Victorious Spiritual Warfare

Recognizing Leviathan and the Spirit of Divination– While standing in Christ Armed with Dionne White

Bible Study Teaching Outline

Purpose: To recognize patterns Scripture associates with pride, deception, divination, fear, intimidation, and spiritual resistance. To respond with biblical discernment, humility, truth, prayer, and the authority of Jesus Christ. *This is not an exhaustive teaching.

Central Truth

- **Jesus Christ is Lord**. Our victory rests in His finished work, not in fear of, fascination with, or fixation on demonic powers.

- **We do not fight people**. Our struggle is spiritual, and our weapons come from God. Ephesians 6:12; 2 Corinthians 10:3–5

- **Discernment should lead us toward truth**, repentance, prayer, freedom, and love—not suspicion, accusation, or fear.

INTRODUCTION

I am reminded of past dreams and experiences that both revealed and taught me about Leviathan and Python. Experience is an excellent teacher and with the Word of God we can be educated, equipped, and armed for victorious battle. The experiences and revelations drove me to the feet of Jesus in intercession.

- The Lord led me back to Scripture so that every dream, impression, and experience could be tested by the Word.

In this teaching we will move through four stages:
Recognition*, *Biblical Testing, Closing Access Points, and ***Victorious resistance.***

Biblical Guardrails

- **Scripture is our final authority.** The Word of God is living, active, and sharper than any two-edged sword. Hebrews 4:12

Leviathan is explicitly named in Scripture, especially in Job 41 and Isaiah 27:1. The imagery is poetic and symbolic as well as describing a ***fearsome creature;*** a ***terror*** or ***devourer***.

- **Acts 16:16 describes a slave girl** with a spirit of divination. The Greek wording is associated with Python, but Scripture does not provide a full system naming every modern pattern as a separate 'Python spirit.'

Yet the Hebrew word *miphtan* (Strongs 4670) means "***threshold***". The root of this word is from to the word ***pethen*** (Strong's 6620) meaning ***cobra, adder, viper, or venomous serpent.***

Meaning to TWIST.

Threshold- miphtan from the same as pethen; a stretcher.

Threshold - The word denotes the stone or wooden block at the lower part of a doorway over which one steps when moving from one space to another. In the ancient Near East such features were more than structural; they marked the boundary between domains, signifying ownership, authority, and—within sanctuaries—degrees of holiness.

Boundary between Holy and Profane: The threshold marks the decisive line where the creature approaches the Creator. When Israel's worship aligns with God's covenant, blessing comes from that boundary.

The enemy and his "threshold guardians" watch us carefully. The enemy prowls around like a lion SEEKING whom he may devour.

What are they watching? For anything to bring an accusation against us. They watch our "righteousness".
They are looking for agreement and legal right.

Dream symbols such as alligators, swans, or snakes can represent a threat, a predator, a spirit of divination or deception— but all these are a type of territorial spirit.

These should prompt you to prayer, but they do not establish doctrine by themselves. It always depends on the context you gave the dreams in as well.

Test everything. 1 Thessalonians 5:19–22; 1 John 4:1

- We don't label people as Leviathan, Python, Jezebel, or any other spirit. But be aware if they are partnering with a spirit of the kind.

- Christ loves them and can redeem. Ephesians 6:12

Part One Recognize the Nature of the Battle

What Spiritual Warfare Is

- A conflict between the kingdom of God and spiritual forces that oppose God's truth, righteousness, worship, authority, and purposes.

- A battle that can involve temptation, accusation, deception, oppression, false worship, spiritual blindness, and resistance to obedience.

- A battle that also exposes the flesh. Not every conflict, emotion, disagreement, sickness, or hardship is demonic. Galatians 5:16–24; James 1:13–15

- The battle of two altars trying to exist or gain power in the same area or territory. This can be between holy vs. evil (kingdom of darkness), holy vs. flesh (the spirit of man). Both cannot exist and rule in the same space.

Why Recognition Matters

- Recognition is ammunition only when it produces a biblical response.
- We are told not to be ignorant of Satan's schemes. 2 Corinthians 2:11
- We should desire spiritual gifts, including discerning of spirits, while practicing them through love. 1 Corinthians 12:7–11; 14:1

- Hosea 4:6 warns that God's people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; in context, they rejected the knowledge of God. Knowledge must lead to covenant faithfulness, not spiritual pride.

