

THE LEVIATHAN SPIRIT

The king over all the children
of
PRIDE

Micah Bell

THE LEVIATHAN SPIRIT

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Micah Stephen Bell

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PREFACE

In the years since I brought this teaching at Win Worley's church in the Chicago area, I have had numerous responses from people who either watched the video or listened to the audio recorded that day. Later, a lady took the time to transcribe the teaching since it had meant so much to her in her walk with the Lord.

Every time I would come upon the transcription while searching my files, I would think about publishing it, but I felt it would need too much editing to get it from the oral form to the written one. I finally decided to overcome my degree of perfectionism and make it available to the Body of Christ knowing full well the Holy Spirit inspired it.

Regardless of the spoken style, I believe the message is intact and clear enough to help bring understanding, edification and deliverance to any believer with an overcomer's attitude. The Lord has shown me much more about this spirit which I hope to also publish in the near future.

May the Lord use it for His glory and your blessing.

One overcomer,



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THE LEVIATHAN SPIRIT

Micah Stephen Bell

Most people that have the Leviathan spirit never get the deliverance they need because that is what Leviathan does—keep one from getting delivered. Most ministers who won't open up to the ministry of deliverance have a Leviathan spirit as do most of the people who fight this ministry; as a consequence, they don't get delivered either. I think that is one of the reasons we don't know as much about this spirit as we could because we don't get to tackle him as much.

Let's start with a word study, beginning in Strong's Concordance: 3882 [livyathan /liv-yaw-thawn/] n m. From 3867; TWOT 1089b; GK 4293; Six occurrences; AV translates as "leviathan" six times. 1 leviathan, sea monster, dragon. 1A large aquatic animal. 1B perhaps the extinct dinosaur, plesiosaurus, exact meaning unknown.

A brother in our congregation received some revelation about this when he did a study of the constellation Orion. He found that in this constellation there are seven stars and each one of them has a name. There are times that God, even yet, will lead us to go to the stars as a strategy to blow Leviathan out. We will name the stars. Pleiades is one of them and Articus is another. There are seven demons sometimes tied in with Leviathan and when you cast these out, you can get him out of there.

Other words for leviathan are: to twine, to unite, to remain. This doesn't seem too helpful except for the fact that he is a serpentine-like demon—he is a strongman.

We find the word six times in the Old Testament from the root "lawa" which means to bend, to twist. It literally means to wreath, like a wreath, to be wreathed, gathering itself in folds and the context suggests some form of an aquatic monster that dwells in the sea. In Scripture when we talk of the "sea," we are talking about "people." The sea is people. "The voice of many waters" is the voice of many people in the Book of Revelation.

In Psalm 74:14 there is a reference to Pharaoh and to the Exodus paralleling with another Hebrew word “tannon,” which means “see a river monster.”

We find the word again in Ezekiel 29:3-5: The symbolism here is the Pharaoh and the Egyptian. So, there is an Egyptian spirit tied in with this, which is the spirit of the world—worldliness.

In Job 3:8 we find that the word for leviathan here is a dragon that, according to popular ancient mythology was supposed to have caused the eclipse of the sun by wrapping itself around the sun. The people of ancient mythology believed this is what caused eclipses of the sun. This is how big and powerful they thought this monster to be.

As we dug into this some more, we saw that Leviathan was considered a mythical monster perhaps to be identified with the Babylonian mother goddess Timat whose father was Apsu who in the creation story (not God’s creation story but the mythological story) had a battle against Marduk. The way it battled Marduk was by reciting charms and casting spells on Marduk. It’s warfare was witchcraft.

A CONNECTION WITH THE STARS

We can find, with some more study in the Word, that leviathan was a seven-headed monster, referring back to the Orion constellation which had seven stars—seven-heads being the seven stars. Leviathan is described as a fleeing serpent and the torturous serpent smitten by Baal. This takes us back into the language of Isaiah 27:1.

“In that day The Lord with His sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan, the piercing serpent, even leviathan, that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea”.

