

THE GOD OF THIS WORLD

- In this day that we are living in many people are deceived as to who the source of the problem is.
- So many times people do not know whether God or the devil is doing certain things.
- God is not the god of this world.

2 Corinthians 4:4 (KJV)

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

- The laws governing the earth today very largely came into being with the fall of man and the curse upon the earth.
- It is because people do not understand this that they accuse God of accidents, of sickness, of the death of loved ones, of storms, catastrophes, earthquakes, and floods.
- God is not responsible for, nor the author of, any one of those things.
- In **Mark 4:39** we see Jesus rebuke a storm and command it to cease.
- According to **John 14:10** it was God in Him that did that work.
- If God caused the storm, God would be working against Himself in causing it to cease.
- It was the same with the healings Jesus performed.
- Jesus said, "The Father in me, He doeth the works."
- All the healings, all the miracles, all the works that Jesus did, God did.
- If God were the author of sickness and disease, and God healed people through Jesus, then God worked against Himself.

Mark 3:24-25 (KJV)

24 *And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.*

25 *And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.*

- Be sure no doubt or unbelief is permitted in your life concerning the promises of God.
- If it's in God's Word, it belongs to you.
- If anything is trying to keep you from having it that is the devil and not God.
- Many of the things that we pray about, which the promises of God cover, have to come to pass in this world where Satan is god.
- He will do everything in the world to keep it from coming.
- This doesn't mean that God doesn't hear you the first time when you pray –or that the answer is not on the way.

THERE IS ANOTHER TEAM IN THIS GAME

Daniel 10:12-13 (NIV)

12 *Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them.*

13 *But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.*

- God did not send the answer the 21st day. He sent the answer the first day.
- v.13 said that the prince of Persia did not want the angel to get through with the answer.
- What Satan said to Jesus at the temptation, when he took Him up into a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, was a real temptation.

Luke 4:6 (NIV)

And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to.

- The prince of Persia was over in the spirit world where evil spirits were ruling that nation.
- Those spirits did not want the angel to get through with the answer.
- God heard Daniel the first day. God sent the answer the first day.

- God hears you when you pray according to His Word, and He sends the answer.
- It may not have materialized yet in your life, but He sent the answer right when you prayed.
- Many people, if the answer does not materialize right away, drop back into doubt and unbelief.
- Don't doubt. Take authority.
- If God said it then He intended for us to have it.

WHOSE REPORT WILL YOU BELIEVE?

Numbers 13:1-2, 26-33 (NIV)

1 *The LORD said to Moses,*

2 *"Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders."*

26 *They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land.*

27 *They gave Moses this account: "We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit.*

28 *But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there.*

29 *The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan."*

30 *Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it."*

31 *But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are."*

32 *And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size.*

33 *We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them."*

- The Lord started off by telling Moses that He was giving this land to them.

- After they came back from the trip they had already prepared their report. (v. 27)
- Joshua and Caleb were a part of the 12 that went.
- How come Joshua and Caleb's report was different from the other 10 men?
- (v.33) What you think of yourself plays a vital role in your spiritual life.
- The enemy can pick up on your image of yourself.
- It doesn't matter what the enemy looks like, if God promised you something then it is yours for the taking.
- The 10 spies brought back an evil report. Their report was a report of doubt and unbelief.
- Joshua and Caleb brought back a good report.
- Faith always has a good report.

1 Timothy 6:12 (NIV)

Fight the good fight of the faith...

- We are to fight the **good** fight of faith.
- The reason it's a **good** fight is because Jesus already won it for us.
- You have to fight to maintain a **good** report.
- It's not so easy to do when you are looking a giant right in the face.
- The only thing that will put you over is maintaining a **good** report.
- Faith always has a good report.
- If you have any other kind of report that is not **good**, then you are not in the faith fight.
- Whose report will you believe?**
- I don't care what the doctor, the creditor, your boss, or this world may tell you. **YOU MUST BELIEVE THE REPORT OF THE LORD!**
- You have to look the giant right in the face and say, "**Get out of my way! This is my land. God said so!**"
- There's not a report in this world that can stop the report of the Lord unless you believe it.
- Recognize the source. Who is trying to keep you from entering into what God has for you?
- The devil will do everything possible to keep you from hearing and believing the report of the Lord.
- Faith comes by hearing. (Romans 10:17)
- If the devil can get you listening to his report, then he can keep you from growing in faith.

- You have to shut off the voice of the devil in your life.
- You have to say what God's Word says.
- You have to believe the report of the Lord – no matter what the world says.

James 4:7 (NIV)

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

- Refuse the devil's report. Resist what your emotions say.
- God is in the business of blessing.
- If He said He would do it – watch out, it's on its way!