

Spiritual Authority Prophetic Understanding

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Now we have been speaking about spiritual warfare and we've been looking at spiritual authority in the context of spiritual warfare and we've been now looking at the whole series of permutations based upon this central idea. One of these permutations that I wish to address now is that of prophecy and the whole structure of the prophetic... the revelation of the things that have been spoken for a very long time. In the classic format, the end of the age, and the events of the end of the age are seen primarily as things beginning to happen on the earth, and Satan more or less dabbles in it, but we're not sure where Satan *is* when he dabbles in it and we're not sure what his power is, what his abilities are, how he interacts with human beings and the like. Although it has been spoken of a great deal, it has been a surprisingly gray area and yet when you begin to see this entire concept of God at war with Satan because Satan refused to accept God's view of who God's heirs would be—God chose humans and bypassed the angels.

Satan, and those who agreed with him, revolted against God and they took the position that God was wrong and warred with God over it. Now they were thrown out of heaven (of the first heaven if you look at it from God's point of view, or the third heaven if you look at it from man's point of view). They were thrown out of the first heaven but they were thrown into the second heaven. This war, however, continues on the earth where humans live and to where the demonic forces that are based in the second heavens—to where they come and go. The entire structure of the demonic domain is meant to permit an effectiveness of warfare on the earth by blocking humans—in every way possible—by blocking humans from a clear understanding of God.

But the advantage that the demonic enjoys in this war is the advantage of being invisible. Now one of the things that we need to see is that this will not always be an advantage that the demonic enjoys. There will come a point where it is no longer able to hide behind the cloak of invisibility. One day it will be here on the earth and it's when it's thrown into the earth that the entire demonic kingdom, complete with all of the hierarchy of the demonic including Satan, himself, and the mighty princes that now attend him, are in the earth. They formed up their opportunity to continue to control the

earth and to continue to control human beings in this thing called the Kosmos—the world—a compendium of systems on which human life depends. But when they do in fact come here they will no longer enjoy invisibility so they will be the governments; they will bring together these systems and actually rule over these systems by their anointed ruler—the one referred to in the **Revelation**, of course, as the little horn.

What I want to do is show you how that when we have not—and because we have not seen this development—prophecy “lurches” back and forth and most of the prophetic establishment today is relegated to bits and pieces without any sort of cohesive overview for prophecy and of the prophetic, of the unfolding of the events at the end of the age. Because one of the great things that the prophetic is simply not getting, not seeing, not understanding, although I’m convinced God would give it to anyone who was not predisposed in their thinking about prophetic things, is that there will come a time when Satan and the entire demonic kingdom is thrown into the earth. Now, they are not about to learn new warfare when they come into the earth. They will simply put into high gear all of the very things they have already prepared for that time that is to come.

So, let’s begin by looking backward and then we’ll look forward. What happened when Satan rejected God’s choice of humans as His heirs and elected to wage war against God? Well, let’s look at the structure of things the way they were *prior* to that event. Here is the first of the readings: this is from the book of **II Corinthians, chapter 12**. Paul says, **“I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven.”** That’s **II Corinthians, chapter 12, verse 2**, **“I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell. I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say. To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”** (Inserted – **II Corinthians 12:2-10**)

Let’s begin with this. Paul said, **“I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven.”** That means that there are three... three heavens. Originally, before God created the heavens and the earth, as **Genesis, chapter 1** says,

there was only one heaven, and that's where *all* dwelt in harmony with God. Then the event came, in which God announced His choice of heirs and His choice was humans—this vastly inferior creature than the angels were—and when that decision was made, the angels immediately understood that they would serve God and they would serve the heirs. But these creatures were so inferior that it was an insult to the pride of a glorious archangel, that he would be required to serve such inferior creatures. Serving God was actually not a problem and never was the source of this disagreement; serving the heirs—an inferior creature—was the source.

What, of course, God did *not* tell was that His intent would be to take this inferior creature and to put Himself—God, Himself—to be put into this inferior creature. And the presence of God in this creature would absolutely *transform* his nature and as the creature learned to trust God over the instincts of this lower creation—instincts of self-preservation and self-protection (or provision and protection, rather)—as he learned to let go of the obsession with *these*, that he would discover how much God's love had taken every precaution to provide for his every interest and his every need, which interest and needs were consistent with *what* God made him to be and *how* God made him to be. But *with* the revolt a second heaven came into being. This second heaven was the seat of the demonic *then*; it was where those who rebelled against God were put when they could no longer be in the presence of God. Obviously, when this war took place, and these angels were defeated, as was inevitable, a place had to be found for them, but, as of yet, God had not created the heavens and the earth—the first heaven, the heaven surrounding the earth—so they were cast out of the presence of God and were cast into what would become the second heaven.

