

Sermon, full transcript:
Enemies Already Defeated?
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1 John chapter 3. (Page 253 in the AOB paperbacks.)

There are a lot of Christians and pastors, websites and videos that declare that Jesus has already defeated the enemy, all enemies.

"All of our enemies are already defeated eternally. It is finished."

Therefore, they claim that in every battle, in every situation, all you have to do is to claim the victory that Jesus has already accomplished.

"Just claim that victory and walk in it."

The claim is that you don't need to fight. Just only claim the victory that Jesus has already accomplished.

That's all. That's all.

The same claim is that Satan has absolutely no power because he's already defeated.

The same claim, the same doctrine, the same teachers, is that Jesus has also removed our sinful nature,

that we no longer have a sinful nature, because sin and death and Satan are all already eternally defeated.

Can you believe this bull crap?!

This is actually being taught by pastors, so-called, and Christians.

Christians are falling for this crap.

Satan's already defeated, and we no longer have a sinful nature, and death itself is already defeated.

What?

Well, in that case, we must just be dreaming whenever anybody dies.

We must just be dreaming, huh?

This is not reality. We're just living in a video game.

"There's no death. Death is already defeated"

I've already given away the way I look at this, huh?

I'm sorry I couldn't help myself.

It's just such bull crap that I couldn't help myself.

Let's look at some of the verses that they try to use to try to claim this,

that we already know, if we have any common sense at all,

because it's really just the church listening to us, truth seekers,

people that want the truth, people with a little bit of common sense.

I mean, it doesn't take much common sense to see through that bull crap,

but nevertheless, it is a very popular doctrine, lots of videos,

lots of websites are preaching this.

Let's look at and examine the verses that they use to teach this doctrine.

1 John 3 verse 8. Verse 8 says,

"The one who practices sin is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The son of Theos appeared for this purpose to destroy the works of the devil."

So what they say & claim is: "Jesus did destroy all the works of the devil. So Satan has no power."

You have to be very childish to believe this, to be honest with you.

You have to be very, very, very childish to take that verse and say that Satan has no power.

Look at the earth today, open your eyes, look around!

Look at your family, look at religion itself, look at the churches.

Look at all the false doctrines. Look at all the evil in this world.

I know and I have said that a lot of the evil in this world is the people's fault, not necessarily all of it Satan's fault, the people themselves share in responsibility for the evil that they commit.

We can't blame everything on the devil.

But nevertheless, you can look at the world. Open your eyes and see evil.

George Soros, Biden, Putin, the president of China, Assad, the Antichrist, what the Bible says about the Antichrist, how he comes in the works of Satan.

Many end time prophecies in the Bible,

end time satanic miracles, satanic wonders and satanic beings upon the earth in the end time.

So how can we say that "Satan is already 100% defeated and Satan has no power and all you have to do is walk in the victory of Christ and that's it?"

You have to be a little child to believe it.

They use this verse, what they're doing is twisting this verse and using no common sense at all.

Amen.

(Jared: "It sounds like something someone would say who would never been in a fight in their life.

Believe you won and you've won.")

We know that the coming of Jesus into the world as the messiah, as the Savior to die for our sins, was a huge step!

He came into the world to defeat the works of the devil. It does say this.

And so when he came into the world, that was a huge major step toward the ultimate defeat.

But the battles are still raging.

The battles continue and continue and continue and continue.

Think about after the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ,

after that huge event, we still had the imprisonment of Paul, all the persecution that Paul had to endure.

And think about that, what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 9, page 184, 1 Corinthians 9, verse 26. Paul said, "therefore I run in such a way as not without aim, a boxer in such a way as not beating the air."

So obviously, he talked about spiritual warfare.

That he himself had to fight.

He did not say "all I have to do is stand in the victories, claim the victories of Christ Jesus. I don't have to fight."

He didn't say that. He spoke that he needed to fight well spiritually.

He needed to fight well, not as one just beating the thin air.

He needed to fight deliberately, efficiently, in efficient, correct, strong techniques.

Amen. He had to fight!

Paul was even imprisoned for his faith in Christ and for his preaching.

Great persecution, and we're promised the same type of suffering.

The Bible promises us suffering!

