

Defining the Warfare against Relationships

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All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the King James Version. Italics for emphasis are ours.

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INTRODUCTION

The human mind is extremely complicated. Little is understood about the three compartments of the mind: the conscious, subconscious, and unconscious. The unconscious is vast, making up 90 percent of the mind. Largely undefined, the unconscious is open to Satan's entrapments. Often, Satan projects lies about the images in the unconscious mind to the subconscious, which represents 5 percent of the mind. The subconscious feeds the conscious mind—the remaining 5 percent.

Through the objectivity of the conscious mind, we can perceive truth. But when the conscious mind receives misinformation from the unconscious, it operates in confusion and indecision.*

Man, in his essence, in his being, has the unbelievable potential to live the rest of his life in the history of Adam. In Adam he has the potential to be very good. It is called human good, but

human goodness cannot save a man's soul.

Man also has the potential to be very bad. In the old sin nature, he enters into personal sins, iniquity, and evil. Personal sin involves wrong decisions, individual mistakes that he makes through self-gratification. Iniquity is emotional rebellion against authority. Evil is when a man participates in Satan's cosmic government, ultimately going against his church or pastor by conspiratorial, anti-biblical attacks aimed at destroying the work of God. Conspirators often claim to be acting in the name of God, as revealed in John 16:1-2. This is Adam's potential. And though Jesus shed His Blood to pay for the sins and iniquity of all mankind, He did not die for evil.

This booklet will show that it takes more than psychological evaluations to figure out who we are. It takes more than understanding the human psyche, the soul of a man. Adam needs to be crucified, and we need to have the mind of Christ so that we can live in who Christ has made us to be.

*For an expanded description of the subjective and objective functions of these compartments in the mind, read *Imaginations of the Heart*, by Pastor Carl H. Stevens, Grace Publications, 1998.

Chapter One

THE HISTORIES AT WORK IN US

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:12)

“Mine enemies chased me sore, like a bird, without cause. They have cut off my life in the dungeon, and cast a stone upon me” (Lamentations 3:52-53).

Few understand the supernatural reality of Satan being the god of this world.

In the complex process of projections, there are two demonic armies at work—Thereuo (Psalm 59:3, Ecclesiastes 9:12) and Krataios (Psalm 54:3). Thereuo’s job is to compile a record of a person’s weaknesses and strong points in Adam. After Krataios receives the information from Thereuo, Krataios works to reinforce this information in the unconscious mind, along with

the history of Adam.

This transfer is easy for the demonic armies to do because every one of us has so many points of reference and contact with the family history of Adam (what your uncle, your father, or your partner in business did to you). The demons use your failure and attempt to leave you bottled up in guilt. All of this activity is part of reinforcing the history of Adam in the mind.

Deep within, in the genetic code locked into every cell, two things are working against us: Adam's history and our own personal history derived from the old sin nature. Knowing this about us, Satan attempts to blind our minds to the truth of our new life in Christ—life that sets us free (see 2 Corinthians 4:4). When we are blinded and we end up living in the effects of the old sin nature, no secular counselor can make an honest evaluation of our condition. He can evaluate several things about us, but he cannot evaluate the whole person because all he is doing is coming up with a diagnosis of a history in Adam. While this goes on, Satan's demonic armies project lies to the subconscious mind, trying to get us to blame others so that the conscious mind will become polluted with confusion. No divine prognosis can be made.

Hell's Hypnosis

Satan's master plan is to hypnotize people, which the word "bewitched" suggests in Galatians 3:1, according to Greek scholars. Everyone has areas where Satan's hypnosis is at work. This causes us to misbehave at any given moment, hour, or day. We come out of it, because we do not live continually in the hypnotic forces of the supernatural. Still, because there is a war going on against us, if we do not consciously put on the whole armor of God, we will be more apt to become Satan's target.

One demonic army evaluates our outward weaknesses, and the other accesses and stimulates our internal weaknesses in the unconscious mind. This is about spiritual warfare, not human psychology, upon which so many people solely concentrate.

The real provision for the problems and needs of man is spiritual counsel from the Bible, not human counsel from the flesh. So many have learned the lessons of the flesh and the psyche. They have learned about psychological living but not spirituality.

Confusion and Dissonance

"For they that are after the flesh do mind the

things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

“Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

“So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his” (Romans 8:5-9).

Two more demonic armies enter the picture. They work to affect the “ganglionic process” in the central nervous system and create cognitive dissonance in the mind. The ganglionic process involves the chemical communication system for the nerve impulses that travel from the brain throughout the human body. Cognitive dissonance is mental confusion that involves a discrepancy between our beliefs and behavior. When our behavior doesn’t line up with what we believe, the result is dissonance—a disturbing lack of accord—and something has to give. Unless the Word of God and the Holy Spirit are in control, people tend to change their belief in

order to accommodate their behavior.

