I, THE LORD YOUR GOD, AM YOUR HEALER

Who are these principalities and wickedness in heavenly places?

Satan and his demons or fallen angels.

- remember how his beauty was not enough (Ezekiel 28:11-19)
- remember how his will became more important than God's will (Isaiah 14:12)
- remember the price mankind paid (Genesis 3:22-24)

He is the **immortal enemy** of God - by his own choosing.

This means he is very powerful.

He is a liar, deceiver, tempter, the **father** of those who are not rescued by Christ.

This means he is completely devoted to the destruction of human connection to God - because we are his property - bought by rebellion.

He is actively seeking to devour humans - body and soul.

He hates humanity - our freedom, our nature, and our privileged place.

He is a master of **disguise**.

The spirit of Antichrist will appeal to all that is natural (and fallen) within us.

He **twists the truth** for his own purposes.

He did it with Adam. He tried to do it with Jesus.

He has done it throughout history.

He is doing it to you, and to me.

How does he work?

He inflates our egos and makes us feel more than others.

Encourages the power hungry.

Casts spells of complacency.

Redefines and twists truth.

He separates us from Shepherd and flock.

Plays upon our propensity for envy.

Cultivates addictions (sexual, food, drugs, alcohol, materialism; comfort; etc.)

Exploits our personal insecurity and need for acceptance.

Master of sexual impurity and perversion.

Presents preoccupations and time-wasters (blind busyness).

Holds us by the hand to believe lies about God, ourselves, and people.

Sows seeds of discouragement.

Sows seeds of discontent.

Sows seeds of strife.

He belittles our souls and makes us feel small.

He keeps us believing that busyness is somehow godly.

He keeps Christ-followers intent upon religion rather than connection.

OUR TRUE ENEMY IS NOT PEOPLE.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the <u>full armor</u> of God, so that you will be able to **stand firm** against the <u>schemes of the devil</u>.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Therefore, take up the <u>full armor</u> of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore,

Having girded your <u>loins</u> with truth, and having put on the <u>breastplate</u> of righteousness, and having <u>shod</u> your feet with the preparation of the Gospel of peace;

In addition to all, taking up the <u>shield</u> of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the <u>helmet</u> of salvation, and the <u>sword</u> of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

2 Corinthians 10 BRINGING DOWN STRONGHOLDS

DESTROYING
"pulling down - like the rock walls of a castle"

SPECULATIONS
"logical human reasonings or "citadels of the imagination"

LOFTY THINGS
"what has been placed in supremecy or high"

THOUGHTS CAPTIVE "hold them at the point of a spear"

STRONGHOLDS

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

A stronghold is a foothold that our death-father lays claim into our life. They are "cast down" by the freedom that Jesus brings.

FEAR = inactivity toward risk = timidity/self-protection

PRIDE = self-absorption = impaired love

ANGER = lashing out/manipulation = isolation

IMPURITY = secretive living/self-gratification - preoccupation

GREED = self-interest/disregard of relationships/obsession

with personal interest

STUBBORNNESS = needing control = despising others

RECOGNITION = needing to be noticed = intense love of self

What are the lies I am believing?

- There is something wrong with only me

- I am just made this way

- I am of no value

- I am of supreme value

- Certain others are keeping me from serving God

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The power of lies are broken by bringing your new heart to the light and allowing the Spirit to speak liberating truth to your weary soul!

I was not made for bondage - I was made to be free!

I, THE LORD YOUR GOD, AM YOUR HEALER

DEMONIZED BY SATAN

These wounds are tangled and hard to define.

UNCOVERED BY PARENTS

These wounds are emotional and deeply personal.

VIOLATED BY PREDATORS

These wounds are anger and isolation producing.

UNRESTRAINED IN LIVING

These wounds are latent and tricky.

"Good news to the poor"

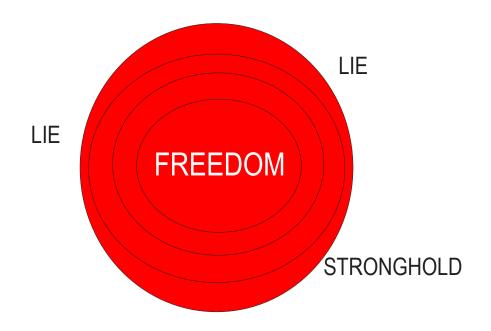
- Release to captives -
 - Recovery of sight -
- Freedom for the oppressed It is the year of God's favor!



When lies that enable strongholds are confronted:

- Deception's noise screams loudly (or purrs)
- Desire for status quo intensifies
- Personal anger and temptation increases
- Preoccupations & distractions increase
- The still, small voice continues to sing

Strongholds are surrounded by lies (and demons).



OUR "OLD FATHER"

LIES TO CONTROL US

SPECULATIONS

LOFTY THINGS

STRONGHOLDS

BONDAGE

"Satan's Will"

OUR "TRUE FATHER"

DISCIPLINES US THROUGH SUFFER-ING TO HEAL US

RENEWS OUR MINDS

HUMILITY

DELIVERANCE

FREEDOM

"God's Will"