

- > **Great Day**.... We are so glad that you have joined us here, to take-in what the Lord is speaking to us about today – which happens to be about: “**The spiritual battle that surrounds each and every one of us... a battle between “Good & evil”, that IS unmistakably happening in our country!**”
- This message segment, is brought to you by: **Discovery Crossroads Ministries**... a ministry that strongly believes that: “**Dead-ends, can become alive again!**”
- > **Today’s message** is: “**Am I On The Side of Something?**”
- **OK**, Let me open up, straight into a discussion that the Israelite leader, **Joshua** - was having with the people in Shechem, after they had settled in the Promised Land. **Joshua 24:15**, “**15 If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.**” NIV
- **Let me pull the “main thoughts” out of that passage**....
The Israelites were worshipping & serving gods, from other

towns surrounding the area. Joshua confronted the Israelites, saying – “***If serving the Lord seems Undesirable to you – then “choose for yourselves” whom you will serve!***”

Joshua basically said, “***It appears that you do NOT desire God anymore - so go YOUR WAY and serve whoever or whatever it is, that you think will bring you joy.***”

Joshua himself, held the line and said, “***As for me and my house – we will serve The Lord.***”

- **Folks**, that is the “**defining-decision**”, that each of us must confront & answer for ourselves - “***do we Desire God (YHWY) in our life, or NOT?***”....(*that decision is made every day!*)
- Joshua made it clear for all of humanity, “**Choose for yourselves**”.... We have a **CHOICE** as to which side of the fence, that we want to park our life on - *be it*: “***Good or evil***”... (*there is really “no other options”*)... Look around, everything BOILS DOWN, to these two things in life! We are either: 1) being a part of Good, or 2) being a part of evil. Every day brings us the **CHOICE**, as to which one we will **side with**, for that new day!
- > **Now**, let me speak about: “***the message***” of our lives...(*we all have a message, that we want to push out upon the world*). I don't care what/who you believe in – but your belief will ACT OUT accordingly....(*be it: for Good, or for evil*).

What I am saying is: We all run our mouths, and act out, upon our beliefs.... and the more we believe in something, or someone – sees us using a greater intensity, of what comes from our mouth or our actions....(*feelings & emotions, stirred into a great froth, will see them bubble with much intensity!*)

- We've just recently seen this, with all that happened to **Charlie Kirk** on Sept. 10, 2025. I do not care which side of that situation you stand on, but killing someone because they don't agree with you – NEVER, ever, constitutes (*or, makes it acceptable*) for someone to point a gun at them and kill them! Disagreeing with others is OK, but ending someone's life – is NEVER OK!

* I'm NOT taking away anyone's "**right to choose**" (*just as Joshua did NOT take the Israelites right to choose*). But I am taking away someone's "**perceived right**", to choose to kill someone for disagreeing with them... *that is UNACCEPTABLE!*

- **Here**, *I add my voice to the thousands, condemning this!*

- If anyone hears someone speaking in those terms, you have a duty to report them – before they do damage to someone, or to themselves!

> **OK**, moving off of that soapbox..... Let's dive more into: **Why** all this: frustration, anger & violence, is happening. I'll give you the upfront-answer - it is all about: "**CHOICE!**"

-- **Now**, I hate to sound so Biblical, but "***In the beginning.....***"

In the beginning, is where all the: frustration, anger & violence, finds its start.... it starts with "***satan hating God***".

...**But**, **WHY** does **satan hate God?** **Isaiah 14:12-14**, "12 ***How you are fallen from heaven***, *O shining star, son of the morning!* ***You have been thrown down to the earth, you who destroyed the nations*** of the world. 13 *For you said to yourself, 'I will ascend to heaven and set my throne above God's stars. I will preside on the mountain of the gods far away in the north. 14 I will climb to the highest heavens and be like the Most High.'*" NLT **Point**: satan thought that he was going to rise above God, and make God worship him (*this has been said to be: the "first sin"*)! **But** God showed His Sovereignty, and threw satan out of heaven (*down to earth*); and when time ends, satan will be further thrown down into the evil abyss (*hell*). **So**, satan is MAD with God, because he couldn't BE God!

