

RUSSELL SANDERS

4-16-2020

THE STRONGHOLD: PART 2 OF 2

How do we tear down the stronghold in one's life? Since these strongholds, these life-controlling behaviors, have a demonic entity behind it, we therefore must deal with it on a spiritual plane in order to be fully and truly free. Such a demon may be spoken of as "a strongman." Jesus addressed this with his disciples.

Jesus had just cast a blind and dumb demon from a man (Matthew 12:22-29) when the Pharisees accused Him of doing it with the devil's power. Jesus asserted that He did it by the (Holy) Spirit of God. His teaching point was this: (v. 29) ***"How can one enter into a strong man's house (the person's body, the soul's habitat) and spoil his goods (defeat him), except he first bind the strongman? And then shall he spoil his goods (cast him out)."***

Jesus has given us the keys to the kingdom of heaven. (Matt 16:19) In Matthew 18:18 as Jesus was teaching His disciples, He told them, ***"Whatsoever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven"***

Your house, the temple of the Holy Spirit, is your body. A demon "strong man" afflicting you will consider your body to be "his" house. Following Jesus' example in Matthew 12 (above paragraph), you must bind the spirit in the name of Jesus, and loose him from the person. This is key to breaking down a stronghold.

However, on the positive side, we have a stronghold on our side which no demon can challenge. It is the Lord, Himself. (Psalm 18:2 (NKJV) says, ***"The LORD is my rock and my fortress (a stronghold) and my deliverer; my God, my strength...my shield...my salvation, my stronghold."*** Yes, Jesus is the "strongman" within us. When we call on His name, and on His blood, no evil strongman can have a hold on us. God is our strong tower (Ps. 18:18) and Satan cannot prevail against him. Through Jesus, we have authority to access all of His power.

When we understand and know this, and in faith believing, we can live in victory over every circumstance.

Praise be to the Lord God Almighty. Praise be to Jesus, Emmanuel (God with us and in us)!