Three Sources to Discern

- **The world**—values and systems opposed to God. 1 John 2:15–17
- **The flesh**—our fallen desires, pride, fear, bitterness, and self-rule. Galatians 5:16–21
- **The devil**—deception, accusation, temptation, and spiritual opposition. John 8:44; Revelation 12:10; 1 Peter 5:8–9

Ask Yourself: Is this the flesh that needs crucifying, a wound that needs healing, wisdom that needs applying, or spiritual opposition that needs resisting?

Part Two Leviathan in Scripture

Job 41:1–34

The most extensive and famous account of Leviathan is found in the Book of Job. God speaks to Job out of a whirlwind to demonstrate human limitations compared to divine creation. God uses Leviathan as the ultimate example of a creature that no human can tame, capture, or defeat.

Key Passages

- Job 41—Leviathan is portrayed as **fearsome, untamable by human strength, armored, and associated with pride**. Job 41:34 says it is king over all the children of pride.
- Isaiah 27:1—the Lord judges Leviathan, described as a **fleeing and twisting serpent and a dragon in the sea**. God, not humanity, is the ultimate conqueror.
- Psalm 74:13–14—**God's power over the sea and Leviathan** displays His sovereignty over chaos and hostile powers

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- Psalm 104:25–26—even **Leviathan remains within God's created order and under His rule.**

Patterns Commonly Associated with Leviathan

- **Pride and self-exaltation**—lifting self, knowledge, gifting, position, or revelation above submission to God. Proverbs 16:18; James 4:6
- **Twisting**—distorting words, motives, truth, or communication. Isaiah 27:1; compare Genesis 3:1–5
- **Resistance to humility**—stiff-necked refusal to repent, listen, reconcile, or submit to truth—Rebellion. Proverbs 29:1
- **Control and domination**—seeking power, possession, influence, or territory at the expense of love and righteous authority. Mark 10:42–45
- **Intimidation and fear**—appearing too powerful to confront in human strength. Job 41:8–10
- **Religious pride**—knowing Scripture outwardly while resisting Jesus, mercy, or the work of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 23:23–28; John 5:39–40

WHERE IS IT PHYSICALLY DEMONSTRATED?

Brief examples:

- **The Gospels** show that some religious leaders opposed Jesus through pride, hypocrisy, jealousy, mockery, and hardened unbelief — ultimately seeking to discredit him and remove him by death.

- **The account of David and Goliath** – Facing a demonic enemy being in what seemed to be superhuman stature and too powerful to confront or defeat. Overwhelming intimidation.

Part Three The Spirit of Divination and Python Imagery

Key Biblical Passage

- Acts 16:16–18—a slave girl had a spirit of divination and generated profit for her owners through fortune-telling.

- The spirit spoke **words that sounded accurate** about Paul and his companions, **yet the source was unclean.** Truthful-sounding words do not automatically prove a godly source.

- **Paul did not exploit the manifestation or converse with it. He commanded the spirit to leave** in the name of Jesus Christ.

Patterns to Recognize

- **Counterfeit revelation**—***information (not revelation)*** or guidance obtained apart from the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Deuteronomy 18:9–14

- **Manipulation for power or profit**—using spiritual claims to control, impress, exploit, or gain influence. Acts 8:18–23; Acts 16:16–19

  Suffocation and constriction—a modern metaphor for pressure that chokes prayer, praise, clarity, or spiritual endurance and physical health.

- **Persistent harassment or problems**—spiritual pressure that attempts to wear down faithful obedience. Perpetual problems that seem to never end. Daniel 7:25; Luke 18:1. ***The enemy seeks to wear us down!***

- **Mixture**—combining Christian doctrine, prayer, or language with divination, superstition, occult practice, ungodly soul ties, or forbidden sources of spiritual knowledge. Leviticus 19:31; 2 Corinthians 6:14–18

Test the Source

- **Does it confess**, point to, and honor the true Jesus Christ? 1 John 4:1–3

- **Does it agree** with the written Word in context? Does it bear witness with Holy Spirit and your newly regenerated spirit? Isaiah 8:20; Acts 17:11; Roman 8:16

- **What fruit does it produce**—love, holiness, purity, peace, humility, self-control or does it produce fear, confusion, bondage, pride, and control? Galatians 5:22–23; James 3:13–18

- **Does it draw attention to Christ** or create dependence on a personality, secret knowledge, signs, or power? John 16:13–14; Colossians 2:18–19

Part Four Dreams Experiences and Territorial Imagery

Sharing a few elements of my dreams as an example. This is over several years' time in different regions we have lived.