Interestingly enough, in the entire history of the human race, where there has been any reference to the demonic habitation, they have been in the invisible realms of the second heavens. Let me show you an example of that, let me show you the teaching of it and then I'll give you the example. The teaching is from the book of **Ephesians**, from which we have read much, **Ephesians 6**, the very passage on spiritual warfare, and here it says, **“For our struggle...”** (this is **Ephesians 6:12**) **“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood...”** (and he describes against whom our struggle is: rulers, authorities, powers, the spiritual forces of evil *in the heavenly realms...heavenly realms*). (Inserted – actual verse—**“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”** – **Ephesians 6:12**)

Now, which of the heavenlies? Whenever you see the demonic operating it operates from the second heavens, inasmuch as it does not operate from the presence of God in the highest heavens and it does not operate in the visible heavens from the standpoint of human beings. So where does it operate from? Here is an example now: this is from the **10th chapter** of the book of **Daniel**, and this is the story of how Daniel received a visit from the archangel, Gabriel, and as Gabriel comes he describes him in the early parts of

chapter 10 and this is what he says—this is at the very end of **chapter 10, verse 20**—after he has told Daniel the purpose of his mission, **“So he said, ‘Do you know why I have come to you? Soon...’** Actually, let’s back up... I’ll come back to this reading. Let’s go back to **verse 12, “Then he continued...”** (that is, the archangel, Gabriel, speaking to Daniel, continued) **“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. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes...’”** (It tells us that there are some in the category of *chief* princes) **“‘Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.’”** And then he ends on *this* note (now we’re back to **Daniel 10:20**), **“So he said, ‘Do you know why I have come to you? Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia...’”** (So he fought coming in and he’s going to have to fight going out), **“ ‘...and when I go, the prince of Greece will come...’”** (So he tells about the eventual overthrow of the prince of Persia and the replacement of the prince of Persia by the prince of Greece), **“ ‘...but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one supports me against them except Michael, your prince. And in the first year of Darius the Mede, I took my stand to support and protect him.)’”** (Inserted – **Daniel 10:12-14; 10:20-11:1**)

What this tells us is that in the unseen realm there are literally demonic princes whose names are the same as the nations over which they rule. When Gabriel the archangel, on a mission from God, comes to see Daniel; the prince of Persia, a mighty demonic spirit waged war against him for twenty-one human days. Now, if you were to look up in the night sky and were to observe the night sky over Persia in that very time would there have been a vision of the struggle in the night sky? Could you have looked up and seen it? No, it was obviously invisible... it was obviously invisible. However, as the struggle continued, the prince—Michael—fought against the prince of Persia and actually overthrew him. When he was overthrown, Gabriel was free to come through and to bring the message. But, as Gabriel was returning, he would again contend with the prince of Persia and there was the indication that the final outcome would be that the prince of Persia would be replaced by the prince of Greece. So, in this entire structure of warfare, the invisible realms are the place where the demonic and the angelic often fight in respect to matters that have consequences for humans and have consequences on the earth. So my point is: there are three heavens and in two of the heavens, the invisible realms engage in this fighting.

The invisible realms are the realms in which this conflict that started in the highest of the heavens is pursued and here is the example of it in the book of **Daniel**. So, as I said, you could not look up into the night sky and watch Gabriel and Michael, on one hand, and the prince of Persia, on the other hand, fight, because it was in that other realm. But here

is an amazing development, and by the way, Jesus said, about this, when He sent His disciples out in **Matthew 10**, and they came back some time later and it is reported that they said, “Lord Jesus, at the very mention of your name we saw demons come out of people.” Jesus said, “I saw Satan fall as lightening from heaven.” (Inserted – actual verse —“**The seventy-two returned with joy and said, ‘Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.’ He replied, ‘I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.’**” – **Luke 10:17,18**) In other words, “I was there when he was thrown out from heaven.”

