

AGGRESSIVE PEACE THROUGH PRAYER

Dave Roberson

Over the last few years, at different times, you have possibly heard me talk about entering into a powerful, peaceful place with God that was so different from anything I had ever walked in before, that I could only label it as PEACE, the AGRESSIVE weapon of God.

Like nothing I had ever walked in before, this peace has made me virtually unmanageable by the devil. I wish I could make everyone understand how to enter in ... how to walk in it.

But lately, this peace has opened up a whole new channel to God that is every bit as wonderful and exciting as knowing you cannot be manipulated by the devil, or pressured, or deceived ... and that new channel seems to be a quiet place in God where I am able to hear things I have been asking God about for seventeen years.

As near as I can tell, God has been talking to me the whole time but I was unable to hear Him because the cares of this life would overpower that still quiet place that the Holy Spirit uses to communicate with us out of.

Lately, the Holy Spirit has been talking to me about, not only surviving against the onslaughts of the enemy, but overcoming, and I mean really overcoming everything that hell can throw at us and still be victorious.

Ever so often, maybe twice in every generation, especially since the turn of the century, there will be a move throughout the Body of Christ where teachers will rise up and teach almost exclusively on the war on the saints, or should T say the great conflict that exists between Satan, his powers and principalities, and the children of God.

A person cannot help but be interested, especially when we are all looking for answers as to why things are the way that they are and wanting to understand how to believe God in the middle of what appears to be one of the worst crises in modern history.

All eyes are on the Middle East Gulf Crisis as a new interest is kindled among believers who are wondering how all of this fits into Bible prophecy. And even more, how all of this will eventually effect our families, our jobs, and our future ...

I do not know anyone who can tell how close the end really is or how much of this generation will remain significantly unchanged by current events. But I do know this, it does not matter what happens or how bad things really get, if you will remember what the Word says about all of this, I can guarantee that you will come through it O.K.

Ephesians 6:12 says: *"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world ..."*

While I was in prayer, I got to thinking. There must be a place in the New Testament where an

all-out war against the saints was not only fought but recorded and left as a legacy so you and I could understand the tactics used to overcome the devil. I was shocked to find that an entire chapter was dedicated to describing, blow by blow, one of the most horrible attacks ever launched against the foundation of the early church and against a man.

Not only did this chapter outline the method of attack but it also outlined in grave detail the instructions God gave to the man against whom the attack was launched that not only caused him to overcome but to go on to do more for God, probably more than any other man who has ever lived outside of Jesus Christ.

Van and Angina, I do not think you will have any trouble agreeing with me that, if ever a man was worthy of being stopped by the devil, it was the APOSTLE PAUL.

Hell had to have thrown everything they had at Paul. He was on the front line preaching the Gospel where it had never been preached before ... a chosen vessel of God, ordained to establish the canon of the scripture. Many of the epistles recorded in the New Testament were written by him and will be used by God accordingly to judge our walk.

And, as much as we are hearing these days on spiritual warfare, it is good to know that we can get instructions from the Word of God on just exactly what God told Paul that caused him, not only to be sustained but, to win under every circumstance, unconditionally.

Living in an age when accessibility to knowledge is greater than any generation has ever seen, you would think that, as modern day believers and having Greek, Hebrew, and Arabic at our disposal, we would understand more about spiritual forces like GRACE and its position in spiritual warfare than we do.

But forces like LOVE, MERCY, and GRACE are more experienced than analyzed. God said something to the Apostle Paul about GRACE that turned out to be the turning point of his whole ministry because, from that day forward, when he engaged the devil, HE WON!

But the thing that amazed me most in II Corinthians, chapter 12, was that God had to tell a man of Paul's stature and revelation knowledge three different times, "*MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT.*" If He had to tell Paul three different times, then what is it about GRACE that we could possibly be missing that would help us to overcome when we are engaging or being engaged by the devil?

II Corinthians 12:7-10 says: "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the LORD THRICE, that it might depart from me. And He said unto me, MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

If there was ever a time that we need to understand the role GRACE plays in our testings and trials, it

is now. The Holy Spirit has been talking to me about an oncoming attack upon the Body of Christ that has already begun and is getting worse.

I suspect it is the beginning of the demonic attack against the saints that will come to its fullness during the reign of an Antichrist that rises up out of a one world system with ten horns (ten kings) which Daniel prophesies to be the fourth BEAST. Daniel 7:25 says that this king will wear out the saints of the most High.

"And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall WEAR OUT THE SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."

If you have been feeling pressure that appears to be slightly different than what you are accustomed to ... ungodly pressure against the mind that seems to destroy reasoning, a kind of pressure that makes a person fearful and unsure about their future, a hopeless feeling of insecurity as though one is losing contact with reality ...

This is the kind of attack that is being launched against the Body of Christ and is responsible for the devaluation of Christian morals, causing the breakdown of families and marriages ... ungodly pressure to reason away morals and sin, to give things like divorce and promiscuity an almost blessed standing in the Body of Christ.

God hates divorce but He loves the divorcee. He hates adultery but He loves the persons who are bound by it. He does not bless, advocate, or excuse sin. HE ONLY FORGIVES and that to the person seeking change, not promiscuous grace.

If ever a weapon was formed in the pits of hell, it is the drugs Satan uses to open the minds of our young people to demon possession and witchcraft. Because, like nothing hell has ever created before, drugs destroy initiative and create an emotional dependency, not so much on chemicals as we have been led to believe, but on a whole world of Satanic controlled lust and depravation. At first, while a person is being indoctrinated, drugs seem to take you to heaven BUT THEN THEY TAKE YOU TO HELL!

