

Chapter 10 | Blockage Removal: Discernment

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When you are engaging blockage removal, you will typically begin by taking the person's narratives, after having them fast and pray in anticipation of this time, and writing down whatever comes to mind. When you meet with them, you go through the narrative and you listen carefully to everything they are saying. The Spirit of discernment will be with you in this time, and things that they are saying that seem to be relatively innocuous or insignificant will jump out at you. You will follow through on those, discovering in the narrative, the process by which they were invaded: whether generationally, from the womb, or subsequently by the acts and actions of others against them, or both. You will come to the place, then, of understanding where they made the jump from these being external, false accusations to them embracing this false view as the reality by ratification. We went through, in the previous sessions, the means by which you ratify. At this point, you should have a clear picture as to not only where the people are at the present time in their emotional states, but why they are in those states. How did they get there?

Once you understand this, then the next thing to do is to break down these strongholds of the enemy. The gates of hell shall not prevail against us coming into territories that represent the way the enemy has barricaded people behind false authorities. We have historically used this only to talk about evangelism and going into other countries where demonic powers hold sway. Sometimes, we have seen it as just defending against the enemy by assuming that the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. We assume the meaning of it to be that hell is attacking *you*. I will remind you that gates are stationary; they do not attack anybody. They are meant to defend what is behind the gates. So rather than hell attacking you, you get to attack hell. You get to attack the domains of these falsehoods and break down the gates of these strongholds to set people free who have been in bondage to these lies all of their lives.

One of the truths about destroying these lying strongholds is the appeal is to God. You begin by being seated in Christ, and the appeal is to God, who will never allow a lie to take on the characteristics of the truth. Anything that is gained by a lie cannot be sustained by the one who gained it when the person against whom this evil has been perpetrated appeals to God for relief. In many ways, it is a very juridical process. If the enemy gains an advantage by lying to you about who you are, and you, as a son of God, appeal to God, He will deliver you from that lie. So, the first thing I encourage is a statement positioning yourself in Christ before you proceed to the next thing.

The next thing is to forgive those who have trespassed against you. But I will usually set it up by having the people involved... And by the way, I do not do this with unbelievers; and I rarely ever do this with young believers, because the greatest need is amongst mature believers who have the sense that they are under this cloud and they cannot penetrate beyond those ceilings. So the first thing I will do is have them make a declaration that they are sons of God. And, as sons of God, they have a right to access certain benefits and privileges that God has given to them as inheritances. These benefits and privileges include the right to retake a true picture of their identity and to live out the purpose for which God has put them in the earth, which purpose is to represent the living God in a mature fashion and to acknowledge that the lies of their enemy have hindered this process and held up the truth from coming to them.

You see, it is not that God does not give us these benefits and the reality of them. No. It is when you have two minds about it, that you cannot receive it. It is not about giving; God gives it freely. It is always there. His gifts and His callings are not subject to revocation. He does not recall them. The devil cannot actually hold them up. But the problem is there is no place for what God has given, for those things to be received. The issue is not about the giving; the issue is about receiving. If the enemy can thwart your ability to receive, then it does not matter that God means for you to have it, you will not be able to receive it. Keep in mind what the Scriptures say; they say, “For a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways. Let not such a man think that he can receive anything from the Lord.”¹ The emphasis is not on the giving. God intends to give. God has given.

There are three aspects to a gift.

1. The first is donative intent—the intent of the donor to give you the gift.
2. The second is delivering the gift. The fact that God intends to give you and delivers those gifts to you, those facts are not in controversy.
3. The third element of the gift is that you need to receive it. But if you are double-minded, you cannot receive it.

All Scriptures quotations are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

¹ See James 1:5-8: “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

So it is like the package being shipped at the order of the one who wishes to give it to you, and the delivery service drops it off at your front door, but you will not go outside to pick it up, either because you do not know, or you are afraid, or for whatever reason. The gift is not complete until you reach outside of your door, pick it up, and bring it into the house. Then, it is your gift.

Now a double-minded man is one who is confused about his identity. He has two minds about his identity. At times he believes he is a son of God. When he does, in those times he receives what the Word says, and he may even act on it and receive beneficial results. But when he also believes the lie of his enemy about himself, then he will question whether or not he is deserving of receiving those very things from God designed to free him or her from those oppressive, false accusations. That is the tension that people always experience within themselves. In fact, until this issue is resolved, most people go back and forth between the reality that they are the sons of God, and believing some measure of a lie that holds up the ability to receive the things that God has freely given to them to have and to believe in.