The Bible does not promise us an easy life or an easy road immediately, just as soon as we get saved.

"The rest of your life, all you have to do is no longer fight, no longer battle, no longer spiritual warfare."

That's nonsense! We are promised suffering. Amen.

We can look at another verse that they use. It's Colossians 2, verse 15.

"When he had disarmed the rulers and authorities, he made a public display of them having triumphed over them through him."

In other words, it says that Jesus had victory on the cross, defeated the enemies, disarmed the rulers and authorities,

and made a public display of them having triumphed, having received victory over them through him, through the crucifixion.

So they use that verse.

Of course, they are very much taken out of context.

Let's look at the context.

The previous verse, verse 14, "having canceled out the certificate of debt, consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us.

And he has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross, having disarmed the rulers and authorities."

So what kind of decree against us, what kind of certificate of debt did he nail to the cross and take it out of the way?

Your traditional "Christian, your traditional "pastor" says that this is all the law.

"The commandments, the Sabbath, and all law is done away with, all law is nailed to the cross."

It doesn't use the word law there, does it?

Verse 15, the phrase "rulers and authorities" is part of the hint of what He nailed to the cross.

The rulers and the authorities are the ones that were hostile to us.

The rulers and authorities are the ones that proclaim the decree, the judgment against us. In other words, he's saying, Paul here, writing to the church of the Colossian people, he's saying that at the cross, Jesus defeated the very people, the very government officials and religious people that crucified him.

He's saying that he defeated the judges, the pharaohs, the people in charge.

Somebody give me an amen!

Those are the ones that he defeated, the rulers, the authorities.

Not really Satan himself, because it wasn't really Satan's plan to kill Jesus, but it was God's plan.

Jesus came to fulfill a mission to accomplish the plan that he himself set into motion. Amen. But he defeated those people that were against him.

He didn't nail the Sabbath on the cross. It says nothing about the Sabbath being nailed to the cross,

but rather verse 16 proves that it wasn't the Sabbath and the new moons and the fiestas that was nailed to the cross.

It proves that those were not nailed to the cross when he tells us in verse 16, when Paul, the new covenant preacher, tells us to not allow anyone, do not allow, let no one condemn you

in regard to meat or alcohol or respect to the fiestas or the new moon or Sabbath day.

Do not let them condemn you for keeping the Sabbath.

That is exactly what he's saying here in plain language, easy language, easy to understand.

And yet they use that all the time to say he nailed the Sabbath to the cross.

And it tells you right there, it tells you in very simple language as easy as can understand that we are not to allow the Pharisees, the rulers, the religious leaders and the judges of this world

to condemn us and judge us for keeping God's law. Amen.

He defeated those same people who were promoting sunset to sunset and were promoting the Aramaic language and the Aramaic Bibles.

This is the reality of history.

We can look at history where there's evidence, very clear evidence that Jesus and his disciples

and the Jews of northern Israel in the land that Jesus and his disciples were from, they observed sunrise to sunrise and promoted the Greek Bibles.

Whereas the Pharisees and the southern Jews, they promoted the Aramaic Bibles, the Aramaic language and was very much against the Greek language and promoted sunset to sunset

because sunset to sunset and the Aramaic bible goes hand in hand

because both the Aramaic Bible and sunset to sunset were both Islamic in nature.

People try to say, but Islam didn't exist yet. But that's a lie. That's a lie!

Islam absolutely, absolutely existed during the time of Jesus and for even thousands of years before that.

Moon worshipers, the Chaldeans, the Babylonian people, they were Muslims, clear as you can see.

Moon worshipers, sun worshipers, planet worshipers, worshipping the stars and the constellations,

that's exactly what Islam is. It was just by a different name. That's all.

So you see how they're taking verses out of context to try to prove away the Sabbath.

And now we also see them twisting verses to try to say that the devil has no power and all we have to do is to walk in the victory of Christ and just verbally say,

"I claim it, I claim it, I claim it." And that's all you got to do.

Well, in that case, then you would never have to fast and not need to keep the Sabbath, which means breaking the Ten Commandments, which Jesus spoke against breaking the Ten Commandments.