-- **So**, satan was thrown down to earth (*mega-mad*), and that now is OUR problem! **Sure**... the whole issue of **division** amongst people in our day, started in heaven, and descended into the Garden of Eden. In the garden: satan deceived Adam & Eve, as his way of **getting back at God** (*for kicking him out of heaven and down to the earth*)...(and friends, he is still trying to get back at God, these days!)

- **Genesis 3:14-15**, "14 Then the Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all animals, domestic and wild. You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as you live. 15 And **I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring**. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel'." NLT

...**Wait**, the turn of events here is "**BIG**". Satan wanted to "rise above" God, but in his curse, he is made to "**be low**"...
...(low as a snake, that slithers around on its belly). Satan is on earth, CRAWLING on his belly (instead of being #1) - and because of this, he hates: God, His Truth, and anyone who believes in God, or proclaims His Word! satan is SO MAD, that he hates love and anyone who shares love!

...**Back to the passage at hand....** "**I will put enmity (hostility), between you and the woman**". That means: "God" placed an "eternal-opposition", between the serpent & the woman.... It's a **Divine-declaration** that established an ongoing "cosmic battle", between the forces of Good & evil...
...(with God siding with humanity!) **Ephesians 6:12-13**, "12 For our struggle is NOT against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world's darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore take up the full

armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you will be able to stand your ground..." BSB

-- **So understand** the words: "***I will put enmity, between you and the woman***".

....**Enmity**: Signifies: a deep, mutual hostility or opposition to.

....**The Serpent**: Represents Satan, the deceiver of the world - and the source of evil and sin.

....**The Woman**: Refers to Eve, the mother of all humanity - and by extension, all people (*us*).

....The fall of satan from heaven, and the fall of mankind to satan in the Garden - thereby affects all of us. ***It instantly meant:*** "***We all must CHOOSE a side to live on***"....(*satan's choice, to NOT love, obey or serve God, meant that: every created-creature, would suddenly have their own CHOICE to make too*... I can imagine God saying, "***Ok you all, if you Don't want Me & My Goodness, then you can CHOOSE satan's way***" - you are free to follow his path.....
...just know that his path is will be filled with: anger, hate, violence, pain, suffering & bad consequences (eternity in hell)...(We're either on: **God's team, or satan's team!**)

> **My push**: **Godly people**, filled with God's Spirit & His Love - will always seek to "***lovingly-share***" God's Love with others.

But, Ungodly people, filled with satan's spirit & his hatred – will always seek to “**unlovingly-destroy**” anyone who loves God, or shares anything about Him!

- **History shows that**: Peter and all the disciples (*except John*), met with a terrible death, from the hands of evil people. Jesus Himself was crucified, for sharing the Love of God & His Truth with people. The religious leaders of His time, thought He was “**undermining**” **their** power & authority in the temple...(*which is what satan was trying to do*). Satan was trying to set up **his OWN**: kingdom, power & authority...(*wanting Jesus, to bow down to him*). God told satan, “**you cannot be Me**”; so satan is after anyone who “PROCLAIMS” God's Gospel Truths!
- Charlie Kirk's killer may have felt that **his** kingdom & its authority was threatened – But Charlie was really killed for “*speaking*” Jesus Christ's Gospel Truths, that satan hates...
...(**evil hates REAL God-Truth!**). Jesus told His Disciples, in **John 15:18-19**, “**18 If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. 19 If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.**” NIV
- Satan and his minions, are always behind the evil that persists against God's people. And yet, it will REMAIN that way, until time ends – since the curse on satan (*from Genesis 3:15*)

REMAINS, "*I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring.*"