This is the work of the demon army known as Andres, which takes over after Krataios, by lying and trying to destroy us through its effect upon the unconscious mind. These demons want to throw the body's chemical process off balance so a person will have no solution except to take medicine for the rest of his life. Please understand: I am not against medication. Some people have deficiencies in their chemical make-up and they cannot function properly otherwise. But it is this demon army of Andres that targets the unconscious mind. Andres gives a false covering (Isaiah 30:1), not of the Spirit, and begins to control the auto-immune system in the spiritual realm. Following the work of Andres is Elo-ces, an army that affects the body with aches, pains, and physical problems under the law of psychosomatics. Yes, there are very real aches and pains that bother some people; however, demons are very often at work stimulating these reactions in some people.*

Divorce and Division

In Job 41:16, the Word of God teaches us that there is no air between the demons in Satan's armies. They have amazing unity as they work

together in supernatural oneness. Their efforts involve a process of causing internal disconnections in the compartments of the heart, the streams of consciousness, and the five parts of the soul. They attempt to divorce the Word of God from the new heart and have the unconscious mind replace control of the human spirit, which desires that we be God-conscious.

The demon armies are always trying to produce a constant process of divorces inside of a man. First, these armies try to divorce the conscience from the standards of grace and mercy. Next, they work to divorce self-consciousness from occupation with Christ. Then, they try to bring a divorce of the mind from precise doctrine. Finally, they wound the emotions in a plan to divorce the emotions from responding to the reality of God's love as it is placed in man's human spirit through the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.

Is it any wonder that marriages end in divorce? At least one party has already experienced a spiritual divorce within himself.

*For more about the demonic warfare, read *Dealing Precisely with Demons*, by Pastor Carl H. Stevens, Grace Publications, 1998.

Chapter Two

BUILDING THE RIGHT SYSTEM OF PERCEPTION

Satan's other target in a man is the central nervous system through the ganglionic process. His demonic armies work from the outside to gain connections to the nerve fibers that are components of the central nervous system. The person being attacked responds to Satan through feelings and experiences that are outside of the system of faith.

These responses involve empiricism and rationalization—two systems of perception that are rejected by God. Empiricism is to make observations by feelings, experiences, and senses; rationalization is to intellectualize through human wisdom without the Cross or divine truth from the Word of God.

Faith is the only system of perception revealed and accepted by God. It is to hear the Word of God, receive it, and keep it through the

Holy Spirit, using rebound when we fail.

Faith, Glory, and Strength

Romans 1:17 says “the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith.” In the Greek text of this verse are a pair of prepositions—*ek* (out of) and *eis* (into). Therefore, in the original language’s accusative case it reads, “out of faith, into faith....” This means that in day-to-day circumstances, we go from one realm of faith into a new realm of faith. We please God with each brand-new realm of faith in the midst of trials, adversity, and blessings.

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18).

The same Greek prepositions appear in the phrase “from glory to glory.” We go out of one realm of faith into another area of faith, and we also go out of one realm of glory into another realm of glory.

Glory speaks of reflecting God’s nature. Perhaps I have patience, but I need more kindness. In going from “glory to glory,” I grow from patience into kindness—another area of reflecting God’s glory. Tomorrow, I can go from kindness

into gentleness, which is another realm of His glory. Next, I may grow into meekness, another realm of God's glory.

"Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah.

"Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them.

"Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.

"They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God" (Psalm 84:4-7).

We also grow from strength to strength. We grow out of one area of strength for a situation into another area of strength. We are always growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ out of one area of faith and into faith, from glory to glory, and from strength to strength.

Cognitive Dysfunction

Christians who don't live in this process of growing in grace and knowledge are susceptible to cognitive dissonance. Cognition is the process of knowing or acquiring knowledge. Dissonance happens when we do not appropriate and apply the knowledge we have received. To know right and to do it not is sin (James 4:17).

How does this happen? Satan blinds the mind so that a person lives in partial ignorance with only measures of light as a Christian. Because he is ignorant of what is taking place, his point of reference is something in Adam's history.

Our own personal history in Adam involves people hurting us, iniquity, and governmental evil. Then we have the history in the genetic code that we got way back from Adam himself.

Through empiricism and rationalization—two systems of perception rejected by God—a counselor may figure out five things about you, smile at you, and make you happy. What has he done? He has gone into your limited personal history of Adam, but he has no knowledge of Adam's history in you. You don't do the things you do because of mom, dad, grandmother, and grandfather. You do what you do because Adam's history in you goes all the way back to the Fall (Mark 7:21-23).