Now see this dragon in the sea, and the sea is people. God is going to slay that dragon and I believe he is starting now. I think we are going to have to realize that we are already there. We are in it now; we are in tribulation now. I began to think about all the suicides and all the things that are going on in the world that people are succumbing and falling victim to that God’s people are not. We are already overcomers. There are things that do not bother me anymore. I have overcome them in the sexual area, in the drug area and so on. They are out there for the world and they are falling like flies. Some Christians are falling because they are not getting into deliverance. They are not getting free.

The noun leviathan might also designate the word “serpent” such as might be roused by snake charming magicians who are also reputed to impose curses. Snake charming curses are involved here.

There is another root “lawa” in the Hebrew and the Strong’s word is 1087. It is used once in Ecclesiastes 8:15 and refers to the joining of an item or a person to someone or something else. It’s a word that means to join together something to something else. It’s a joining together word and it most significantly refers to foreigners who join God’s people as converts. So, there is a joining here of an alien thing to God’s people. In general, I think it refers to the way in which hedonistic pleasures can cling to a man.

Let’s look at Ecclesiastes 8:15:

“Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry; for that shall abide with him of his labor the days of his life, which God giveth him under the sun”.

This says that such vanity will cling to a man and will stay with him. So there is that clinging; that writhing; that twisting caught up with a man internally.

Now, let’s go to Job 41. We don’t have time to go into this whole chapter, but as we’ve meditated on this and dealt with this spirit, God has, I believe, shown us some things here. Job 41:1:

“Canst thou draw out leviathan with a hook, or his tongue with a cord which thou lettest down?”

LEVIATHAN AND SCHIZOPHRENIA

A brother in our congregation came from a real hard background. He was a career army officer and was in Vietnam. He came out of Vietnam with his brain scrambled. The VA adjudged him to be 100% disabled as a schizophrenic. He showed up on our doorstep one day after hearing our radio program. I have never seen such a battle in all of my life and it is not over yet. One of the interesting things that happens is that he has to go back every month to see a psychiatrist to maintain his disability, which I think he deserves, at least for a while. He went through some horrible things in Vietnam. He came to me and he said, “I am so much better. I’m not schizophrenic anymore. What am I going to tell them when I go back for my interview?”

I said “What do they want to find out?”

He said, “They just want to know that I am still crazy.”

I said, “Go back and tell them what happened to you.”

It worked! Praise God, it worked. (They still think he is crazy because he told them demons were cast out of him.)

Now, that was a Word of wisdom from The Lord.

This brother has been digging into Job a lot and I believe he discovered something. He came in one day and it just slipped out of his mouth as I was ministering to him. He said: “You know behemoth (in Job 40) is the WILL of man. That is what God is talking about there. That big old sluggish animal that doesn’t move too fast and is so strong and so brassy and so hard to budge. You know, that is our will, and I really believe that leviathan is the self, the self of man.”

Something rang in my spirit and as I have been digging there I see that more and more. Job and his friends were in this debate with God. Have you noticed in the Book of Job, the whole context is this debate that has been going on and finally God comes down and says, “I have had enough of this,” and begins to talk about what has been said in the preceding chapters. God says: “You had better gird yourself up now, Job, because I am going to demand an answer of you. In chapter 38 and verse 4 He says: “Where wastest thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding.” In verse 31 we see: “Canst thou bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?”

LEVIATHAN IS A SPIRIT

Finally, the whole culmination of the revelation that God gives this man of God—this righteous man of God—is about leviathan—a whole chapter about leviathan. Some people say it is a crocodile, or it is this and that. Well baloney! It is a spirit. God is saying something when He gives a whole chapter in His Word for one “crocodile,” so to speak. It is a spirit and there is revelation here about such a spirit. There is something for us here, and we haven’t even gotten all of it yet but let us take what we do have and go with it.

This is one of the types of studies I have gotten into because I love to see personalities become Jesus-like and, the only way that I have ever seen that happen is through deliverance.

I was in psychology for a few years and was assistant director of a treatment center for emotionally disturbed children in Tyler, Texas. My wife and I worked with the drug and psychological

therapy. We used non-directive counseling, behavior modification, primal scream, hypnosis—the whole bit. I have been there. And let me tell you something. You can take all of that and throw it in Lake Michigan. I now know why God had me wade through that junk, because it makes me that much stronger as a deliverance minister. Deliverance is where it happens. Men hate this because it hits them right where they live and it hits their pride.

