty of every child of God to oppose him. Charles H. Usher once wrote *that to leave Satan unchallenged is to rob Jesus Christ of that for which He died on the Cross.*

Satan knows the power of the Cross more than anyone, and he is continually downplaying it. Do not be vague in your understanding of Calvary. *He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, and transplanted us into the kingdom of His beloved Son.* (Colossians 1:13)

As I just had my Spiritual Warfare Training Manual published through Xulon Press, and in talking to various people, I am sensing a hunger in hearts for this teaching. So, for the next few weeks, I will be sharing with you dear readers different aspects of spiritual warfare.

*Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.* Eph. 6

## **WE ARE CALLED TO FIGHT!**

### ***AT CALVARY***

Verse 4. Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan! Oh, the grace that bro't it down to man! Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span At Calvary! Mercy there was great, and grace was free; Pardon there was multiplied to me; There my burdened soul found liberty, At Calvary.

**by Wm. R. Newell**