

Strategies of a Roaring Lion over Nations: *A Psalm 2 Counsel requires a Joel 2 Church*

Daniel 10; Psalm 2; Joel 2

Announce:

1. Next week "Shindig" at the Sutherlands, with live worship, bluegrass band, 4-8pm, and a regular Road service. The Road service will be outdoors, at the Sutherlands home in Falcon, not here.
2. Wholeheart Advance, Men's spiritual bootcamp, last chance for the discounted price. July 15th
3. Church Camp out in August. Three spots left

The Fourth Dimension

- Ex. We all understand the principle of radio transmission. Right now there are voices and music flowing through this room. All we need is a radio receiver with an antenna to pick it up. That is why we tell you to cut off your cell phones and beepers...we believe.
- Television, right now there are images filling this room.
- But if we talk about spiritual warfare and demons and angels filling this room, many say, "ah come on...you must be one of those weirdo's."
- People from MIT are going around these haunted houses with meters measuring for ghosts...para-psychology is a growing study discipline in some of our most respected universities, but if we believe in the resurrection, we are idiots...I don't think so
- There is this unseen dimension where angels and demons inhabit

- This “fourth dimension” effects the third dimension more than we know

The Excluded Middle

The western church has an “excluded middle” between the spiritual realm and the physical realm. We believe in the upper spiritual realm, but we don’t believe that the upper realm really affects the lower physical realm...but the rest of the world does believe, and the Bible is very clear...

- Most of the world believes that there are two realms of reality: the three dimensional and the fourth dimension
- For most of the world, people believe that the upper dimension intercepts the lower dimension
- But most of us in the west don’t see the correlation
- I will call it the “excluded middle”
- But the Bible constantly speaks of this interaction between the upper level and lower level of reality
- The gospel can go out with power if we will preach and teach God’s Word in the power of the Holy Spirit
- This is a real war with a real enemy...Satan, the world, and the flesh
- This war you cannot choose to enlist in! You are already drafted!
- Jesus really understood this! He began his ministry in Spiritual Warfare!

Introduction:

- We’ve been looking at the origins of Lucifer and his fall from an exalted position in the heavenlies as an Arch Angel, but through sin, pride, he was cast down to the earth

- And now he has power over the earth. This is truly his kingdom

The Apostle Peter, who even more than all the other Lamb's Twelve, the temptations and weakness of the flesh, in dealing with Satan, who at one point was rebuked by Jesus: Get behind me Satan.

1 Peter 5:8

Peter made this statement: *Be sober and alert. Your enemy the devil, like a roaring lion, is on the prowl looking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in your faith,*¹

Strategies of a Roaring Lion: Satan rules Over Nations of the Earth tonight → Strategic levels. My next message we will look at the ground level: over us as individuals

Turn to Revelation 12:7

7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.²

- Satan wants to be worshipped—by calling he was a worship intercessor in the 4th dimension but pride welled up within him and he rebelled and was cast to the earth

¹ Biblical Studies Press. (2006). *The NET Bible First Edition; Bible. English. NET Bible.; The NET Bible* (1 Pe 5:8–9). Biblical Studies Press.

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Re 12:7–9). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- But at his core is a desire to be worshipped by the human race—those created in the image of God
- If Satan cannot get God to worship him, he will deceive the image bearers of God to worship him
- His greatest deception is through the power he can give to those who will allow him to work through them
- Jesus even acknowledged Satan's power. Luke recounts the temptations of Satan over Jesus, "The devil took him to a high place and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in an instant. The devil said to him, "I will give you all the power and glory of these kingdoms. All of it has been given to me, and I give it to anyone I please."³ Jesus never counters Satan's argument but rather rebukes him
- Satan wants the kingdom, power, and glory!!
- Satan is obviously looking for leaders and men and women in power who want his power and glory so that he can wield power and glory over nations—to deceive whole nations
- Satan desires to blind the eyes of Prime Ministers, Kings, Presidents, and top influencers over nations
- The Bible says it clearly, "The god of this world has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. As a result, they don't see the light of the Good News about Christ's glory. It is Christ who is God's image."⁴

³ *GOD'S WORD Translation*. 1995 (Lk 4:5–7). Grand Rapids: Baker Publishing Group.

⁴ *GOD'S WORD Translation*. 1995 (2 Co 4:4). Grand Rapids: Baker Publishing Group.