God has declared that the whole head is sick and the whole heart is faint (Isaiah 1:5). Every person's heart is desperately wicked, so much so that it is impossible to know just how wicked it is (Jeremiah 17:9). We have to deal with Adam's history in us as well as our history in Adam through applying the Cross of Christ in our lives.

Chapter Threë

BEAUTIFUL GRACE MARRIES THE GREAT KING

According to the book of Ruth, in chapter one, Elimelech, whose Hebrew name meant “God Who is my King,” lived in Jerusalem, “the place of peace.” He married Naomi, whose name meant “pleasure.” God-Who-is-my-King married Pleasure. But when a famine came, Elimelech left Peace (Jerusalem) because of the trial of his faith.

The most beautiful thing to do in the midst of the trial of your faith is to continue in faith and be promoted. Satan hates to have a Christian depend upon God. The thing that pleases God is when we depend upon Him with all of our hearts. We are to trust God and lean not on our own understanding. When we acknowledge Him in all of our ways, then He will direct our paths (Proverbs 3:5-6). If I know that only faith pleases God (Hebrews 11:6), then in every area

of my life I must learn to please God by placing my faith in Him.

Satan deceived Eve so that she would not depend upon God, but instead would depend upon her own thinking, feelings, circumstances, and observations through her experience. This is the beginning of how we walk by sight and live in the lie of our Adamic history and Adam's history in us.

If I see a chair and I believe it will hold me up, that is not faith. It is only when I sit in that chair that I have faith in it.

Faith only comes by hearing, receiving, believing, asking, obeying, and praising God just because of who He says He is in His Word. Satan will always try to keep God's people from depending upon God completely.

The Human Spirit Emerges

The human spirit makes me God-conscious. Now my subconscious reflects whatever area of God's nature I need so that my conscious mind can interpret, receive, understand, and use it.

As the Word of God dwells richly in my unconscious mind, giving me all wisdom, then I begin to speak in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in my heart to-

ward God (Colossians 3:16). Every word and deed I do in the name of Jesus, I do it to the glory of the Father by Him. I do it with all my heart, unto God and not unto man (Colossians 3:23). Now, because I am fellowshiping with God, I can have real fellowship with others who are in Christ.

After we have been cleansed, the conscious mind is filled with objective truth from God's Word. Therefore, I can fellowship with others as objects of God's love because I fellowship with God subjectively, as His subject. Subjective love means that I am filled with all the fullness of God as a subject, and nothing anyone can do can make me love more or less. I can even have God's love for my enemy (see Matthew 5:38-48).*

Signals of Subjective Love

The principle of subjective love cannot be emphasized enough, because when an individual has his unconscious mind cleansed and purged, God's thoughts take the place of Adam's perspective.

First, the subconscious mind says, "You need kindness so I am going to reflect it."

The conscious mind responds, "I am getting your signal, Subconscious Mind, and I will re-

spond by faith through the power of the Holy Spirit.” This is how the Holy Spirit makes us kind, gentle, or meek in any situation.

It is important for us to understand how the mind of Christ works in “Adam’s” body. This is all about you and me. We are examining the function of the spirit, soul, and body. Even God talks about how our hearts are deceitful (Jeremiah 17:9). He makes reference to all of these things in the Scriptures. We are responsible to understand what God is teaching us. No one can give true counsel unless he grasps these principles, because it will not be spiritual counsel. It may be academic counsel. It may be counsel through psychological living but not through the spiritual reality of God’s Word.

Returning to the Place of Peace

Back to the book of Ruth—God-Who-is-my-King married Pleasure, and they had two sons, Mahlon (“sickness”) and Chilion (“pining away”). Elimelech died, Mahlon died, Chilion died.

The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Before the two sons died, they had wrongfully married Moabites, Orpah and Ruth. After ten years, a famine came to Moab, which refers to

the flesh as it represents our history in Adam and Adam's history in us.

The famine came, and Naomi declared, "I am going back to Jerusalem—the place of peace." Both daughters-in-law wanted to go with her. Naomi said, "No, go back to your people, go back to your gods." In the Hebrew, Orpah means "double-minded," and "a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways" (James 1:8). Orpah kissed Naomi, wept, and went back to the Moabites.

Now, Ruth kissed Naomi, too, but she said, "I am not going back. I will go where you go; your people shall be my people; I will lodge where you lodge; your God will be my God; where they bury you, they will bury me" (see Ruth 1:16-17). Ruth's mind was steadfast, and Naomi could not talk Ruth out of following her.

It should come as no surprise that Ruth means "beautiful grace." "Double-minded" went back, "Beautiful Grace" followed after God.

For some Christians, when the least little thing happens to offend them, they withdraw. Why is this? They do not understand that at any hour they could be face-to-face with God.