Now he wasn’t thrown out into the earth *then*, because—and this is what I’ve said, this is my point—until now he’s still in the heavens. That’s where Paul, in the **6th chapter** of the book of **Ephesians**, speaks of spiritual warfare; he refers to the seat of the demonic as being in the heavenly realms. We went back to **Daniel** and we saw that from the point after creation when there was this conflict between the prince of Persia and the archangel, Gabriel, it took place in the heavenly realms. And Jesus said, “I saw Satan fall as lightening from heaven.” So the three together tell us unequivocally that when the first battle of this war was finished the demons were kicked out of the highest heavens and they ended up in the second heavens. That’s where they’ve been put and that’s where they continue to be and from which place they continue to operate until this time.

There is, however, coming another round in this battle; there will be another round in this war and when that round is finished the fall of the demonic from the heavens will be precipitous. They will now no longer be in the second heavens; they will be thrown out into the earth. And here it is: **verse 7 of Revelation 12**, “**And there was war in heaven.**” Now if you read that without the understanding that we’ve already come to, which is that there are three heavens, then you will think that this is the original war. But again, keep in mind everything that’s been shown in Scripture: when they were thrown out of the first heavens they did not come to the earth, they were thrown into the second heavens. That’s where Paul said they are, that’s where we’ve seen them operating—that realm out of which they operate—and that’s where Jesus said that he saw they were kicked out.

But now the war continues, and *why* should it surprise us that this war continues... has the war ever stopped? When will it stop? **Revelation**, the **20th chapter** tells us when it will stop... when the last enemy has been defeated. Who are the last enemies? Two spirits: Death and Hell are the last enemies who will be destroyed, and they will be thrown into the lake of fire. (Inserted – actual verse—“**The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.**” – **Revelation 20:13,14**). But in the mean time, and as the war continues, **verse 7** says, “**And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost**

their place in heaven.” (Inserted – **Revelation 12:7,8**)

Who is the dragon who loses his place in the heavens after this round of the war? **Verse 9, “The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in the heaven say: ‘Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.’”** (to the earth) **“ ‘Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.’”** (Inserted – **Revelation 12:9-12**) Now, Satan has been operating in the earth *but his seat* has been in the heavenlies, that’s why he is called the prince of the power of the air. But there will come a time when he is thrown into the earth.

In a subsequent broadcast I would like to show you more of this picture. But in just a summary form, I’d like to just speak some conclusions to you about what happens when he comes. Well first, he’s actually prepared for the eventuality that he *might* come—he doesn’t believe that he will but just in case. He has a way of bringing together all of the structures of the earth to control the whole earth. These structures are called his kingdom, or the Kosmos and they are all the systems on which human life depends: the legal system, the medical system, business systems, financial systems, cultural systems, transportation systems, systems of energy, trade and so on. All of these things have become global and eventually they will be coalesced under his rule. Satan’s kingdom is a *global* kingdom, it is not geographic, as people have supposed. The world is not becoming divided into seven or ten geographies ruled over by demonic-style persons. You don’t have to control the geography if you control what controls human life and in fact the kingdom of Satan is not meant to be a geographic rule. *Its effect will be geographic but its structure is systemic.* It will rule the nations through its own designated ruler—the one who is the “little horn” of **Daniel 7** and **Revelation 13**, the mouth that speaks blasphemously against the Most High.

In that time, their intent will be to subjugate the entire earth to the rule of Satan through his vassals and through these systems that he utterly controls, to the point where a human being could not provide for himself or protect himself against this entrapment. The soul of man yearns for security in the area of provision and protection, and the kingdom of Satan will offer humans provision and protection, but at a price... a mark. Because the two things that are said about this kingdom are: you cannot buy or sell unless you receive this mark and the next thing that is said is, “Who can make war against the beast?” (Inserted – actual verse—**“Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, ‘Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?’”** – **Revelation 13:4**; **“He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his**

right hand or on his forehead, so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.” – Revelation 13:16,17) Buying and selling—*provision*—and making war—*protection*.

The entrapment of Satan is that he has already prepared the eventuality of his coming to the earth. Eventually, as the war continues, he *will* be kicked out of the heavens and he *will* end up on the earth. Their coming to this earth is a subject that I would like to speak about in another broadcast, but all of these things are the major pillars of eschatological Scriptures and they represent the core of prophetic understanding for the last days and the Lord would not have these things happen and you be ignorant and blind of them. I'm Sam Soleyn and we'll continue this discussion at another time. God bless you.

Scripture References:

II Corinthians 12:2-10

Ephesians 6:12

Daniel 10:12-14

Daniel 10:20-11:1

Luke 10:17,18

Revelation 20:13,14

Revelation 12:7,8

Revelation 12:9-12

Revelation 13:16,17