Always seek Holy Spirit and the Bible for your interpretation depending on the context of dreams and experiences.

- **"The town-terror**" warning and imagery involving an **alligator** or leviathan **monster** of the deep. A very **large** and **long python moving swiftly** through grass.
- **Shape shifting** from a human to a **human serpent** back and forth from human to serpent, or any other type of terrorizing reptile, vacillating between different personalities.
- **"Leviathan's playground"** —showing up in water, pools, lakes, land, sea, **causing chaos in towns where people and government have given agreement to it**, and **giving it territory** dominating and demonstrating its terror, fear, size, and strength. It creates a **"Mob Mentality".** This usually partners with divination.
- **Swans** – **beautiful** but **aggressive** or **territorial**. Appearing **"welcoming"** as an **"Angel of light". Pretending** to be something it is not.
- **Snakes, pythons and witches** - **hiding**, **coiling, constricting**, or coming up from **out of the ground**, **hovering** over a church building, a person, or town.
- **Spiritual themes to test**; fear, intimidation, disguise, hypocrisy, territorial, possessiveness, domination, suffocation, persistence, pride, power, and control.
- **Do not assume every animal or body of water has a fixed spiritual meaning.** Ask the Holy Spirit for interpretation, compare it with Scripture, seek mature counsel, and judge the fruit. Genesis 40:8

Part Five Doors Agreements and Altars

What Gives Darkness Opportunity

- **Unrepented sin** and ongoing agreement with lies. Ephesians 4:26–27; 1 John 1:9
- **Pride and self-exaltation**. James 4:6–10; 1 Peter 5:5–6
- **Bitterness**, **unforgiveness**, envy, selfish ambition, and disorder. Ephesians 4:31–32; James 3:14–16
- **Idolatry**—giving worship, trust, dependence, identity, or obedience to anything above God. Exodus 20:3–5; 1 Corinthians 10:14
- **Divination** and occult practices. Deuteronomy 18:9–14; Acts 19:18–20
- **Rebellion** and stubborn self-rule. 1 Samuel 15:22–23

Rebellion Is as the Sin of Divination

- In 1 Samuel 15:23, Samuel confronts Saul's willful disobedience. Saul partially obeyed, justified himself, feared people, and rejected the Lord's word.
- **The verse compares rebellion with divination and stubbornness with idolatry** because both replace God's authority with another authority—often self.
- The lesson is not to use the verse as a weapon against disagreement. It calls each of us to examine our own obedience, motives, and submission to God.
- Serious consequence: because **Saul rejected** the word of the Lord, **the Lord rejected him** as king. ***Spiritual authority must remain surrendered to God.***

Understanding Altars (brief)

- **Biblically,** an altar is a place of sacrifice, worship, covenant remembrance, exchange or idolatry.
- **Holy altar**—surrender, worship, thanksgiving, remembrance, and obedience to God. Genesis 12:7–8; Romans 12:1
- **Idolatrous altar**—worship, allegiance, or sacrifice offered to a false god or rival loyalty. Judges 6:25–26
- **New-covenant emphasis**—Jesus offered the final and legal sacrifice once for all. We present ourselves to God as living sacrifices and offer praise and good works.
- Hebrews 10:10–14; 13:15–16; Romans 12:1

Practical question: What am I repeatedly agreeing with, feeding, serving, fearing, or worshiping?

Part Six How We War Victoriously

One Submit to God and Resist the Devil

- **Humble** yourself, repent, renounce agreement with sin and lies, and draw near to God. James 4:6–10
- **Resistance** begins with submission. Authority is exercised from alignment with Christ, not from anger, volume, or self-confidence.

