Spiritual Warfare: Conviction vs. Condemnation

November 12th 2023

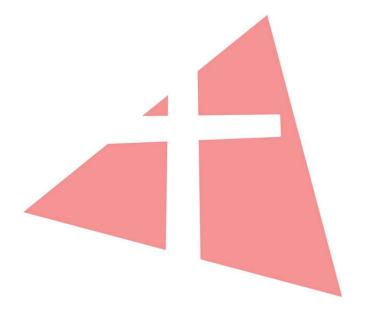
Soaking

- Is Aletheia the local church God calls me to be part of in this season?
- What concrete action should I do to reaffirm my commitment to my local church?
- What should my relationship with my local church look like?

Our Series

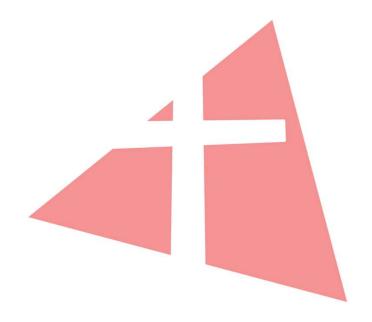
Spiritual Warfare

- Jesus and satan have different plans for our lives
- We support one or the other (whether we know it or not)



Today's Focus

Spiritual Warfare: Conviction versus Condemnation



The Foundations

- We all sin
- We all deal with emotions when we confront our sins

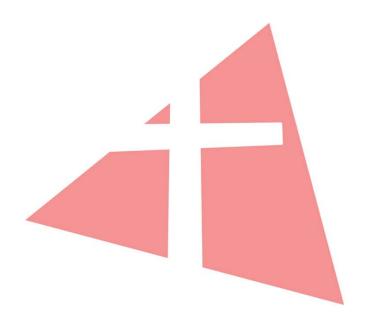
1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Matthew 5:4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

The Foundations

- Jesus convicts
- Satan tries to condemn

• What's the difference?



Jesus' Teaching

Matthew 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

ο μετανοέω metanoéō, *met-an-o-eh'-o*

to think differently or afterwards, i.e. reconsider (morally, feel compunction):—repent.

The NT Teaching

1 John 1:8-10 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

The NT Teaching

Hebrews 12:5-8 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks unto you as unto children, My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when you are rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loves he chastens, and scourges every son whom he receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chastens not? But if you be without chastisement, of which all are partakers, then are you illegitimate children, and not sons.

Jesus' Teaching

John 15:1-2 I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine dresser. Every branch in me that bears not fruit he takes away: and every branch that bears fruit, he prunes it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Jesus' Teaching

John 16:7-8 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Satan's Work

Revelation 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, who accused them before our God day and night.

ο κατηγορέω katēgoréō, *kat-ay-gor-eh'-o*

from <u>G2725</u>; to be a plaintiff, i.e. to charge with some offence:—accuse, object.

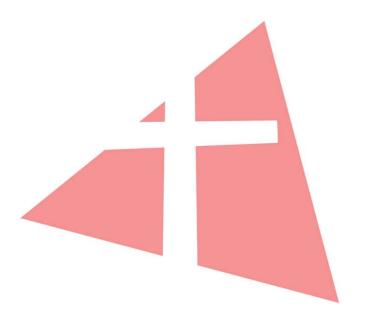
Satan's Work

Job 1:9-11 Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Does Job fear God for nothing? Have not you made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he has on every side? you have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions are increased in the land. But put forth your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.

Job 2:5 But put forth your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.

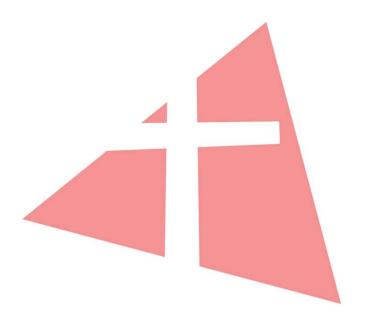
Satan's Work

- Satan accuses and condemns us before God
- Satan condemns us to ourselves



Conviction vs. Condemnation

Jesus convicts, satan condemns



Conviction vs. Condemnation

Conviction	Condemnation
Speaks against what we do	Speaks against who we are
Speaks and produces love	Speaks and produces fear
Encouraging	Discouraging
Creates live, energy, determination and hope	Takes live, energy, gives hopelessness
Tells us to sin less	Tells us to sin more
Tells us we are forgiven	Tells us God hasn't forgiven us
Gives us freedom	Makes us feel in bondage
Tells us to confess our sins to others	Tells us to stay isolated
Points to God's Word	Points to feelings about ourselves
Points us to the cross	Points us to our own failures
- 11	

In Conclusion

- Being a Christian means we need to deal with our sin
- As we deal with our sin, we need to learn to distinguish two voices
 - God's voice of conviction
 - Satan's voice of condemnation