- Satan is called the “Ruler of this World,” “Prince of the Power of the Air,” “God of this World”

Eph 6:12 Hierarchy over the Nations

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.⁵

- We see that there is a hierarchy of high level spirits in the heavenly realm, much like a military organization
- It would appear that there are generals, colonels, Lt. colonels, etc.
- Clearly defined levels of power and authority
- We observe these territorial political ethnic spirits that rule over and have control over certain realms in a nation
- We already observed this in Isa 14 with the mentioning of a king of Babylon as a general rebuke, but then Isaiah moves into a description of Lucifer, but it is in the context of a sorrow and proverbs against the King of Babylon
- It seems that we are observing satan working behind the life and power of the King of Babylon
- Then, in Ezekiel 28, the chapter begins with the pride of the Prince of Tyre, “Because your heart is lifted up, and you say, ‘I am god’” but then moves into the title of a King of Tyre and describes the 5 “I wills” that describe

⁵ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Eph 6:12). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

the fall of Lucifer! We see Lucifer behind the Prince of Tyre

- One of the clearest examples of these National Spirits working to destroy and oppose the kingdom of God is Daniel
- During the last days vision of Daniel, we read of Satan's strategies, *By his treachery he will succeed through deceit. He will have an arrogant attitude, and he will destroy many who are unaware of his schemes.*⁶

Look at Daniel 10

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision. 2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris, I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

(7 And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with

⁶ Biblical Studies Press. (2006). *The NET Bible First Edition; Bible. English. NET Bible.; The NET Bible* (Da 8:25). Biblical Studies Press.

my face to the ground.)

verse 10 Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and *on* the palms of my hands. And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.

12 Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. 13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision *refers to many days yet to come.*"⁷

- In this case Daniel is given insight into why his prayers were not being answered for 21 days—a Prince of Persia, who had control over the nation of Persia, was opposing God's work and even God's ability to speak to Daniel such that Michael, the great Arch Angel had to come and help fight for 21 days to break through

Satan is always working behind the scenes to find a mouthpiece and influencer to carry out his destructive plan/strategy and he has demonic powers over nations to oppose the Gospel

- We observe this with Peter in the last days before Jesus goes to the cross, Peter opposes the plan of Jesus, and Jesus has to tell Peter, "Get behind me Satan."
- With Ananias and Saphira, Satan is working behind the scenes to manipulate them to destroy the early church.

⁷ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Da 10:1–14). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit" ⁸

- We see a Sorcerer named Elymas who opposes Paul's proclaiming of the Gospel to the Proconsul, the Governor of the island of Paphos. Paul calls down blindness upon him and the Governor believes (Acts 13). Might this be a territorial spirit over the Island of Paphos

Ex. We see this at work through Adolf Hitler who slaughtered Jews at a rate unheard of in humankind. The new figures of 15 to 20 million murdered, more than doubles previous estimates, have astonished some Holocaust historians, come after thirteen years of painstaking study at Washington's *Holocaust Memorial Museum*. That was over 70% of the Jews in Europe

The research covered some 42,400 camps and ghettos across Europe, and also included forced-labour camps and Nazi "care" centres where pregnant women were forced to have an abortion or had their child killed right after giving birth. It also drew in camps, prisons and killing grounds used by Nazi puppet regimes in countries such as France and Romania.

Read more: <http://www.businessinsider.com/shocking-new-holocaust-study-claims-nazis-killed-up-to-20-million-people-2013-3#ixzz3fE1Bapja>

The Objective of Satan is the Kingdom, Power, and Glory over a Nation. I believe this is why Jesus told us to pray "Thy Kingdom, power, and glory forever"

What's the answer to this?

A Psalm 2 Counsel requires a Joel 2 Church!

Psalm 2

⁸ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Ac 5:3). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

**Why do the nations rage,
And the people plot a vain thing?**

- Nations will rage against God and His kingdom—listening to a Christian Forum, on sexuality the other night and to hear the history of the redefining of marriage in Scotland, Ireland, and England is a lesson in a raging lion out of control, deriding the precedent of all civilization, common reasoning, logic, and Christianity

- William Edgar, Professor of Apologetics at Westminster Theological Seminary

- Wayne Grudem, Professor of Theology at Phoenix Seminary

- David Robertson, Chairman of Solas Centre for Public Christianity

- Read more at <http://savingourfuture.com/2014/03/respond-gay-marriage-debate/>

- But It will fail. A temporary momentum. But it will be vain!

Verse 2

**The kings of the earth set themselves,
And the rulers take counsel together,**

- Kings, Prime Ministers, and Presidents set themselves up over a nation

- The rulers over a nation today are the media, the TV, the internet

- Setting policies that could do the following...

**Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,
“Let us break Their bonds in pieces
And cast away Their cords from us.”**

- They want to break off the bonds of God through policies and constitutions that write out, legislate God out!