Jesus spoke against the teachers who spoke against keeping the commandments.

And if all sin is done away with, then why do anybody even need to get saved?

If the devil was already defeated and we no longer have a sinful nature,

which is what this same doctrine tries to claim, if we no longer have a sinful nature after we are saved

and we can never sin again, "it's impossible for us to sin again", because that's what they're claiming.

"Once you're saved, there is no such thing as sin."

Well, there's a lot of people that thought they were saved and committed murder.

And the Bible even says that they will kill us thinking that they did God a service, a favor!

The Bible says that, that they will even kill you thinking that they did God service!

These are religious authorities, rulers and government leaders that think they are righteous.

This is the Democrat Party. This is the Muslims.

This is the communist people who think they are "holier than thou."

They think they are righteous. They think they know God more than we do.

And they think they're doing God a favor when they martyr us.

Very clearly, they still have a sinful nature and the devil still works and the devil still has power.

Very clearly! Amen! But I can also think of truly saved people, even myself, who still commit sin.

Amen. I think every one of us, everybody listening, even if you have been baptized and keep the Sabbath and the holy days, I believe that you could think of more than one sin you have committed since your salvation became manifested.

I believe so, if you was honest with yourself, sincerely.

Of course, we do strive for seek out perfection to get rid of all sin.

But it is a lifelong journey requiring the Great Tribulation to purify us.

Amen. So I'm going all over the place in my notes.
They're not going to be in order. But let's go to the book of Peter.

1 Peter 1:1 (Page 246) We're going to read nine verses here.

"Peter, Apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who reside as pilgrims, scattered throughout these towns of Pontus and Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, Bithynia, who are chosen."

First of all, the church is scattered. Amen. Even as it is today, the church is scattered. Right there shows you persecution in itself and hard times and trials and tribulations. Verse 2, "according to the foreknowledge of Theos the father by the sanctifying work of the Spirit.

To obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with his blood.

May grace and peace be yours to the fullest measure." Amen.

When he tells the church to obey Jesus the Christ, right there tells you that sin is still possible inside the church.

Amen. If sin was impossible inside the true church, and he is speaking to the true Christians, the true church, absolutely.

Amen. If sin was absolutely impossible because they no longer have a sin for nature and Satan's already defeated,

then he would not tell them obey Jesus because that wouldn't make no sense if sin was impossible. Amen.

The entire Bible disproves this theology that I'm talking about. The entire Bible proves that theology wrong.

The entire Bible. You don't have to know much of the Bible to know that it's an insane teaching. Amen.

Verse 3, "blessed be the Theos and father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

I also want to mention right here that in the latest PDF copy of the AOB Bible, I've changed every place where it says Jesus Christ.

I've changed it to say Jesus the Christ. Okay.

And I'm going to be updating the paperbacks later this month as well.

And it's going to have that correction because there are some people out there that think that Christ is the surname, the last name of Jesus.

They think it's part of his name like Jesus Carpenter, Jesus Smith. That's just not correct. It's not correct. Amen.

Christ is not part of his name. Christ means Messiah, is the title, not a name.

So it's more appropriate to say Jesus the Messiah, Jesus the Christ.

So that's over a hundred places in the Bible.

So you don't have to change it every time you see it. You don't have to write in the word the every time you see it.

But it's something you need to remember until you get your brand new paperbacks eventually.

And I don't know when I would ever be able to. But God does work miracles.

But I don't know when I would ever be able to order and replace everybody's copies.

OK, I just don't know. God will make a way eventually.

Until then, I will try to tell you about these changes, these edits, these perfections to how we're perfecting it.

And I would encourage you to download the new PDF copy once a month at least, even if I don't mention it.

Maybe on the first day of every month or maybe every new moon or something like that.

I would encourage you to download a fresh copy of the PDF at least once every month, because I'm constantly editing on a constant basis.

Even if I don't mention it, there's always perfections editing going on.

And I want you to read your Bible in the paperback more than the PDF.

But the PDF is something you can look at whenever you're studying a particular verse or coming across a particular verse that doesn't make sense to you or the wording doesn't make sense to you

or something about a particular verse that you need to examine.