WHO AM I?

“Me have a demon? Me have one of those things in me? Not me. “I am a Christian. I am holy. I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.” Sure you are, by faith, but there is a self in there. There is a real you in there somewhere, and I know a lot of you needing deliverance don’t know who you are. That saddens me. That puts compassion in me more than anything because I used to be there. I didn’t know who I was. “Who am I? Am I this person who gets angry and blows his top? Goes off and drinks and does this and does that? Can’t get along with my wife and can’t really love my children like I want to. Is that really Steve Bell?”

Somehow, I knew inside that was not really me. I knew there was something really wrong and I couldn’t put my hand on it and that is one of the reasons I got into psychology, I was looking for answers for me. Praise God, when I began to get deliverance and found out that some of these things that I thought were Steve Bell weren’t Steve Bell at all, but were demon spirits and that God had done something inside Steve Bell, that real self, that was beautiful and good.

SHYNESS IS DEMONIC

I always tell people that God never created a shy person. If you have a problem with shyness, that is demonic, He did not create you to be a wallflower. That is not the self that God created. There is a problem there and you need deliverance of rejection, fear of rejection, insecurity and inferiority. There are some things tied in there, see? I am showing you something here that is a false personality. There is not true delivered Christian that is shy. After genuine deliverance, you are going to be able to flow in love and others are going to be able to love you.

That self, where when you get down there to that true self and to what is going on down there, you will find that’s where leviathan

really gets hold. He is the writhing serpent and has those seven heads. I have never seen him in the spirit, but he must be ugly. There is a part down there where you deal with leviathan and get rid of him. There is still self and will down there that wants to say: "This is as far as I am willing to go." If this is the case, that is as far as you will go in the Lord.

THE OLD SELF

Let us get back into the Scriptures here, verse 8, Job 41:

"Lay thine hand upon him, remember the battle, do no more."

Leviathan will really give you a battle and what does that remind you of? That old self. That old self that doesn't want to reveal things—doesn't want anybody to know. Did you used to go to one of those churches where you didn't let anybody know what your problems were? I did. I Grew up in one. My mother used to say: "Don't you tell anybody anything about us. What if they found out at the church? What if the preacher found out about this?"

I have people come to me all the time asking me to minister to them. When they start to tell me their problems, I ask if they have talked to their pastor. "Oh I wouldn't want him to know about this." they say. (What kind of pastor is that?) And I say: "You know, you had better get you another pastor."

If we can't open up in the church, what are we going to do? "Well, I'll go to the prayer closet," some say. Listen, God has fixed it so you can't do all you need to get done in the prayer closet. Now there are some important things there, but He is forcing us to get out there and rub against each other. That old "rock" comes out to church and it is all jagged, has rough edges on it and is ugly so God says, Okay, I am going to have to smooth this thing up before I can put it up in the wall." Then He finds somebody that will come up and just rub you (usually wrong) real good.

RUBBING AGAINST OTHERS

Our church started with five people in our living room and the Lord brought me a faithful brother that I detested. He was just as opposite of me of anything you would want to know. But he wouldn't leave me. He came up to me and said, "Steve, here is my tithe check." And I said, "Tithe check? We don't have a church." And he said to me: "God said to me that you were my pastor, take it." (Praise God, we lived on that for a while, that is all we had.) He would follow me

around. Sometimes, I would slip-up and say that I was going to so-and-so and he would say, "Can I go with you?" The Lord just let him rub on old Steve Bell and rub on him. Now, every time I think about Fred I want to weep because he stuck with me. He had the revelation of deliverance. Lots of time he would say, "Let's do some deliverance, let's do some deliverance." And I'd say, "No." Actually, I tried to get out of this thing. I have a sermon I teach on TWELVE WAYS I TRIED TO GET OUT OF DELIVERANCE. I ought to teach it. It would save a lot of you a lot of trouble. Forget it! If demons are starting to manifest when you are trying to minister to people, don't try to get out of it, just accept it. Don't fight it like I did.

So, God is trying to do a work in us. He is going to cause us to rub against each other. If you are really sincere with The Lord, He is going to bring you out amongst people and rub you together. In Proverbs it says: "Iron sharpens iron."

