

–Spiritual Errors  
The Unseen Battle Pt. 4

**Community Group Questions:**

- **Share Highs & Lows for the past week**
- **Discussion Questions:**
  - What’s been your overall experience of this spiritual warfare series?
  - Read the C.S. Lewis quote. Which of the two errors has been your tendency in the past?
  - Read Acts 19:13-20. Where do you see an appetite for holiness in this passage?
  - How have you seen an appetite for holiness in your life? What misconceptions around holiness have you had in the past that confused this desire?
  - How might you lean into satisfying your desire for holiness in Jesus?
- **Close in Prayer**

**John 10:10** *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

Being appropriately aware of and equipped for spiritual **EVIL** helps us better enjoy the full **LIFE** that Jesus offers us.

*“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.” -C. S. Lewis, The Screwtape Letters*

The first error is to disbelieve in the existence of **DEMONS** altogether.

**Proverbs 4:23** *Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.*

Denying spiritual evil is like denying the presence of destructive **PARASITES** in your garden.

*“Depression is a badass disease. When you're in it, nothing happens. Nothing wants to happen. Nothing matters. Nothing moves. Nothing can motivate or stir you. That power or initiative by which you get up and get going is gone. Your battery is not low or even dead. Your battery is gone. There is no future. There is only the moment you're in. The moment you're in is a dark gray fog bank. There are no benchmarks. Life's topography is gone. There are no objectives. There are no landmarks. There is no horizon. There is no anticipation. There are no aspirations. There is no definition. There is no structure. There is no interest in anything but sleep, blessed sleep, during which time you temporarily do not exist.”*  
–Fred Larsen

The first **BOUNDARY** is to remember that spiritual evil is **REAL**.

The second error is to feed an excessive and unhealthy **INTEREST** in spiritual evil.

**Acts 19:13–20** *Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, “In the name of the Jesus whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.”* **14** *Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this.* **15** *One day the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?”* **16** *Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.* **17** *When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor.* **18** *Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done.* **19** *A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas.* **20** *In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.*

Apart from **ALLEGIANCE** to Jesus, there is no sharing of Jesus’ **AUTHORITY**.

We are created with an appetite for **HOLINESS**.

We’ve believed the lie that God is **BORING** and alternative spirituality is **THRILLING**.

The **SECOND** boundary is to recognize your appetite for **HOLINESS**, rather than its counterfeits.

#### **Guidelines for Spiritual Practices**

1. The boundaries can be a matter of **CONSCIENCE**.
2. The boundaries can be a matter of **WISDOM**.
3. The boundaries can be far clearer than we **WANT** them to be.

**BOTTOM LINE:** Jesus is infinitely more satisfying than any alternative, because he is infinitely **HOLY** and **GOOD**.

**Prayer of Renunciation:** *Lord Jesus, I renounce my participation in any practice of divination or any attempt to manipulate the supernatural world for my benefit. I renounce any involvement with mind altering substances that could have created a pathway for the supernatural realm into my life. I renounce and repent of any sinful activity I have ever been involved in that would give an unclean spirit a foothold in my life. Lord, please reveal to me any areas of my life that I have not surrendered to you, and protect me from anything that seeks to hinder my pursuit of you and your purposes. In Jesus name, Amen.*