- **Point:** **God** has "**FIXED** that curse" in-place (*unbreakable by anyone, but Himself*), until all of God's enemies are placed under His feet.... "*All of God's enemies*", **includes**: satan, his fallen angels, and everyone who follows satan's CHOICE, and who takes the spirit of satan into them... (*it's all of those who will NOT find God DESIREABLE to worship & obey!*)
- > **Now**, let's look a bit deeper into **Genesis 3:15**... In Part 1, "**God** **instituted** the conflict that is going on with satan (*as we just discussed*). **But** in Part 2, we see that the conflict **extends** beyond satan - it affects "**us**"... "*I will cause hostility, between your offspring and her offspring*".....
- The hostility is between two very **DIFFERENT** sets of offsprings - "**satan's**" offspring & "**Eve's**" offspring. **What does that mean?** It means: there are two kinds of people on earth: **1)** those who are the children of satan, and **2)** those who the children of God. **Can this really be possible? Wow!**
- **How do I explain this one?** Again, it's still about: "**CHOICE**".
- a) Some people **CHOOSE** to accept Jesus' offer from The Cross!
...**how:** They are "**IN**" Christ, because (*in Faith*), they CHOSE

to believe God's Word about: Jesus coming to earth, to die for the forgiveness of their sins.... They CHOSE Jesus' Truths!

b) Some people will never CHOOSE to accept Jesus' offer from The Cross! ...how: They are "**NOT IN**" Christ, because they will rebelliously NOT believe God's Word about: Jesus & His dying on the cross, for the forgiveness of their sins!.....

...(in essence (like satan) - they want to be **their OWN god!**)

....We see in these two passages, that there really ARE two different offsprings, living together on earth:

- John 10:27, points out who Jesus' kids are: "**My sheep (Jesus' sheep/His offspring) listen to My Voice - I know them, and they follow Me...they do what I do (God's Will)**" NIV

- John 8:44 points out who satan's kids are: "You belong to your father, the devil - and you want to carry out your father's desires... for he is a liar, and the father of lies". NIV

....In John 8:39-41, the Pharisees (the religious leaders of Jesus' day) said to Jesus, "Abraham is our father". Then Jesus told them, "If you were Abraham's children, then you would do what Abraham did (which was Good)! As it is, you are looking to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things - you are doing the works of your own father (satan)." NIV

-- There really is: two **Different** kinds of people, running around the earth today: "**God's kids (off-spring), and satan's kids (off-spring)**"... and you can only tell them apart, by "**the works**" that they are doing – "**Good works**", or "**evil works**"! **Watch out** who you hang around - you might just be getting **influenced**, to follow an evil's person's lead, which will **carry you away** to commit evil (*and maybe of the ugliest kind – murder*). **If people that you** hang around with, speak & act out words of: Godly truth, unity, love, kindness, encouragement, charity, etc. – then their Father is "**God**". **But if the people you** hang around with, speak & act out words that are: Polar to God's Truth – or words of: disunity, hatred, ugliness, discouragement, retaliation & violence, etc. – then their father is "**satan**". **Be careful** who **influences** you, because you CAN become their disciple...(just like them!)

> **Bottomline**: There is just an "**Inherent (built-in) goodness**" in some people, and terrible built-in "**wickedness**" in others!

-- **Goodness**: "**good moral character**".....(*integrity, virtue, honesty, honor, politeness, decency, uprightness, high-mindedness, etc.*)

-- **Wickedness**: "**corrupt moral character**".....(*mischief, misconduct, misbehavior, trickery, irritation, haughtiness, troublemaking, crookedness, low-mindedness, etc.*)

> **Please hear me here**.... all of the crazy two-sided arguments & hostilities (*that we see going on today*), was foretold by Jesus, some 2,000+ years ago! **Matthew 24:7-13**,
"7 *For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And then many will be offended (turn away from belief in Jesus), will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold..... (Do you see any of this happening these days?) / 13 **But** he who endures to the end shall be saved." NKJV.....(**now**: He/she who **STICKS WITH GOD**, in His Goodness, Love, Mercy & Grace to everyone, will be saved! Joshua was right, "As for me and my house, we will serve The Lord – we will STICK WITH GOD, and worship Him alone!")*