SHUT OFF FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT

Job chapter 41:15-16:

"His scales are his pride, shut up together as with a close seal. One is so near to another, that no air can come between them."

Now what does air remind you of? What does breath remind you of? The spirit. People get so shut in because of the effects of this leviathan that coils around them that there is no way the Spirit can move. They can't hear the Holy Spirit, they can't discern Him. They say, "I never get a word from God. How come The Lord never speaks to me? How come I never move in the gifts like some people do?" There is no breath of the Spirit able to get in there because this thing has such a strangle hold. The root of this is pride. It is pride.

A TONGUE OF FIRE

Verses 17-25:

"They are joined to one another, they stick together, that they cannot be sundered. By this neezings a light doth shine, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning (or the rays of dawn). Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out."

What does this remind you of? What James says about the tongue. What does it do? It kindles the fire, so we see some more of the tongue problem that comes from leviathan. Let him get loose in the church and let some of that fire come out and he will set the whole world on fire if you don't watch him.

“Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a boiling pot or caldron. His breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth.”

Here is that old cutting tongue; that critical tongue which comes from a spirit of pride.

FALSE WORSHIP

I see some other things here. I see smoke coming out of his nostrils as false praise and worship. The smoke goes up at the altar—like the Altar of Incense in the Tabernacle of Moses—because the person is so bound up with pride that he really can't praise God. ME is too important; I am too bound up in ME. Myself is too important for me to give any praise and worship to God. You might say that could not be, but it can be.

STUBBORN PRIDE

“In his neck remaineth strength.”

The neck represents the WILL. I see stubbornness here. I see a spirit of stubbornness with leviathan. The bowed neck. There is strength in the neck and sometimes strength in the neck can be a negative thing because Jesus talked about the stiff-necked—the uncircumcised heart. The bowing of the neck which indicates rebelliousness and again we are back to pride.

“And sorrow is turned into joy before him.”

Actually, that should be dismay. Dismay goes before him. Stubborn people, dismay is what goes before them.

“The flakes of his flesh (the folds of his flesh) are joined together; they are firm in themselves; they cannot be moved.”

“You can't tell me anything, I know it all. God showed me that a Christian can't have a demon. You're off track, you are in deception brother, I am going to pray for you.” This is typical talk of such people.

Oh, No!!

A HARDENED HEART

“His heart is as firm as a stone; yea, as hard as a piece of the lower millstone.”

Here we have hardhearted, hardheartedness and coldheartedness.

“When he raiseth up himself, the mighty are afraid; by reason of breakings they purify themselves”

Such rage from the ego of man can cause others to cringe and alter their behavior for a while.

TURMOIL IN THE DEEP

Now, look at verse 31:

“He maketh the deep to boil like a pot; he maketh the sea like a pot of ointment”.

There is a scripture in Psalms that says “deep calleth unto deep,” and we are right back to self again. See, the deep is where the real you is. The deep. There is a deep in me that I am very careful who I let in there. God can get in there by “deep calling unto deep.” This leviathan spirit will cause that deep to boil. There will be a restlessness; there will be a turmoil inside. Also, that boiling is not only in you. You will stir up other people. Ever have people just turn you up? There are some people that can just tick you off. You just get around them a little while, and pretty soon you are just boiling; your deep is boiling inside. Well, they have a problem and so do you.

I am praying to God to bring me to the point that I am so free that no one can tick me off; that I am just unmovable; that I can't get stirred up about anything except unrighteousness and the evil that is in the world; that people cannot stir me up.

One of the things that I really praise God for is that He set me free to really love people. I began to realize that some of the things that they were doing, hurting me and so on, was not them at all. It was the demons in them. I said, “God, I can love them now. I can love them now.”

Verses 32-34:

“He maketh a path to shine after him; one would think the deep to be hoary.” (Or to have white hair. To have wisdom, the old age, the wisdom that comes with old age.)

“Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear.” (Or another way, “who behave without fear”. There is none like him God says. There is none like leviathan.)

“He beholdeth all high things; he is a king over all the children of pride.” (Another way of stating that is: he looks down on all who are haughty, he is king over all that are proud.)