So, the first thing you do in the process of destroying the strongholds within the mind that prevent you from receiving the truth is an acknowledgment that you are a son of God, who is entitled. Because God has already declared His intention to give you certain gifts, and God has already sent those gifts to you by the Holy Spirit, but they have been held up and robbed. A robbery is as effective if the delivery is held up, as if it was stolen once you received it. The problem with not receiving, you see, is related to these lying deceptions that deprive you of the capacity to present your body a living sacrifice so that what God means to give you, to strengthen you, to enable you, to empower you, to cause you to grow up, to cause you to function at a higher level in your walk with God, that that has been frustrated by the taking away of the capacity to receive.

A statement will typically take the form of,

- “I make the following declarations of forgiveness of persons from my position as a son of God. As a son of God, I am entitled to certain benefits and privileges which my enemy, through lying deception, has robbed from me. I now intend to retake from my enemy all that is mine, and to that end, I declare that I forgive the following persons.”

So that is the threshold statement behind which then you proceed to forgive people. The first act of destroying the stronghold of the enemy is your positioning yourself again in an identity as a son of God.

Because the problem is, when you have a dual identity, you do not settle that issue. You believe it sometimes, and you do not believe it sometimes. But when you make that declaration, you are going on record that that is what you believe. Heaven hears your confession of being a son of God, mankind hears that confession, and angels and demons hear that confession; and everyone is bound by your confession. The throne of God acknowledges what you have declared. Mankind is aware of your intentions because out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. Angels stand at the ready to help you, because they are ministering servants sent to serve the saints.²

God gives His angels charge. He tells them, “Now go and do what they tell you to do.” God gives His angels charge concerning us, so it alerts the angels to be ready to come to our aid.³ Let me add, parenthetically, here: Do you remember what Jesus said about angels coming to help Him? He said, “Don’t you suppose that I can call down legions of angels to defend Me?”⁴ That was the night when He was betrayed, and Peter took a sword and wacked off Malchus’s ear (Malchus was the name of the High Priest’s servant). Jesus said, “Put up your sword. Don’t you suppose that I can call down legions of angels to defend Me?” What do we think angels are made for? Foolish people think they are made for us to worship them. No, no, no! They are a lower class of being than we are, and they were created in anticipation of us being designated as the sons of God. All angels, Hebrews, chapters 1 and 2, affirm to us, “All angels are ministering servants sent to serve the saints.” So when Jesus was in the earthly form and He was being harassed by humans the night He was being arrested, He reminded His disciples that He could call down legions of angels to defend Him, because angels are ministering servants sent to serve the saints—the sons of God.

Now, angels are particularly effective against demons. How do we know that? Well, the record of Scripture is replete with that. Daniel, in the Book of Daniel (cf. chapter 10), was praying to God after seventy years of Babylonian captivity. Daniel remembered the Word of the Lord, so in the seventieth year of their captivity he was praying to God. While he was praying, an angel was sent, and that angel was Gabriel. As Gabriel came through from the heavens—you see, there are multiple heavens: 1) the heavens

² See Hebrews 1:14 NIV: “Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?”

³ See Psalm 91:11: “For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways.”

⁴ See Matthew 26:53: “Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?”

where the throne of God is, 2) the heavens that are the realm of the demonic (the seat of the demonic), and 3) the heavens above the earth—so as he came through the heavens above the earth, where Daniel was a prisoner yet in Babylon, a slave and captive yet in Babylon, the prince of Persia came to arrest the flight of the angel, Gabriel, who was coming to bring a word to Daniel from the throne of God. So, angels come to assist humans and to help humans and to bring messages. Angels came to bring a message to Mary, and so on and so forth.

In the numerous examples in the Scriptures of the interactions of angels to humans, never, ever does an angel accept the worship of a human. Always, faithful angels understand that they are servants of the sons of God. So when the angel, the prince of Persia, a fallen, demonic spirit, held up Gabriel on his flight to bring the message to Daniel, how did Gabriel get any relief? This happened for a fortnight—the war between Gabriel and the demonic prince known simply as the prince of Persia, known from the region that he ruled over, that he kept in darkness. Well, God dispatched another angel. This time He dispatched the angel of war, one known as Michael. Michael is referred to in Scripture as, “Michael, the great prince.”⁵

Angels were made for particular services to God and man. In this case, Gabriel was a messenger who was probably not much of a match for the prince of Persia, given the character of Persia as a warring and conquering nation. The prince of Persia might well have been one of the mighty seraphs. I do not know that for sure, but he might have been. That is a category of angels who are made for war. Now, the chief over these angels, over all the categories of angels, is an archangel. Angels are configured according to their categories of service: there are messenger angels, there are warring angels, there are angels for prayer and praise. The angel over that entire category has an overarch of rule, so he is called an archangel—an angel whose authority overarches into that entire region. So in the category, that angel is the highest angel in that category.

