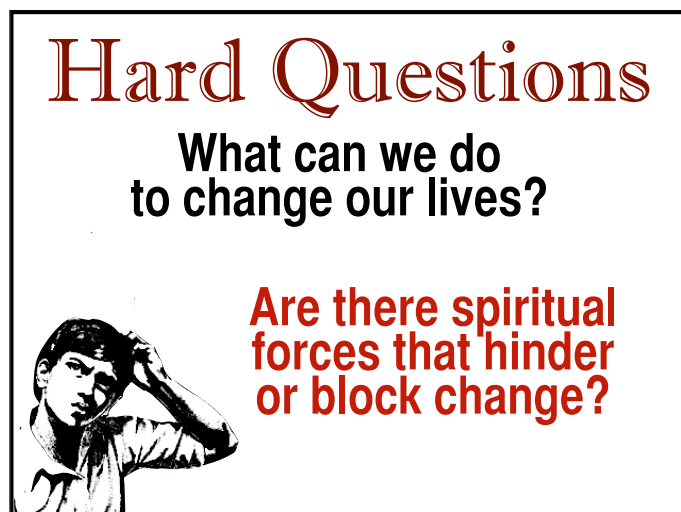




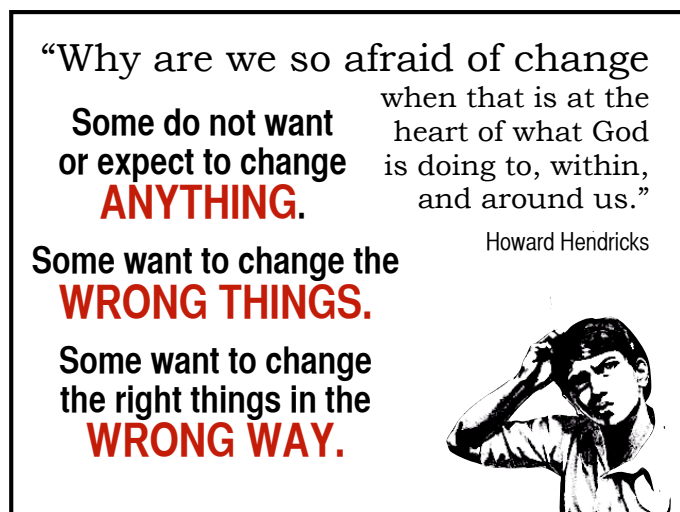
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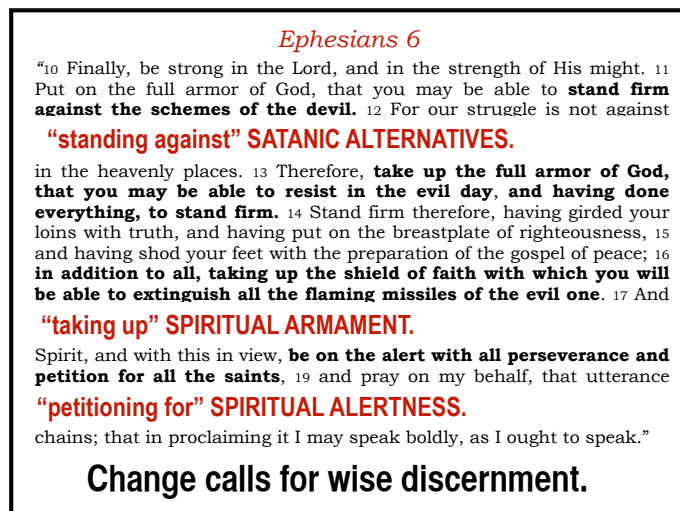
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4



5



6

“flaming missiles of the evil one”

Walk by sight - Fall of Eve & Adam - *Gen.3:1-6*

Misuse of Scripture - Test of Christ - *Matt.4:1-11*

Vengeance - Law over grace - *2 Cor.2:8-11*

Weakness - Thorn in the flesh - *2 Cor.12:7-10*

No answers - Trials of Job - *Job*

**Satan’s challenges are most often
alternative messages leading to
false expectations
and apostasy.**

7

NOTE what Paul does **NOT** mention when addressing demonic spiritual warfare.