- It is interesting that nations in Africa are more and more adopting laws of Christian America, and America is enacting more and more pagan, almost tribal policies
- They want the Bible outlawed—it is the hate speech book!
- They want to get rid of these old fashioned Bible believing supposedly Spirit filled Christians
- Those of depraved minds will use the Bible to their own means. They will rewrite the Bible, like the Queen James Bible. Interpreting the Bible through their sexuality rather than judging their sexuality through the Bible
- Ex. Hitler did the same thing with the pastors in the German Lutheran Church in the 1930's using Romans 13, "let every soul be subject to the governing authorities..."
- This is the strategies of the Roaring Lion, to enable darkness to have more room, more laws to maneuver into the hearts of men in order to "kill, steal, and destroy"

God's response in the Heavens to the Roaring Lion

Verse 4

**He who sits in the heavens shall laugh;
The LORD shall hold them in derision.
Then He shall speak to them in His wrath,
And distress them in His deep displeasure:**

- God is sovereignly working out His plan
- He is still on His throne ruling over the affairs of men

Verse 8

**Ask of Me, and I will give You
The nations *for* Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth *for* Your possession.**

- So, how do we ask of the Lord? How do we take possession of a nation?

A Psalm 2 Counsel requires a Joel 2 Church!

- **The Joel 2 response; the Joel 2 Church!**

Joel 2:12

**Now, therefore," says the LORD,
"Turn to Me with all your heart,
With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."**

- Anyone can turn to God! Anyone can do this!
- With all of your heart—because I have turned to you with all of my heart
- Together in love, covenant together. I will use you to shift things in the heavenly realm
- Turn with all your heart—with fasting, weeping, prayer, repentance!
- Weeping and mourning. True grief over our compromise
- We are contending for the souls of men; contending for the greatness of a nation; dignity of a nation!
- We are no longer a Christian nation—we are a nation with Christians but no a Christian nation! God is judgment is over us now! Our rebellion and laxity is catching up and God is turning us over to our depravity

Verse 13

So rend (means tear) your heart, and not your garments

- This is personal. This is deep stuff. Aggressively going after your passivity
- Doesn't mean you won't struggle with stuff
- But it's a tearing! It will hurt to change.
- Return to the LORD your God,
- It's weak people turning to God! I'm contending for you. Come to Me.

For He is gracious and merciful,

- He is so gracious, so loving, so kind. Grace! God of the universe wants to love you.
- You may have given up on yourself but Jesus hasn't give up on you

**Slow to anger, and of great kindness;
And He relents from doing harm.**

- He doesn't want to embarrass you. He wants to love you with His kindness.
- My standards of purity haven't changed but I will do it with kindness

Verse 14

**Who knows *if* He will turn and relent,
And leave a blessing behind Him—
A grain offering and a drink offering
For the LORD your God?**

- Who knows what God will do? We have no idea what He might do
- We don't know the time frame.
- Will it be a level two, level five healing? We don't know. But trust Me.
- I can take a disaster and turn it into a revival!
- I want the nation to be filled with revival. Our region. Our city. What would you do Lord if we would come before you?

Blow the trumpet in Zion,

- That's what I'm doing right now! many born again believers are standing up. But this is getting dangerous

**Consecrate a fast,
Call a sacred assembly;**

- Sacred assembly—for a perilous time. Very sober.

Verse 16

**Gather the people,
Sanctify the congregation,
Assemble the elders,**

- And then God will show up with verse 28

Verse 28

**"And it shall come to pass afterward
That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your old men shall dream dreams,**

Your young men shall see visions.⁹

We introduced last week, “The 7:14 Prayer Initiative”

- ✓ Set your alarm at 7:14 everyday
- ✓ At 7:14 am or pm or both, we are praying for ourselves, our church, our city, our nation
- ✓ We will do it in July

2 Chron. 7:14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

1. **Humble Yourself.** Humble yourself before God and confess your lack of passion and zeal. Confess sins in your life that are hindering your relationship with Jesus (1 Peter 5:6-9). He does and He will forgive you (1 John 1:9). Then, ask Him to fill you with power and love through His Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). Ask God to refresh you to your first love for Him (Revelation 2:4-5). Pray that you would be revived to love God with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength and your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:35-40).
2. **Revival in the Church.** Revival is a reviving of something that exists already. Ask God to shake up and bring fresh power upon His Church—pour out His Spirit upon The Road and other churches in our city (Acts 1:8; 2:1).
3. **Awakening in the Nation.** Awakening is a wake up to those asleep spiritually. Ask God to bring a great awakening to our city and our nation. Pray that He would wake up the non-believer

⁹ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Joe 2:28). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

and the carnal believer to a desire to know
and follow Christ (Ephesians 5:14).