When you have a mighty prince like the prince of Persia, whose character we know from the manner in which the people who live under his rule behave (that is how you know the character of the angel), he was obviously someone who very likely at some point was under the rule of Michael. So, God dispatched his

⁵ See Daniel 12:1: “At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book.”

former boss to put him in line. When Michael came, there was no need for a coterie of angels to come with Michael. In a one-to-one combat between any angel, any warring angel and Michael, Michael will always emerge triumphant. So Michael knocked down the prince of Persia—deposed him, thoroughly deposed him. He did not just have a fist fight with him or a sword fight with him; he deposed him from his position of authority, never to arise again. In other words, when Michael does what Michael does, nobody walks away but Michael. When Gabriel told the story to Daniel, Gabriel said, “I was held up in my coming to bring you this message. None came to my aid but Michael.” Meaning, “I did not need any other help but Michael.” When Michael was done, he knocked down the prince of Persia. He deposed him, stripped him of his authority. And Gabriel said, “When I return, I will have to contend with a new authority that has arisen where the old authority used to be.” So he said, “When I return, the prince of Greece will come.” When the Empire of Persia fell, it was the Greeks who arose after that. The famous battle at Thermopylae saw, by and large, the beginning of the end of the Persian hegemony.

What is my point? We could go on and on talking about the categories of angels, and how they fight, and the methodologies, and weaponry, and all of that, because it is all there in the Scriptures. We just do not look at it. We are always looking for doctrine to do this or that, and not even seeing the order of things that exists in the Scriptures. But again, though I am tempted to go in that direction, I absolutely restrain myself. What is my point? My point is that the angels whom God charges, tells to go and help us, are perfectly competent to accomplish whatever restraint or whatever action we decree against these angels who, fallen, have found places to occupy the souls of people through deception. One of the ways God remedies the situation is by sending angels who respond to our judgments.

Now, I will get into that in much greater detail in the next broadcast, but I want to wrap up this portion by going further and talking about once you have seated yourself in Christ: “I am a son of God. I am making these declarations of forgiveness to take back my place as a son of God and my benefits as a son of God.” Once you do that, you have seated yourself again in Christ. You have submitted to Christ. You reminded all of the authorities that be, from the throne of God to mankind, in order of the realms, then you proceed to forgive each person their trespasses against you. Because, the way the demonic works is by authority. God never gave to the enemy any authority to function upon the earth. The only authority he has is what those who have been given authority, namely humankind, what authority they have that they concede to him.

Now, no human will intentionally concede his authority to Satan, or to the configuration of the demonic kingdom, so how does Satan principally get this authority? Well, it is simple: he gets it by deception. He is a liar and the father of lies from the beginning.⁶ In the beginning in the Garden of Eden, we saw him work his lies, lying deceitful statements that lured Eve and Adam off of their place of sonship and rule. Because God had given dominion to both Adam and Eve. He told them, not just man, but man and woman, He told them to have dominion.⁷ So Satan deceived the woman first by the manner in which he engaged the authority, but the man, who could have redeemed the situation, did not. He acquiesced. That is how Satan gained initial authority amongst mankind in creation.

I use language very specifically. Did you notice how I said that? He gained authority amongst mankind in creation; I never said he gained authority over creation. Because man did not have the right to give authority over creation to the enemy. Man was given the authority to rule creation as God's vassal or viceroy, but God has retained control over creation. That was no more evident than when Jesus calmed the storm on the Sea of Galilee. If Satan had authority over creation, he would not allow Jesus to calm the storm. God never gave authority over creation to the enemy, and Satan has no authority over creation. Satan has authority over man, who has authority over creation, but he must appeal to God in order to be able to use any aspect of creation for his purpose. I cannot think of the time when God allows the created world to ever fall subject to the jurisdiction of Satan.

So you go through the process of forgiving those who have trespassed against you. I will go through that process in the next broadcast. Typically, you begin with the generations that have oppressed. You may need to forgive grandparents. We dealt with a person some time ago who knew that eight generations ago, that that father owned slaves. There was a necessity to forgive the generations, eight generations ago, in order to break up the authority of the enemy in the present day, in the present time. So I will talk a little bit more about forgiving those who have trespassed against you, because it is in forgiveness—one of two

⁶ See John 8:44: "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it."

⁷ See Genesis 1:28: "Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'"

conditions: 1) first in forgiveness, 2) the other in your own repentance, but will come to both in the next broadcast—but it is in forgiveness that you actually destroy the work of Satan by way of claiming authority over you.

We will proceed with the next session, and we will proceed right from that point to discuss forgiveness.