> There is so much discussion going on about "**Charlie Kirk**", right now – and yet his story is only the waves on top of an endless & deep ocean! What evil you & I see going on in the flesh, is only the "*tip of the ice-berg*" of the battle going on in the spiritual-realms! As the **aurora** blazes across the night skies,

- coming down upon the earth to display its marvel - **Likewise** the battle between "good & evil" (*that occurs in high heavenly places*), often dips down and touches earth, in an ugly display - just as we saw happen to **Charlie Kirk!** There is "evil in the atmosphere" - and every one of "US" must DECIDE, or CHOSE, what we will do with it!...(join in on it, or rebuke it?)
- Everybody will end up being on one side or the other of "**Good & evil**", by virtue of whichever spirit "YOU" have **allowed** to **take up residence** in "YOUR" soul - it will either be: **satan's** evil, unholy, unrighteous, ugly, spirit - **or God's** Good, Holy, Righteous, Gorgeous, Spirit. Whichever spirit/Spirit that "YOU" **allow to reside** in you, will lead you to speak & act on it's behalf.
 - As this message has proposed: **The CHOICE is always YOURS!** We ALL need to Ask ourselves, "**Whose Side Am I On?**" We ALL have got to get in a quiet place, and examine our souls - to see if: **Christ's** Spirit resides within us, or if **satan's** spirit does?
 - God will make you a part of His Good, if you **desire** Him. **But**, if you Don't desire/want Him, then you have Opted for the only other CHOICE - the devil, and being a part of his evil movement...(that's a given!)

Discovery questions:

- 1) Do you believe that there really is a “**spiritual-battle**” happening around you? If you answered “yes” – then WHY do you believe so?
- 2) Do you believe that a spirit can actually “**inhabit**” your being? Explain your belief.
- 3) If you believe that there ARE spirits operating around us (*or, in us*) – what “**Kind of spirits**” do you think that they are?
- 4) Would you agree that spirits of “**Good & evil**”, CAN “**influence**” our thoughts & actions? If you agreed - WHY do you agree?
- 5) Do you believe that YOU have the “**ability**” (*power*), to keep a spirit from getting into your head and messing with your thoughts? I mean: Do you have a CHOICE in the matter?
- 6) Do you even believe in God, the devil, heaven, or hell?
- 7) So the message spoke of: God kicking the rebellious satan out of heaven and casting him down to earth – So WHY do you think that God put satan “**down here**” with us? Kind of strange right?
- 8) The message spoke of: there being two different “**off-springs**” in the world – So, how do you explain this? Relook at Genesis 3:14-15 – what do you understand it to mean?

- 9)** If satan is so mad "at **God**" for kicking him out of heaven – then why is satan out to get or destroy "**Eve and all her offspring/descendants**"?
- 10)** What are the "**attributes**" of someone who has "**The Spirit of God**" in them? See: Galatians 5:22-23
- 11)** What are the "**attributes**" of someone who has "**the spirit of satan**" in them? See: Galatians 5:19-21
- 12)** Doesn't it always seem that "evil-influenced people", are the ones who attack other people that are filled with "**God's, Good, Spirit**"? You don't typically see Godly people out attacking evil people? Was Peter, and the other disciples (*except John*), killed by evil-influenced **people**? Yes! Was Jesus crucified by evil-influenced **people**? Yes! Was Charlie Kirk killed by an evil-influenced **person**? Yes! (*If someone has God's Good Spirit in them, then generally we do not see evil or trouble coming out of them!*)
- 13)** Read John 15:18-19 – what do you understand it to mean?
- 14)** If we all "**side with**" one Spirit or the other (*God's or satan's*) – which one do "**YOU**" side with?
- 15)** How do we really "**KNOW**" which Spirit/spirit another person has living within them? Is it not by their "**Fruit/Works**"? See: Matthew 7:15-20