John 4:24 says, "They that worship God must worship Him in spirit and in truth." "Wor-

ship" in the Greek is *proskuneo*, and it conveys the idea of "kissing." This verse speaks of a Christian in the spirit world worshipping so deeply that Christ breathes life into him and he responds to the breath of God, which is the life of Christ.

Brand-New Beginnings

When Naomi arrived back in Jerusalem, she was hardly recognized. "I went away beautiful, but I have come back bitter," she said in so many words (Ruth 1:20-21). Bitterness had taken over Naomi's soul. She and Ruth had no food, so Ruth went out to glean in the fields. As Ruth was gleaning, she was observed by Boaz, who found out about her decision to follow Naomi. He said to his harvesters, "Make sure you leave plenty of grain on the ground for Ruth to glean" (Ruth 2:7-17).

It was the beginning of the barley harvest when Naomi and Ruth came back. "Barley" speaks of resurrection and a brand new beginning. That's exactly what Naomi and Ruth got once they came back to Jerusalem, the place of peace. I bring up these applications of the Word of God because they reveal that the Bible is relevant, pertinent, reliable, and absolutely correct

in the smallest details—above and beyond any book that was ever written. It is magnificent.

The Great Wedding

Boaz, a kinsman of Elimelech and his sons, sought to do the right thing and take his relative's widow (Ruth) as his wife. There was just one problem—another relative was closer to Elimelech's family than Boaz was. This relative did not want Ruth because she was a descendent of Moab and therefore considered impure. His rejection of her represents the rigidity of the Law.

Boaz, the kinsman redeemer, covered Ruth when he found her at the threshing floor. Later, they were married at the city gate in the presence of the ten elders. Kinsman-Redeemer marries Beautiful Grace—what a beautiful picture of our redemption. God sent His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and condemned sin in the flesh. One day, the Lord Jesus Christ, our kinsman Redeemer, will marry us, and we will be the picture of Beautiful Grace.

“Yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by

night, to shew them light, and the way wherein they should go" (Nehemiah 9:19).

"As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Peter 4:10).

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

"And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

"And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

"And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war" (Revelation 19:7-11).

At that moment in Revelation 19, Jesus Christ will be marrying us, and grace will have

perfected us. Not another thing perfects us. It is all by grace and grace alone. Just imagine what it means to be perfect because of grace, with mercy following us all the days of our lives (Psalm 23:6). We have grace upon grace upon grace (John 1:16).

Unsearchable Riches

“Beautiful Grace,” said, “I am not going back. Where you will lead me, I will follow. Your people will be my people. Where you lodge, I will lodge. Your God will be my God. Where you die, I will die. Where you are buried, I will be buried.”

This is what happened between us and Christ. He has gone with us to the very end of the world (Matthew 28:20). When Christ died, we died. We were buried when He was buried. We were raised when He was raised. We ascended with Him and one day we will marry Him as the Bride of Christ. We will never taste death because of His life in us.

Ephesians 3:8 speaks of the “unsearchable” riches of God’s grace. We will finally understand this in heaven when we see Christ’s glorified hands, feet, and side with those wounds (Revelation 5:6). We won’t see blood on Christ, but

will see the fresh wounds. Think of it! When we look at those wounds, we will never remember our sins. We will only remember how much He loves us. All of the former things of our lives will be wiped away, but His wounds will not be taken away.

The warfare against us will be over. We will not be conscious of sin because we will not have an old sin nature. We will only be conscious of our perfection. Yet, we will never forget that we were there because of His Beautiful Grace. For all eternity, God will show the exceeding kindness and the riches of His grace toward us. That is what those wounds are all about.

* Read *The Love of God*, by Pastor Carl H. Stevens, Grace Publications, 1998, for more about the objective and subjective love of God.

CONCLUSION

God sent His Word to heal us. Every word in the Bible is psychologically accurate and spiritually relevant to establish, to heal, and to encourage relationships. All of it happens by grace through faith.

God wants us to be truly healed, and we are healed by grace. We are not healed by performance, or law, or works. We are healed by grace that works by God's perfect love—both toward us and abiding in us.

The unconscious mind can be filled by the Word and the Holy Spirit, which become the premise and presupposition of the subconscious that now controls the conscious mind. Now we can take on the mentality of the Word of God. Our emotions can respond in a healthy way. Our conscience can have grace and mercy and forgiveness as its norms and standards. Our self-consciousness becomes this: "For me to live is Christ." Our free volition is positive. Our old sin

nature is dormant. We have joy as our strength.

At times, the warfare against us makes it so hard to believe that we are complete. Therefore, we must practice worshipping God in positional truth. That is spirituality. Learn to think beyond the letter of the law. Think in spiritual revelation, illumination, and inspiration through the application of God's truth.