Let's talk about this thing of pride because I think stubbornness and pride are almost synonymous. I do not know how to separate them, because, pride is what causes that stony heart. Pride is what closes those scales and folds together where the Spirit of God cannot

get in. Some of you will not understand or be able to hear the Word of God. Leviathan's most crucial work is in that area of keeping people from receiving the things of God and of the Spirit.

THE HIDDENNESS OF PRIDE

You say, "Well I don't have any pride." But see, it hides. It is a rebellious pride. Leviathan is sneaky and subtle, and he can hide himself. He can twist and writhe and slip out of the way. That rebellious pride which refuses to depend on God and refuses to be subject to Him but attributes to self the honor due to God is the very root and origin of all sin. All sin is rooted in pride—the whole sin system.

What do you think happened to Lucifer? He said, "I WILL EXALT MYSELF, I WILL SIT ON THE SIDES OF THE NORTH, I WILL BE KING." The very root of his downfall was pride. Me, me, me. Worship of me. "I do not need any help," or, "I'll go down there to church, but I will get what I need for myself by the Spirit." Sure you will. That is pride. That is just old pride.

I heard one brother say that was like driving up to the filling station and rolling the window down and the attendant comes out and says: "what will you have?" And you say: "well, I have an unspoken request." Pride wants to hide things.

So in Luke 10:18, we have the falling devil who has instilled a craving to be as God—to be like God—with the result that our whole nature was infected with pride through the fall.

KNOWLEDGE AND PRIDE

What struck me about Adam and Eve was that tree of Life was right there in the garden, and God did not tell them not to eat of it. Have you ever noticed that In Genesis? He put that tree of Life in the Garden and He did not say: "Now, do not eat of that tree." But they went right over and ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil instead of the tree of Life. That is rebellion and pride. That is the way we are from Adam. That is what God is dealing with and that is why leviathan is so strong and powerful and so rooted in us. It is a part of that old nature. That old self.

SUBMITTING THE SELF

Leviathan feeds on that and wreaths himself in that (there is a

dimension here that I do not have time to get into), but after the deliverance of leviathan there is still the crucifixion of self that has to take place.

People want to come all the time to get delivered of cigarettes. Cast out that demon of cigarette they say. Yes, we can do that, we can cast out a nicotine spirit just like that. Then what are you going to do?

We have a brother right now who would not come to church last Sunday because he got deliverance of all the tobacco spirits, and he expected to get up the next morning and not want a cigarette. Now that happens sometimes, but there are times that you get up the next morning and want one so bad that you think you are going to die. Well, what do you do? Is the unclean spirit still there? No, he is gone. What is that? That is ME. That is old self down there. Now, what do you do with it. You just put it on the Cross. Lord, nail it up there.

Jesus said to take up your cross and follow Him. Whenever anyone took up a cross in Jerusalem, there was one thing that was going to happen. He was not going to lay it down there at the gate. They were going to kill him. Crosses were to die on.

There are two dimensions of this thing. And I don't know where we cross over from the spirit of pride to the old self that will not humble itself and submit to God. You can resist the devil all day long, but you have to submit to God first. Submit to God, then resist the devil. If you are really going to get free, you are going to have to say to God that you will break out of this pride and get submissive. I think this is the starting place in dealing with this thing of pride.

Let's just talk quickly about that. The condemnation of the devil is associated with pride. I Timothy 3:6: "Pride is the snare of the devil." See also I Timothy 3:7 and II Timothy 2:26.

Pride was his undoing. Proverbs 8:13 says: "God hates pride." There is not place in us for it. There should be no place. God showed me that I could not even take pride in the ministry. I could not even take pride in Agape Fellowship because that is pride.

Proverbs 16:18 says:

"Pride goes before a fall".

The word here for pride is "gawohn" which means swelling excellence. "Look at me!" That is right before a fall.

Psalms 10:4 says pride is the cause of atheism. Let us look at that.

“The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God, God is not in all his thoughts.”

The word, here is haughtiness. It is the same thing that we find was the downfall of Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 4. It says here that the wicked through the haughtiness of his countenance will not seek after God. There is a root of atheism here.