Two Stand in Christ's Victory

- Jesus disarmed rulers and authorities and triumphed over them through the cross. Colossians 2:13–15
- Greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4
- Our confidence is the name, blood, authority, and finished work of Jesus—not a formula. Luke 10:17–20; Philippians 2:9–11

Three Use Spiritual Weapons Not Carnal Ones

- Though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. Our weapons are mighty through God for pulling down strongholds. 2 Corinthians 10:3–5
- Take thoughts captive: identify lies, reject proud arguments, and bring thinking into obedience to Christ.
- Refuse carnal weapons: accusation, gossip, rage, manipulation, retaliation, humiliation, and controlling behavior. Romans 12:17–21

Four Put on the Whole Armor of God (see the Warrior's Prayer on last page)

- **Belt of truth**—reject deception and live honestly before God. Ephesians 6:14
- **Breastplate of righteousness**—stand in Christ's righteousness and practice what is right. Ephesians 6:14
- **Shoes of the gospel of peace**—remain ready to carry and embody the good news of reconciliation. Ephesians 6:15
- **Shield of faith**—trust God's character and promises when fiery accusations, fear, and doubt come. Ephesians 6:16
- **Helmet of salvation**—guard the mind with the assurance and hope of salvation. Ephesians 6:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:8
- **Sword of the Spirit**—the Word of God, spoken and applied in faith and obedience. Ephesians 6:17; Matthew 4:1–11
- **Prayer**—pray w/out ceasing in the Spirit, stay alert, and persevere for all believers. Ephesians 6:18

- **Walk in the Spirit** and you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

Five Walk by the Spirit Not the Flesh

- Walk by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. Galatians 5:16
- Put to death the works of the flesh: hatred, rivalry, jealousy, rage, selfish ambition, dissension, and envy. Galatians 5:19–21
- Cultivate the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Galatians 5:22–25
- Love and humility are not passive. They keep us aligned with Christ while we stand firmly against evil. Romans 12:9; Micah 6:8

Six Wield the Living Word

- Hebrews 4:12—the Word is living, active, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
- Use Scripture first on your own heart, then to expose lies and declare truth. Avoid using verses to control or condemn people.
- Read in context, meditate, obey, pray, and speak the Word with faith. Psalm 119:9–11; John 17:17

Seven Overcome by the Blood and Testimony

- Revelation 12:10–11—the accuser is defeated, and believers overcome by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they remain faithful even at great cost.
- The blood of Jesus declares forgiveness, cleansing, covenant, and victory. Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 1:7
- Our testimony declares what Jesus has done. It should glorify Christ, tell the truth, and strengthen faith—not magnify the enemy.

Eight Pray Forgive Bless and Persevere

- **Pray** in the Spirit and with understanding. 1 Corinthians 14:15
- **Forgive** so bitterness does not become an access point. Ephesians 4:31–32
- **Bless** those who persecute you; do not repay evil for evil. Romans 12:14–21
- **Stay alert** and **resist** the devil, firm in faith. 1 Peter 5:8–9
- **Seek** mature ministry or pastoral support when warfare intersects with trauma, abuse, danger, or mental and physical health needs. Spiritual care and professional care can work together.

Part Seven a Practical Battle Plan

When You Sense Spiritual Opposition

- **Pause**—refuse panic and come under the peace and lordship of Jesus. Philippians 4:6–7
- **Ask**—Holy Spirit, what is true? Is there sin to confess, a lie to reject, wisdom to apply, a boundary to establish, or opposition to resist?
- **Test**—compare the impression, dream, prophecy, or message with Scripture and godly fruit. 1 John 4:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:21
- **Repent**—confess personal sin without becoming shame-focused. Receive cleansing. 1 John 1:9
- **Renounce**—withdraw agreement from pride, fear, control, divination, bitterness, idolatry, or deception.
- **Replace**—speak and obey the corresponding truth of Scripture. Matthew 4:4
- **Resist**—**command what is unclean to leave in the name of Jesus** *when appropriate, without spectacle or prolonged conversation*. Acts 16:18

- **Remain**—continue in prayer, worship, fellowship, the Word, communion, and practical obedience. John 15:4–7; Acts 2:42

Questions for Personal Examination

- Where have pride, control, self-protection, or stubbornness replaced humility and trust?
- Have I accepted spiritual information or practices that do not come from God?
- Am I accusing a person when Scripture tells me the person is not my enemy?
- What lie is attempting to twist God's Word, my identity, or another person's motives?
- What truth must I believe, speak, and obey today?
- Is there someone I need to forgive, bless, confront biblically, or establish a healthy boundary with?

Discussion Questions

- What is the difference between discernment and suspicion?
- Which piece of the armor of God do you most need to apply intentionally right now?
- How can we share testimony in a way that magnifies Jesus instead of magnifying warfare?
- What does humble resistance look like in a real conflict?

Part Eight Guided Prayer and Declarations

Pray slowly and pray sincerely.