So, please believe me when I say, if there was ever a time we needed to understand how to stand and the role grace plays in our standing, it is now. In order for you to really understand how strong grace is and the role it plays in the middle of our warfare, you have to understand how bad the attack was on the Apostle Paul.

He said, "There has been given to me, a MESSENGER OF SATAN," evidently a messenger straight from the throne room of HELL to buffet him because of his abundance of revelation.

It must have been a PRINCE, sent from the right hand of Satan himself. This messenger had power. In fact, he was not of the same classification as second-rate, low-level expendable devils that operate as rulers of darkness of this world. The kind that possess people like prostitutes, murderers, etc., that cause church splits, strife, and fighting over things like the color of the carpet. There are also spirits

of infirmity that afflict people with so many of the diseases we see that put people in wheelchairs, cause deafness and things like cancer.

But a principality is a chief dominant prince that resides over a territory full of these low-level second-rate expendable devils that actually do his dirty work on a low level with humanity that actually requires direct contact.

Whenever a church, or a group of people, or just one single person, begins to do something that makes waves, like praying too much, or giving too much, then the principality that is over that territory will immediately disperse a group of lower-level, second rate expendable devils to pressure, harass, and torment until strife splits the church or the group becomes too emotionally stressed to pray together because of bad feelings.

Or an individual believer is put through such an emotional wringer that he finally decides it is easier just to sit in a pew and not make waves or go somewhere where they do not make waves. And both sides of most streets in most cities are dotted with churches full of people who have done just exactly that. But there have always been people who could not be stopped at the level of those demons of darkness and, they would eventually warrant a visit from a territorial PRINCE, the STRONG MAN.

This is what happened to the Apostle Paul. A principality was assigned to him straight from the throne room of hell. The attack that followed was as calculated and cold-blooded as could be expected from a Satanic, demonic creature that has probably hated God for more millenniums than you care to count.

So, if you want to see what the Grace of God brought Paul out of, then take a look at this. He was once stoned to death at the hands of an angry mob and God brought him back, not to mention the other things that were to follow in an all-out attempt to destroy his life and ministry.

II Corinthians 11:24-28 says: "Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day have I been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Besides those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches."

The difference between the messenger of Satan that was assigned to Paul and the low-level spirits of darkness of this present world is that the territorial prince evidently had the power to sink three ships out from underneath Paul and was undoubtedly the same class of being that caused the tempest that was sinking Jesus' ship when He said, "**PEACE BE STILL.**" and calmed the sea. Whereas the lower class devils mostly possess people, harass, torment, and cause diseases.

There is a strong move at the present time amongst believers to attempt to pull down strongholds over entire areas. They are driving up to the tops of mountains overlooking cities and, if there are no mountains, they go to the top of the tallest buildings, and some have even used helicopters ... and

from these high places, they are binding the devil. Whether they know it or not, the kind of entity they are yelling and screaming at is a territorial prince. But, don't worry, you will not have to find some high place to bind him from. If you ever really cause revival, HE WILL COME LOOKING FOR YOU! And, when he does, you had better understand the role that GRACE plays in standing on His Word.

What good is it going to do to run up to the mountain top to bind the STRONG MAN when we have churches full of people who have been afflicted by low-level spirits of infirmity that we can't even get free. We have wheelchair sections, deaf sections, etc., and every Sunday we wheel the same people out of the same door with the same condition they came in with, hurting and bound. Now I am not saying that all diseases are a direct result of the presence of evil spirits that cause infirmity ... but many are.

Can you imagine what could happen if suddenly God was able to open the windows of heaven concerning His miracle-working healing power and people who had been confined to wheelchairs suddenly got up and began to walk while, at the same time, eight totally deaf people began to hear? What do you suppose would happen?

I can tell you what would happen. When a pastor, a group of people, or a single believer begins to operate in a realm of authority that forces low-level spirits of infirmity to turn loose, then these people who used to be deaf or confined to wheelchairs will filter out into the community and drastically begin to affect everyone who knew them before their miracle. And, if it keeps up, it will not be long before revival is raging. People will come in from all over the country when God's power is really setting people free.

We really do not have to be concerned about binding the territorial strong man until we can first clear those low-level spirits of infirmity that fill our deaf and wheelchair sections. When we do, you will not have to go looking for the strong man, he will come looking for you because revival will follow.

Whether or not a person is under attack by these low-level spirits of infirmity that harass, torment, cause strife and division or, like the Apostle Paul, you have warranted an attack from a territorial prince who has the power to alter weather like he did when he sank three ships out from underneath Paul, always remember, the thing that God told Paul on three different occasions that would sustain him was ... "MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT."

It took me a while to understand this, but when I did, I had a Pentecostal shouting fit.

Paul said in II Corinthians 12:9: *"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."*

When God told Paul that His strength was made perfect in weakness, the kind of weakness that He was talking about was anything that stripped Paul of his dependency on the flesh and placed it on the Spirit. Because, when it comes to spiritual warfare, our fight is not with flesh and blood. God was trying to teach Paul how to trade his weakness for Christ's strength.

God taught Paul the most incredible thing. If he would glorify God, if he would worship and praise Him in the midst of perverse and backward circumstances ... that worship and praise would trade his miserable standing for Christ's standing and would activate the unmeritable, unearnable favor of God in his life which is "GRACE."

So the more he worshiped God, the more that the power of Christ rested upon him and the more he was delivered from and the more he did for God.

Van and Angina, I do not know what you are going through at this moment but I do know this ...

If you will place yourself in a closet of worship ... (church is not enough) and privately begin to worship God ... get on your knees or walk around and lift your arms toward Heaven and begin to worship Him and thank Him for His GRACE and thank Him that your name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life ...

You too will find that the power of Christ will rest upon you, sustain and deliver you.

Your friend and partner,
Dave Roberson