LEVIATHAN IN THE HOLY PLACE

Let us look at this pride a little more. In the dictionary it says that pride is an exaggerated opinion of one's self, exaggerated self-esteem, conceit, haughty behavior resulting from this, arrogance, delight or satisfaction in one's own or another's achievement. Pride. God hates it in any degree.

Last year, in September, I had been meditating and praying about leviathan and asking for revelation. God woke me up in the night and revealed something to me. He spoke to my heart and said leviathan is residing in the Holy Place. He is a counterfeiter and, if you remember, in the Tabernacle of Moses there was an outer court and there was a tent-like structure with two rooms in it in the outer court area. One of the rooms was the Holy Place and the other was the Holy of Holies. (If you do not understand the Tabernacle you will have problems understanding the Bible because so much of its revelation comes out of that.)

The Holy Place was the place where the priest went in and ministered daily. There were three pieces of furniture in there. There was a candlestick which was lit and provided the only light in there. There was an altar of incense where they put the incense for the smoke to go up as a type of prayer and worship to God. There was a table of Shewbread over on the right where the twelve loaves were placed, and they were replenished every week.

The Holy Place is a type of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. When you come in through that second veil, you have already been out at the brazen altar where you received your salvation. You come in through the second veil and you come into where the revelation is and have illumination by the Spirit of God which is symbolized by the oil in the lamps.

God said that is where leviathan has his place. He is more interested in Spirit filled people than anyone else. One of the big problems in the spirit filled church among Pentecostals is what? Pride. Pride. I have a revelation. I have some truth here.

NO ONE HAS IT ALL

God is so smart. He is not going to give any of us all of it. He has given us some revelation in the area of deliverance, and I praise Him for it, but He has given some of my other brothers, whom I have difficulty liking, some things that I had to hear and I had to humble myself and say, “Well, brother you have some things that I need to learn.” So, God gives part of the counsel over here and part over there and He is forcing us to learn to listen and learn to love one another in spite of our differences. We are going to have to do this. Jesus prayed the prayer that there would be unity in the Body. What is it that keeps unity out more than anything else? Pride.

YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE!

Leviathan works in the Holy Place. You are a three part being. You are a soul, you have a spirit and you live in a body. Your soul is a type of the Holy Place. This is where leviathan works—in the area of your emotions, your mind and your will. He is trying to keep you from going into the Holiest Place because the Holiest Place is where the presence of God is—that is, behind the third veil. He does not want you to enter in there because once you enter in there, you have got it! That is the veil that was rent—the third one. When Jesus died on the Cross, the veil was rent, which is the veil between the Spirit-filled realm and the very presence of God where no man could go except Moses and the High Priest once a year.

Leviathan stands in front of that veil and says: “you are not going in there.” He will try to snuff out the lamps, cut off the bread and the manna. He will try to keep you from offering up the smoke of incense every day. He does not want you to pray in the Spirit. He does not want you to move in the Spirit. He does not want you to have words of knowledge. He will choke you if he can. He will give you spiritual deafness and blindness and it will tongue-tie you. This is what he is after. God says leviathan is in the Holy Place and he is a counterfeiter. He has seven heads that imitate the seven lamps of revelation.

COUNTERFEIT SPIRITUALITY

We can see from Psalm 74:14 and Job 41:19 that the smoke

from his nostrils we read about is counterfeit prayer and worship at the altar of incense. Leviathan is commissioned to counterfeit the Pentecostal experience. (I am using Pentecostal in the good sense of the word.) He wants to counterfeit the Pentecostal experience. He wants you to have a counterfeit and if you get the counterfeit and are satisfied with it, he's got you! And, Bless God brothers and sisters, a lot of folks have had counterfeit experiences. I don't say that to scare you or terrify you or anything, but I have cast out more and more spirits of false tongues and false prophecies. I have seen more and more people need deliverance from false ministry— ministry of error. There are all kinds of things going on out there.

In Malachi 2:1-2:

“And now, O priests, this commandment is for you. If you will not hear, and if you will not take it to heart, To give glory to My name, says the LORD of hosts, I will send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them already, because you do not take it to heart.”