- **Jesus Christ, you are Lord**. I belong to You, and my life is under Your authority.
- **I confess and turn from pride**, self-rule, fear, bitterness, control, idolatry, divination, and every agreement with deception.
- **By faith I receive** the cleansing and victory secured by the blood of Jesus Christ.
- I **forgive** those who have wounded or opposed me, and I release vengeance to God. Show me any wise boundaries I must establish.
- **I renounce** every lie that has twisted Your Word, distorted my identity, or caused me to accuse others.
- **I repent and divorce myself from every evil altar, breaking any covenant, I may have created knowingly or unknowingly, willingly or unwillingly.** Release me from the power of that covenant and ***let Your blood answer for me and cover me.***
- **Holy Spirit, fill me.** Lead me in truth and produce Your fruit in my life.
- **I put on the whole armor of God** and take my stand in Christ.
- **In the name of Jesus, I resist every unclean influence assigned against God's purpose for my life.** I submit to God and stand firm in faith.
- **Let the word of Christ dwell richly in me.** Make my testimony a witness to the Lamb's victory.
- **I choose humility, obedience, love, truth, holiness, and peace**. Jesus is my victory. Amen.

Closing Emphasis

- We do not leave this study impressed by Leviathan, Python, or any power of darkness.
- We leave impressed by Jesus—the One to whom every name and power must bow. Philippians 2:9–11
- We overcome through the Lamb's blood, faithful testimony, surrendered lives, the Word of God, and steadfast faith.
- Stay humble. Stay discerning. Stay in love. Stay clothed in the armor. Stay close to Jesus.

Quick Scripture Reference

- Authority and victory - Luke 10:17–20; Colossians 2:13–15; 1 John 4:4; Philippians 2:9–11
- Nature of the battle - Ephesians 6:10–18; 2 Corinthians 10:3–5; 1 Peter 5:8–9

- Leviathan - Job 41; Psalm 74:13–14; Psalm 104:25–26; Isaiah 27:1
- Divination and testing - Deuteronomy 18:9–14; Acts 16:16–18; 1 John 4:1–3; 1 Thessalonians 5:19–22
- Rebellion and idolatry - 1 Samuel 15:22–23; 1 Corinthians 10:14
- Walking by the Spirit - Galatians 5:16–25; Romans 8:5–14
- The living Word - Hebrews 4:12; Ephesians 6:17; Matthew 4:1–11
- Blood and testimony - Revelation 12:10–11; Hebrews 9:14; 1 John 1:7
- Humility and resistance - James 4:6–10; 1 Peter 5:5–9
- Love and righteous conduct - Romans 12:9–21; Ephesians 4:25–32

Summary of Teaching

Avoid giving darkness more attention than Scripture does.
Avoid diagnosing individuals or communities from dreams alone. Seek the Holy Spirit, your Bible, other intercessors, and wise mature counsel.

If you or another are experiencing abuse, stalking, threats, severe distress, mental anguish, or self-harm risk, please seek immediate safety and qualified pastoral, medical, mental-health, or emergency support.

The Warrior's Prayer

Heavenly Father, your Warrior prepares for battle.

Today I claim victory of Satan by putting on the whole armor of God.

I put on the Girdle of Truth! May I stand firm in the truth of your Word so I will not be a victim of Satan's lies.

I put on the Breastplate of Righteousness! May it guard my heart from evil so I will remain pure and holy, protected under the blood of Jesus Christ.

I put of Shoes of Peace! May I stand firm in the Good News of the Gospel so your peace will shine through me and be a light to all I encounter.

I take the Shield of Faith! May I be ready for Satan's fiery darts of doubts, denial, and deceit so I will not be vulnerable to spiritual defeat.

I put on the Helmet of Salvation! May I keep my mind focused on you so Satan will not have a stronghold on my thoughts.

I take the Sword of the Spirit! May the two-edged sword of Your word be ready in my hands and the rhema Word of the LORD in my mouth so I can expose and dismantle the lying and tempting words of Satan.

By faith Your warrior has put on the full armor of God.

I am prepared to live this day in spiritual victory. **Amen.**

*The Warrior's Prayer taken from Turning Point Ministries ©2014

Companion Resource: ***"15 Keys to Recover from a Jezebellic Attack"*** by Dionne White
Find where books are sold online and on this website at www.dionnewhiteministries.com