Then it would be useful at that time to go to the PDF, the most recent updated PDF, and see if I have reworded it or changed the words to make it more easy to understand or not.

Maybe I added a note there or maybe I added a cross reference there, because we're already all the time adding more cross references and notes and perfecting the notes, as well as perfecting the words and the arrangement of the words to make it easier to understand.

So, "Jesus the Christ", and it says, "who according to his great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you who are protected by the power of Theos through faith for salvation ready to be revealed or manifested rather in the last time or in the end days. In this you greatly rejoice even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,

so that the proof of your faith being more valuable, it should say, more valuable than gold, which is perishable, even though tested by fire may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the appearing of Jesus the Christ.

And though you have not seen him, you love him and though you do not see him now, but believe in him, you greatly rejoice with joy, inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls." Amen.

So what Peter is saying is even though we are already born again to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, if we have claimed that crucifixion and resurrection through baptism and walk in it,

we still, even then, even after we obtain the true salvation, continue the fights and the battles of life. Amen.

We are not promised an easy road. We still have trials and tribulations.

And the trials and tribulations that we're about to experience sometime in the future, the Great Tribulation, is more precious than gold.

We should not want to escape, be taken up into the area, into Heaven. We should not want to go to Heaven before the Great Tribulation because we need the trials and the sufferings of this life

and an even much harder life, even much harder trials and tests and tribulations. We need it in order to purify it, in order to burn the sin out of us, in order to get rid of that sinful nature.

It is not automatic at baptism. It is a constant struggle. It is a constant fight. It is a constant war.

You could even read Romans chapter 7, where Paul is beating himself up, struggling with sin.

Absolutely, Paul had a major problem with sin. Romans 7, read it! He had a major problem with sin!

We don't know, specifically, what his sins were, but he struggled with it and beat himself up, striving for perfection. It's very clear in Romans 7. Amen.

And he did not say that he did not have to fight because Jesus already fought. He did not say that. Amen.

Because Paul absolutely had to fight the good fight. And Peter tells us that our trials and sufferings are glorious, that they are more valuable than gold.

And so even Peter does not say, "don't worry, don't worry because Jesus has already fought the fight, therefore, you're not going to have to suffer and you're not going to have to fight and you're not going to have to obey."

No, Peter didn't say any of that crap! Amen.

So again, the Bible is packed full of proof against the "feel good" doctrine that claims that our enemies are already eternally 100% defeated, therefore, you don't have to fight, you don't have to do nothing, just claim the promises, just walk in the victory.

We can also look at 2 Corinthians 12, Page 199.

This is another verse that they twist out of context constantly. It's ridiculous.

2 Corinthians 12 and starting in verse 7.

"Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to me, to keep me from exalting myself,

so that I would not be proudful, that was given to me a thorn in the flesh,

a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from over-exalting myself."

Verse 8, "concerning this, I implored (asked) the Lord 3 times or (requested the Lord three times) that it might leave me,

that thorn in the flesh would be removed from me.

And He said to me, my grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in infirmities."

The word infirmities means physical sickness, infirmity.

Power is perfected in infirmity.

That's quite a statement!

That is the same thing as saying that your trials are more precious than gold, more valuable than gold.

That our sicknesses, our diseases and our pains and our aches and even death itself, perfects humanity.

It is shaping us into the masterpiece that God is creating in mankind.

Amen? Amen, Christ Jesus!

So instead of saying to Paul, "okay, you have asked for healing, I grant you healing."

Instead of saying that, Jesus says, "my grace is enough for you, for power is perfected in your sickness.

I'm not going to heal you even though you asked me to."

And they twist this verse constantly to say that if you're in sin, "that grace is sufficient for you.

That you don't have to defeat the sin because Jesus already defeated the sin.

And all you have to do is walk in His victory and that Jesus don't even have to remove the sin from you

because He already took it away from you 2,000 years ago and you have no sin.

There is no such thing as sin."

This is what they are teaching on a ton of videos on YouTube, Sunday churches feel good, prosperity, tickle the ear, childish, baby, gullible churches and so-called Christians.

It's ridiculous! Amen.

There's nothing about sin here. It's physical sickness. Amen.

Paul was not asking in this particular verse for deliverance from sin.