Here we see the blessings have been cursed (Because of pride). I was teaching on that one night and reading that scripture when one of the brothers in the church just woke up. He said for five years he did not know it (the cursed blessing) was there. He had been spiritually asleep. What happened was that five years before, he was involved in a ministry and the leader was in error. He didn't know it and he walked with this man for five years before he finally got on to it. The Lord said to him, “Just stay right there.” The man was cursing him from the pulpit, but not speaking his name directly. He knew that the man was trying to get rid of him, but God didn't tell him to leave. Finally, God did tell him to leave. The brother said he had just realized that for five years his blessings had been cursed. This man had laid hands on him. It lifted off him when I read that scripture. We ministered deliverance and he received massive deliverance. He was asleep spiritually and did not know it.

SPIRITUAL SLEEP

Are you asleep and don't even know it? In Ephesians it says: “Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead and Christ shall give you life.” Leviathan will come in, strangle your experience in God and you will be asleep and not even know it.

I have seen people wake up, and it is exciting. Glory! What has been going on here? The church is asleep because of leviathan. But, we are going to blow him out.

Now, remember I said that he liked to eclipse because he was in the mythology of the sun? Well, instead of spelling “sun” spell it “Son.” He wants to eclipse the SON in your life.

Now, the good news is, you do not have to be that way. The good news is you can get free. Praise God!!.

PRIDE REVEALED

Leviathan, as I said, is the climatic revelation in the Book of Job. God says: “See this monster.”

In 42:5 we see Job's response and what does he say?

“I have heard, but now I see”. NOW I SEE!

He had the revelation to what his problem was. And what was his problem? It was primarily PRIDE—RELIGIOUS PRIDE.

Some of you have been listening, but you do not see it yet. You do not see your pride. It is hard to see your own pride. You can look in the mirror all day and pray: “God, if I have any pride, please show me,” but you will not see it that way. God had to hit Job, almost with a “ton of bricks,” for him to see his own pride.

“I am righteous. I am pure. I am holy. I do not need deliverance.”

“Brother, if you see anything in me, I am just going to sit down here and let you minister to me. If you see anything, cast it out.” That is pride.

In Isaiah 27:1, we see an end time scene with leviathan being dealt with and the parallel is in Revelation 12:9 where the devil is called the great dragon. Some people say that leviathan is the devil. That is pretty close to it.

MUCH ABOUT PRIDE

Here are some more Scriptures about pride:

“God breaks the pride of power because it will not harken to the Word and do the commandments, despises the statutes and abhors judgments.” -Leviticus 26:19.

In Job 33:17 we see that God speaks to a man at night to keep him from pride. Now why does He speaks to us like He does? To keep us from pride. If God spoke to us audibly, we would form a new denomination.

Psalm 73:1-6 tells us that pride results from prosperity. This is

why I know a lot of the extreme prosperity preaching is not of God because it will put people in pride from the lack of trouble. This not the way of the cross. Read that chapter.

Paul said he had to learn how to be abased and how to abound. It is a lot easier to learn how to be abased than it is how to abound. This is the downfall of a lot of good preachers—prosperity and lack of trouble. I don't think we are going to have that problem in deliverance—at least, the lack of trouble. I prosper, Praise God. I have never prospered more in my life. But, I don't want what I used to want.

Proverbs 11:2:

“Shame comes after pride.”

Proverbs 13:10:

“Pride brings contention, breeds quarrels.”

If you are a quarreler. If you are contentious, always arguing with people, guess what the problem is? Pride. Leviathan.

Proverbs 29:23:

“Pride brings a man low.”

Mark 7:22:

“Pride defiles a man.”

You don't have to worry about a man that is proud and arrogant, God will take care of him. That is not your job. Leave him alone. The Lord will take care of him.

THE BLINDNESS OF PRIDE

Pride is the biggest area of spiritual blindness. It can be right before us, and we don't see it or call it as pride. We find other things to call it. It is rooted in rejection and rebellion. We react to rejection with perfectionism and as we become “perfect,” achieving our carnal goal of having things just like we want other people to see, we begin to get puffed up with pride. I want somebody to love me so I will set myself a goal, and I will go achieve it and I will say, “Look at this. Look at what I have done. Look what I have done!”

Sometimes we say, “Look at what God has done,” but we really mean, “Look at what I have done.” In our hearts we are saying, “God could not have done it without me. I am the hand of God, I am the feet of God.”