COMMON

EXORCISM

MUNDANE

**object and
subject of faith**

expectations

worldview

defilement

possession

**DRAMATIC
RARE**



8

Satan tempted Eve by first generating false expectations based on optics.

Genesis 3

“4 serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die! 5 For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 **When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise,** she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.”

**A secularized culture tends to walk by sight not faith
neglecting values that our founding fathers knew were
needed as a foundation for the American experiment.**

9

The shipwreck of Adam, Eve, & Us.

Fear of missing out leads to -

Distrust of God and -

Looking to the world
for hope with -

Shame as the result.



**Sensual worldviews separate us
from God, shame keeps us there.**

10

Jeremiah 2:13

**“For My people have
committed two evils;
they have forsaken
Me, the fountain of
living waters,**



**to hew for themselves
cisterns, broken cisterns
that can hold no water.”**

11

Fear & shame are God’s tools before
salvation and Satan’s tools after.

2 Corinthians 2

“8 Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him. ... 11 **in order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his schemes.”**

Shame is

- 1.** failing to receive God’s grace
- 2.** and / or extend it to others.

12

“We’re tired of the national conversation centering on “What should we fear?” and “Who should we blame?”.”

Brene Brown
(Author, Social Worker)

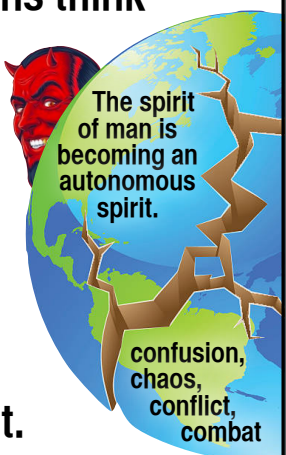


13

When many Christians think of spiritual warfare, they think of culture

Secular Humanism
Defining reality and making decisions as though **God didn't exist, or didn't matter.**

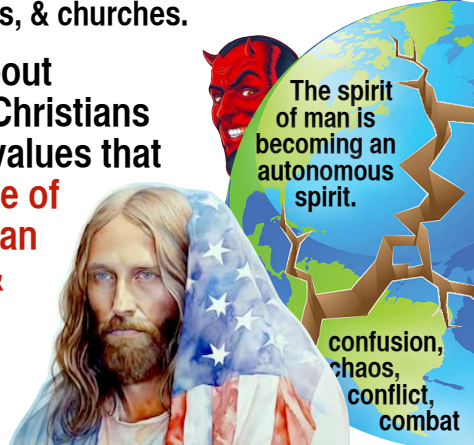
That is a big part of it.



14

It's not only about Hollywood, education, liberal politics, & churches.

It's also about American Christians who have values that **reflect more of America than the Word & Way of the Cross.**

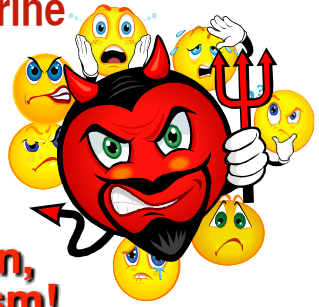


15

Secularism is not Satan's only tool.

He works with Christian culture and Biblical doctrine as well,

so long as it leads no further than to **pride, fear, shame, division, & judgmentalism!**



16

Seven Mountains

1. Family
2. Religion
3. Education
4. Media
5. Arts & Entertainment
6. Business
7. Government

“Thy Kingdom Come on earth” in the Body of Christ, not the state.



17

A temptation of Jesus & all of us is: to invest our faith in the right source but for the wrong things.

Matthew 4:1-11

“**3 Command** that these stones become bread.”

Change circumstances!

6 He will command His angels concerning you so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

Claim promises!

9 All these things I will give you, if you (prostrate yourself before) me.”

Compromise means!

18

To control you
first need
despair.

“To create
despair you
need hope
and false
expectations”



19

Satan asks: **Are you better off (in this life)**
after coming to Christ than before? Be honest.

(prayers answered, promises
kept, expectations met,
circumstances changed)

Satan's
"WARCHEST"
starts with the **FALL**
and ends with his **FIX**.