He was asking for healing. It's very clear.

I've never heard a sin called an infirmity. An infirmity is physical sickness.

And he says in the rest, the other part of verse 9, Paul says "most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my infirmities."

He doesn't say "I will boast about my sin."

That would be crazy!

If it meant sin, he would be crazy by saying I boast in my sin.

He's not saying that.

He's saying I boast in my sickness so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

In other words, his sickness is drawing him closer to Christ.

Sin does not draw you closer to Christ!

But physical sickness can draw you closer to Christ because you're fasting more or else you are crying out to God more or you're praying more or you're having to work harder to stay in the Spirit.

Amen.

When you have a lot of problems, you might have to work harder to stay in the spirit of rejoicement.

When you have sickness and you have death and you have pain and you have misery and you have mockings and you have persecutions, you will have to work harder to stay rejoiceful in the presence of Christ.

There is something you have to do.

There is work that you have to do.

There is spiritual battle that you must fight.

We should not give up and just say I can be a couch potato Christian because Christ has already done everything for me.

He waved the magic wand on the cross and I no longer have to fight and I never will have to fight.

That's bull crap.

That's the way you end up spiritually dead.

If you don't fight, you will end up spiritually dead.

Amen.

When the times get rough, what's that old saying?

When the times get tough, the tough get going!

So it's very easy to see how they're twisting this.

Let's go over to 1 Corinthians 15, This is called the resurrection chapter,

Let's go directly to verse 54, page 191, 1 Corinthians 15, verse 54.

"But when this perishable, perishable person will put on the imperishable and this mortal will put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory, oh, death, where is your victory, oh, death, where is your sting?

The sting of death is sin and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to Theos who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

So they take this verse and try to claim that death is defeated at the cross.

The major problem with that, the context is not the cross.

The timing is not the crucifixion of Jesus.

The timing and the context of this entire chapter is the first resurrection. Amen.

It's called the resurrection chapter for a reason.

It's talking about, not the resurrection of Christ, but our resurrection, the resurrection, the first resurrection is the context.

It's saying here in verses 53 and 54 that it is our bodies that will be resurrected.

It's not talking about the resurrection of Christ.

It's not talking about the crucifixion of Christ.

So to say that this is talking about that Jesus defeated death on the cross for you, for everybody, which he did if we get saved through the crucifixion and resurrection.

Yes, but that's not what it's really talking about at all.

It's really talking about that this physical body must be raised from the dead and that when we are raised from the death, that in itself will be a victory over death.

And especially when it comes to after the second resurrection and after the hundred years after that, how there will be paradise and no more death.

And once there is no more death, then death is swallowed up.

So not only is it talking about the first resurrection of our victory over death coming alive again at the first resurrection, but also ultimately that

in paradise, there will no longer be any death.
And then death will be swallowed up.
This is what it's really talking about.
So they're really, really, really, really taking this out of context.

And verse 57, victory, that we have the victory and that death does not have the victory.

But again, they're taking it out of context.

This is in no way, in no way at all is this saying that death is already defeated.

Yes, Christ did defeat his own death on the cross.

And yes, the crucifixion and resurrection gives us eternal life inside of us if we hold on to it and claim it and use it and obey Christ and walk in Christ.

But we could also lose it.

We could lose our salvation because even Peter said in 2 Peter 2, verse 22, there's all twos there, so that's easy to remember, 2 Peter 2, 22, that we're not to be like dogs returning to the vomit.

In other words, we can go back to our old life, our old life, old religion, false doctrines.

We could go back to the false churches, the false way of thinking, and to sinful lifestyles, a habitual sinful life, much more sin that we used to live in.

We could go back to that.

We could lose that life.

We can lose that eternal life.

So we do need to fight for the purpose of maintaining eternal life.

Maintaining eternal life must be fought for.

You have to fight for it every day, every day, saying no to temptation, saying no to false doctrine, saying no to YouTube, which is the biggest false prophet in the world is YouTube.

I know YouTube has a lot of good things, some good videos.

I've got videos on YouTube myself.

I like going there to watch some of the old television shows from the 1950s and stuff like that and a few other shows on there and documentaries.

