

how to confront the enemy. My dad served the eviction to the two women acting under the authority of the county. The Sheriff was to enforce that eviction notice. Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, **Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven**" (Matthew 18:18). The word translated "bind" means to restrain and the word "loose" means to allow, release, or undo.

My dad could have allowed the two women to remain living in the house, but he exercised the delegated authority given to him to restrain them from living there. The authority of county was behind him to enforce the eviction order. When we have submitted ourselves unto God, then we can exercise the authority over the enemy by giving him an eviction notice and God will enforce the eviction notice in heaven.

There was a woman who kept interrupting Paul's preaching. On the surface, she seemed to be speaking the truth, but if we look

closer, it was a lie. "The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, 'These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us **a** way of salvation'" (Acts 16:17 - literal translation). By using the article **a**, she implied that there are other ways to be saved than through Jesus.

"And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour" (Acts 16:18). I am sure that the main reason Paul didn't immediately command the spirit to leave was that he first prayed and submitted the issue to God. Then when Paul did command the evil spirit to leave the woman, God enforced the Eviction Notice.

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## Rules of Engagement

We are in a spiritual battle, like it or not. However, in battle there are generally rules of engagement.

The old house, as illustrated above, was once a house that my dad owned and rented out to an elderly man for a very nominal fee. My dad paid the utilities, and the renter agreed to do some upkeep on the house. There were two women who came and moved into the house without asking my dad anything about it. However, my dad soon discovered that his utility bills were going up and found that they two women had moved in with the man. My dad immediately confronted the two

women and told them that they either needed to move out or pay some rent. They responded by cursing out my dad.

My dad very wisely went to the Justice of Peace with the matter. The Justice of Peace said that the two women were “squatters,” and that they had no legal right to be there. The Justice of Peace instructed my dad to write out an Eviction Notice, date it, keep copies, and give the two women the Eviction Notice.

The Justice Of Peace also told my dad that they would have thirty days to move out. If they did not move out in thirty days, my dad was to return to the office of the Justice of Peace and the Justice of Peace would send the Sheriff to escort the two women out of the house. My dad followed through with giving the Eviction Notice to the two women. Fortunately, the two women left before the thirty days were up.

This down to earth event gives a great example of spiritual warfare that we have with the devil and

his kingdom. Jesus said this referring to the devil, "[The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly](#)" (John 10:10). The two ladies were thieves who were stealing from my dad. The devil, as a thief comes to steal our identity, our family, our ministry, our finances, our peace, and our health. He often tries to sneak in unaware if possible like the two ladies.

We may give the enemy legal rights through unforgiveness, through seeking advice from the wrong source, through anger, through sinful habits, or through leaving some other door open for the enemy to enter. However, the devil is a thief and may enter without having any legal right to enter at all. My dad did not give the two women a legal right to enter, but they moved in anyway. Again, the devil will often work in darkness when he can.

When my dad discovered that they two women were stealing

from him, he confronted them face to face. They "may" have argued with my dad, that the house was large enough from them to stay there, and they were not hurting anything by staying there. The devil may also try to deceive us as to why he has reason to be in our lives.

My dad did confront the women, but not under the rules of engagement, and they cursed him out. We may come to discover that the devil is come to steal, kill, and destroy us and we may attack the devil without understanding the rules of engagement. When we do this, we may get ourselves into major trouble.

James wrote, "[Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you](#)" (James 4:7). My dad went to the authority of the Justice of Peace and presented the matter. In the same way, we need to go to the ultimate authority, God, in prayer, and present the matter. God, the Authority will instruct us as what to do. As needed, the Authority will delegate authority to us as to