Suffering
(Life is a mess for all.)

Shame
(You are a failure.)

Sedation
(I have lots of painkillers.)



20

Satan does not want to take away
our faith, hope, and love.

He just wants to
control the
**subject &
object of
our faith,
hope & love.**

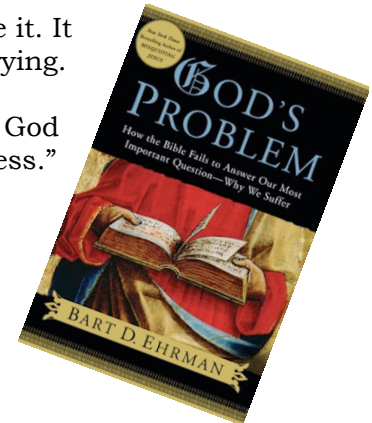


It's all about **Expectations**

21

"I just began to lose it. It
wasn't for lack of trying.
But I just couldn't
believe there was a God
in charge of this mess."

Dr. Bart Ehrman



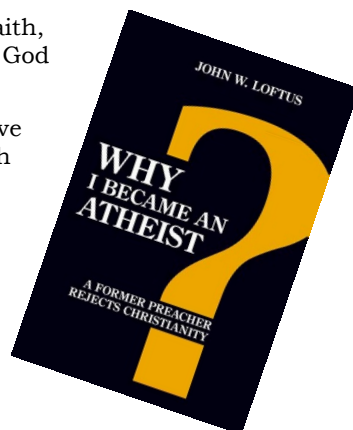
It's all about **Expectations**

22

"My expectations of faith,
prayer, the church, & God
were crushed."

"I had too much to live
with and not enough
to live for."

Rev. John W. Loftus



It's all about **Expectations**

23

A temptation of Paul & all of us
is to see authority, credibility, & value
through the optics of this world's eyes.

2 Corinthians 12

"7 And because of the surpassing **greatness** of the
revelations, ... to keep me from exalting myself!

Misunderstand Privilege

8 ... "My **grace** is sufficient for you,
for power is perfected in weakness".

Misunderstand Posture

10 I am well content with weaknesses, ...
for when I am weak, then I am **strong**."

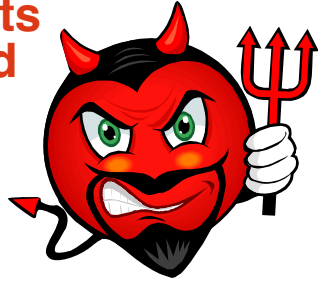
1 Cor.2:1-4, Phil.3:7-8,
2 Cor.10:10, 11:5-6

Misunderstand Power

24

Satan does not mind people using the Bible and quoting it so long as

they neglect its **CONTEXT** and the **WAY** of the Cross in applying it.



It's all about **Expectations**

25

We are called to be **IN** but not **OF** this world.

John 17:15

"I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one."

- **ANointed in the Body of Christ** - We are armed to respond to life's circumstances.
- **ALIENS in this world** - We do not place faith, hope, & love in this world's views, values, & ways.
- **AMBASSADORS for God in this world** - We are not to be passive, but are to show & tell the Gospel of grace, hope, love, & peace, with humility, self sacrifice, courage, & sensitivity.

26

Ephesians 5

¹⁵ Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of your time, because **the days are evil**.

We are ALIENS in a hostile world -

¹⁷ So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not **get drunk with wine**, for that is **dissipation**,

- that offers only temporary PAIN KILLERS

but be **filled with the Spirit**, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

- that we reject for the JOY of God's SPIRIT -

²⁰ always **giving thanks for all things** in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ."

- giving THANKS, for all our circumstances.

27

What should we learn from this week's lesson?

- Change is a **battlefield** in spiritual warfare.
- Change is a path with **ditches** like - seeking to change the wrong things or the right things with the wrong motives.
- American **culture** is a powerful force that Satan uses to get us off the path of proper change.
- **Scripture** can be Satan's tool if it is not read properly or applied wisely.
- **Expectations** are vital parts of our spiritual lives and need to be wisely grounded in a proper understanding of Scripture.

28

Hard Questions



29