But YouTube is not the place to go to do research, to learn the Bible, to hear from God.

And yet people are using YouTube as their number one church, their number one source of information, their number one source for so-called learning and so-called learning and so-called growing in Christ, to know what the truth is, all that, instead of studying the Bible, instead of studying the Greek words and the Hebrew words, instead of studying the Aramaic words, instead of looking at Strong's Concordance, instead of fasting, instead of praying, instead of crying out to God, instead of getting down on their knees, they go to YouTube.

And that's a huge problem!

YouTube is one of the top sources of false doctrine, a top source of false doctrine.

People are so addicted to audio video, it's ridiculous.

We could also look in the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah chapter 53, verse 5, page 40.

"And he was wounded on account of our sins and was bruised because of our iniquities.

The chastisement of our peace was upon him, and by his wounds we were made whole."

Or some versions say we are healed.

By his stripes we are healed.

A lot of versions, a lot of translations says by his stripes we are healed.

So, of course, you've heard it.

A lot of preachers, a lot of websites, a lot of videos, a lot of YouTube, a lot of people that think they are Christian will say that when you get sick, when you get cancer, when you have any sickness, all you've got to do is claim the victory of the cross.

"All you have to do is say by his stripes I am healed and you will 100% guaranteed be healed."

And yet I have known myself, my wife, other people that have tried to walk in faith and claim the promises and walk in the verses and claim those promises and we were not healed, but rather we eventually had to say yes to the doctors and yes to the medicines even though we didn't want to, but we had to. Paul was in that same situation where he surely did claim the promises, use the Bible verses, cry out to God and ask God repeatedly heal me and Jesus said no.

It is not 100% guaranteed.

It is not.

Miracles do happen.

God does heal people.

God has healed me multiple times in the past of different things.

God has healed my wife of multiple things in the past and other people.

I've seen great miracles, multitudes of great physical healing miracles.

They do happen, but it is not 100% guaranteed for every person in every situation.

It is not.

It wasn't for that Paul, for Paul in 2 Corinthians 12.

It was not 100% guaranteed for Paul and he was a true man of God.

Amen.

And we could also apply this for protection as well.

Even Peter said we read it a while ago and Peter that we're protected by God and yet Peter was crucified upside down, is what the legend says, is what the rumor is, is that he was crucified upside down and all the other disciples were either crucified or beheaded or somehow martyred.

They were thrown in prison.

They suffered greatly.

Were they protected by God?

So yes, we can read verses that talk about promises of healing and promises of protection, but the thing is these verses are talking about in general, in general, in general, we are protected every day from getting run over when we're walking on the side of the road, when we're riding the bicycle, when we're driving in our cars, we are protected every day that we live, every day that we live, every day that we rise from the dead in the morning, we are given life.

Amen.

In general, God is protecting us if we are serving him, but that's not a promise that we would never die.

The Bible does talk about many true saints that will be beheaded in the Great Tribulation.

And think about all the others in Hebrews 11, the faith chapter.

Hebrews 11 is filled with dead people that served God faithfully and very well all the way to the death.

Even the two witnesses will die.

Amen.

Even the two witnesses will die.

And their entire three and a half years of their ministry is going to be nothing but battle, fighting, fighting, fighting, fighting, fighting, fighting.

Amen.

And instead of the two witnesses standing there saying, "I claim the promises of God", what they're going to have to do is verbally, verbally kill people with the power of their mouth, with the power of the Holy Ghost coming out of their

mouth with words of death and cursings against their enemies, according to what the Bible says.

Amen.

So they're not going to stand there and say, "my enemy was already defeated 2,000 years ago on the cross", but rather they're going to stand there and say, "I curse you to death" and people will immediately fall to death.

That's fighting. That is war.

That's spiritual warfare.

Of course, they're going to pray a lot, of course, but people got to understand, you got to get off your knees and put your prayers to action and fulfill your prayers and do what you're praying about.

And God will empower it, be behind it and in front of it.

God will be in it.

But you have to fight and not just only on your knees alone.

You have to fight in other ways as well.

You have to fight by voting, by protesting, by petitioning.

You have to fight even within your finances about what companies you

support, what stores you shop at, what things you buy, what brands you boycott, what websites you boycott, what preachers you boycott.

