

Building (or Binding) the Strong Man

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, June 20th

The issue of the moral decay in our country has reached the level of absurdity. While America changed the very definition of Marriage to accommodate the homosexual agenda, the Russian Parliament voted 436-0 to outlaw the “Propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations.” While we’re inviting drag queens to read to our children; indoctrinating our preschoolers with LGBTQ propaganda; confusing them with 72 genders; Communist Russia recognizes and responds to this dangerous agenda with a series of Laws restricting it’s influence. While we’ve removed (Christian) religion from our schoolrooms, Russia is mandating it!

Many are beginning to ask “What in the World is going on?”

Our President recently declared that World’s greatest threat is “Global Warming.”

His director of Homeland Security says that America’s greatest threat is “White Supremacy!”

The real threats are much deeper, darker, and dangerous than these. We’ve significantly underestimated the Devil’s commitment, resources and agenda. The “world” has adopted some of the commitment and passion that was once characteristic of the church! (Luke 16:8)

Satan has the power, people, and plan to Enlist, Infiltrate, Infest, Divide and Destroy (Jn 10:10a)

And the Bible is clear that as we approach the last days, his intensity will only increase. (Rev. 12:12,13)

2 Cor 2:11 *“Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”* (noēma; purpose, resolve)

If we remain “ignorant of his devices”, he’ll “get an advantage of us.” (pleonekte’ō; to gain, to over reach: Hos. 4:6,7)

Jesus said in Mark 3:37 that: *“No man can enter into a strong man’s house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.”*

➤ Who is (or should be) this “strong man” of the house?

➤ Who is seeking to “Bind” him (and How)?

Satan has systematically “bound” Fathers and is “spoiling” their houses.

35% of kids < 18 live without their father, producing:

63% of youth suicides; 90% of all runaway youths; 85% of all behavioral disorders; 71% school dropouts; 70% of all youth detention centers; 75% in substance abuse centers; 75% of rapists.

SATAN SEEKS TO BIND (Restrain or Remove) MEN...

1. ECONOMICALLY: Government power/policies result in Inflation.

A. Inflation forces families to adapt

1) More hours or extra income requiring Most wives to work → extra expense → Extra stress → Conflict.

Who’s “Guarding” the kids? (Titus 2:5)

B. This Is Part Of His Strategy.

“My purpose in life is to dethrone God and destroy Capitalism.” Karl Marx

1) If you can remove or restrain God and God ordained “institutions” (Church and Family) then society begins to crumble and Government has to come to the “rescue”.

This is the historical path to **Tyranny**.

2. RELATIONALLY: America has transitioned from:

Patriarchal (*Father influence*) to Matriarchal (*Mother influence*) to Governmental!

A. Busy-Ness With “Business.”

B. Dual Income in order for Families To “Survive” or “keep up”.

C. This Extra “Stress” Leads To Conflict. (Men Tend To “Withdraw” To Avoid Conflict.)

3. SPIRITUALLY: (1 John 2:14-18) Satan uses:

A. SOCIETY “The world” Mk 4:19 *“Cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word”*

The Media used to portray Fathers positively. How are Fathers presented today?

B. SELFISHNESS “The flesh” (Phil. 2:4,5)

1) It’s “natural” to feel you “deserve” Appreciation, Affirmation (Respect), Affection

But what happens if you don’t get them?

C. SATAN: Our real battle is *“...against principalities...powers...spiritual wickedness in high places...”* (Eph. 6:12)

Why “Bind The Strong Man”? So he can *“Spoil his house”* (diarpazō; to seize, plunder)

The Battle is real and relentless; The Enemy is determined, deceitful, and destructive; and the stakes are high and of *eternal* significance! Is. 59:19

Conclusion:

Since Satan, self and society are pushing us to withdraw, We need to engage! 1 Pt 5:8,9

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Whom resist (anthis’tēmi: to stand against, oppose) Steadfast (stereos’: solid, stable, strong, sure)

in the faith...” (pistis: conviction, reliance upon)

Application: How do we engage? Jms 4:7,8

“Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.”

1) Choose a *Side!* (1 Kg 18:21; Josh. 24:21) *“choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... we will serve the LORD!”*

2) “Re-enlist” (Fight) in this cause and get in *spiritual* shape. 2 Tim. 2:1-3 *“as a good soldier of Jesus”*

3) Avoid Satan’s *Snares.* 2 Tim. 2:4,24-26 *“No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”*

Remember: While Satan’s seeking to *“bind you”* so he can *“Spoil your house”* (Mark 3:27)

God’s seeking to *Build* and Bless you, So He can Influence/Bless others *through you!* (Phil. 2:13)

Pr 22:6 *“Train up a child in the way he should go:”* The word “Train” (to dedicate) comes from ḥanôk (Enoch)

Gen. 5:22 *“Enoch walked with God after he begot Methusaleh...”* Means: *“When He Is Dead, It Shall Be Sent!”*

Enoch sensed God’s judgment was inevitable (Jude 14-16) and His responsibility critical; so he purposed to *“Walk with God!”*

Heb. 11:5 *“by faith Enoch was translated...He had this testimony, That he pleased God.”*

“To get his goodnight Kiss he stood, beside my chair one night.

And raised an eager face to me, a face with love alight.

And as I gathered in my arms, the son God gave to me;

I thanked the lad for being good, and hoped he'd always be.

His little arms crept 'round my neck, and then I heard him say;

Five simple words I can't forget, five words that made me pray.

They turned a mirror on my soul, on secrets no one knew.

They startled me, I hear them yet; He said, “I'll be just like you!”



Ron Dicianni