There's a lot of ways that you fight more than just praying.

Lots of ways that you must continue the fight and not just only claim the promises.

There's a place and a time to claim the promises.

I do claim the promises and I always seek divine healing in every situation for myself and for others.

But I also do not live in a cartoon, a fairy tale.

And I know the reality that God will not always heal us, but sometimes rather He will allow us some continued suffering, some continued sickness in order that we may be humble.

Even as Paul, he said that he was given so much knowledge by God, all those revelations, all those mysteries of the Lord that he had been given, that if it hadn't been for his sickness, he would have too much pride.

That is exactly what Paul said in different words.

He needed for God to not heal him.

He needed for God to not heal him even though he did ask for the healing, but the healing is not what he needed.

God knew better.

God knew what Paul needed and Paul eventually confessed that the healing was not what he needed even though he had sought it.

What he needed was to keep the sickness so that he may continue to draw closer to God and be humble and not overly full of pride.

Many times we ask for things thinking that we have to have that, while actually we don't have to have it.

We plead for God, we pray for it for months and months and months thinking this is absolutely what I must have and then God says,

"No, you don't need that. You don't need that."

God is good enough, loving enough and wise enough that He does not give us what we ask for when it would actually not be the right thing for us.

Just like when we were searching for a place to live and not only live but to work and to run the ministry, for multi-purpose.

We went to house after house after house and application after application, praying and praying and praying.

We asked "Lord, please give us this particular house and that particular house and that particular house."

Sometimes it looked very hopeful.

Sometimes it looked like we was going to get a particular house and then the next house and then the next house.

But God said, "No, I got something better for you."

Amen.

And He eventually gave us a house that we did not even apply for!

We did not even ask for.

We didn't even know that it would be available.

I just got a call out of the blue saying, "hey, I got a house available for you."

It came to us!

It came to us in God's perfect timing to where we moved in exact timing to where we would have to spend 11 months of repairing everything all throughout the house and eventually get to the sanctuary ceiling and the sanctuary roof and getting up there where I had tremendous fear of heights and absolutely no experience of repairing roofs.

And we demolished that roof and tore it to pieces and tore it out all the way from one end to the other end on that one side of the roof and with absolutely no roofing experience and tore it out all the way down on that one side and got it done and accomplished!

I didn't stand there and say, "well, all I got to do is pray and all I got to do is claim the promises and I don't have to work."

But rather I had to get up there and defeat fear myself.

I didn't say "God's already defeated fear on the cross 2000 years ago", but rather I knew it's something I had to do, that I had to be a man, that I had to grow some courage, that I had to do what I needed to do, that I had to fight the good fight and God helped me in it and God was in it.

God helped us with it.

And God answered our prayers because we got up off our knees and did something about it and He gave us the strength and He gave me the mental strength and the emotional strength to get through it and I did extremely well with it and it was a miracle.

It was a miracle.

It was a miracle that God did not send the professional roofer to do it.

He said, "get up and do it yourself and I will give you the strength."

Amen.

And that's exactly what He's telling us in many different areas of our life, in many different areas of warfare is, "Okay, I've heard your prayers and you sound like a broken record.

Now get up off your knees and do exactly what you just asked me to do. Do it yourself. Be a man. Be a mature adult. Grow up.

You're living in a cartoon, do it yourself and I will give you the strength to do it and it will be a miracle and it will be an answered prayer but not the way you want it because the way you want it is too easy. You want me to just wave the magic wand.

I'm not a genie. You get up and do it. I'll give you the strength to do it and it will be a miracle."

Amen.

That's what God is saying to us about a lot of things.

Praise God.

And our brother in Jamaica testifies that he has seen people on MeWe with that silly belief that all the work has been done so we are sinless.

He has seen this.

It's crazy.

It's actually very common.

It's very common in Africa but also America and across the world.

December the 19th will be the first day of Hanukkah.

December the 19th through the 26th.

December 19th all the way through December the 26th.

So it's eight days of Hanukkah, eight nights of Hanukkah.

God is so wonderful that he gives us multiple celebrations, holidays throughout the year.

Amen.

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