Listen! God can do anything He wants to without any of us.

So, we begin to develop an over high opinion of ourselves where vanity comes in and that is simply excessive pride. “Do I look all right?”

Pride may even hide itself with false humility. “I am such a mess.”

Ego also rises up here and we become aware of ourselves. Self-awareness can be tormenting when you feel you have to be dressed just right. “I wonder what they are wearing down there today? I hope I don't go there in the wrong attire.”

PERFECTIONISM AND PROJECTION

When you become self-aware, you become intolerant of other people. You go someplace and everybody has a tie on except two people. “How come they don't have a tie on?” That is a demon effecting your thinking. The reason you are not tolerant is that others are not as perfect as you are, so you get critical. There is a critical spirit and this is how the devil works. Now you are starting to get loaded up with demons. Then, you get frustrated and impatient because not everybody is like you want them to be and you are frustrated because you can't change them. Since this perfectionist person is still aware of personal flaws and problems in himself, (No one knows your problems like yourself. You just can't hide them from yourself.) You can't do anything with them, so what do you do? You project them on others. You put them on other people and you begin to talk about them. This is what we call projection.

You begin to accuse people. Proverbs 13:10:

“By pride comes nothing but strife.”

Because others are so messed up, it opens the door for you to be disobedient or anti-submissive. “They are just a mess so I am going to have to go do my own thing.” We become anti-submissive and rebellious. “I just can't get my husband straightened out, so I am just going to have to take over. He won't be the priest of the house, He won't pray, so I am just going to have to take charge because I have not got him perfected yet.” You are creating him in your own image instead of letting God create him in His image. Listen, if you are creating a husband or anyone else into your own image, you are going to have yourself a monster one of these days. You had better leave them alone and let God create them in His image.

WHO CAN YOU TRUST?

What happens then, is that nobody can be, or should be, trusted— even God, because sometimes even He messes up. Let's just get down to where it is. For some of you, God has not answered your prayers and you wonder why He messed up because you had every right to have that prayer answered because after all The Word says so. "Why didn't You answer my prayer God?" If you went into your prayer closet and were honest that is what you would have to talk about because that is what stands between you and everything else. Bitterness toward God will keep you from getting deliverance. God did not do like you thought He should. He was unfair to you.

So, if you can't trust God, who can you trust?

ME. I am dependable. (I haven't been reading your mail. I have been here.) So in comes self-will. You become your own source of authority. You become selfish. Stubbornness gets in and a person is in a proud snare. He falls into self-delusion. He has false beliefs or opinions about himself (self-deception), deceives and defrauds himself and misleads himself about himself (Self-seduction). (This means to tempt or to decoy or to mislead.) Seduce means to persuade to do something wrong or evil, but we seduce ourselves. Pride here begins to reinforce itself. It just becomes a vicious circle and one becomes unteachable. Judgmentalness and willfulness usually seek to control others with an attitude of possessiveness. It is a downward spiral. When you become unteachable, you are at the point where you cannot be helped. I have not had any success with unteachable people.

THE CRITICAL SHIFT

The critical shift comes when ones ultimate confidence in God as the object and source goes to oneself as the object and source. See, there is a shift there. I may say "God you are my source. God you are the object of all I want," but a shift takes place and I become the source. I also become legalistic. If I don't pray five hours a day, if I don't fast every week it won't be right. There is a critical shift there and it has to do with pride.

MORE THAN HUMANS

Pride's professions:

"I can't stand it any longer."

"I am only human."

That word "human" means "a hue of a man." We are not a hue of a man. In Christ, we are no longer only men. We are now beings with supernatural abilities through the Holy Spirit.

Pride says, "I couldn't do that. I couldn't teach. I couldn't speak. I couldn't cast out demons." This is not humility. This is pride that won't allow me the risk of embarrassment or failure. The Bible says that we should do these things.

"I am charismatic. I am a Methodist. I am a Baptist." This is pride too. I am simply a believer in The Lord Jesus Christ.

Slogans can be pride. Are we famous, renown, well-known? Some of our wants can be out of pride.

"I don't do this, I don't do that," can be the pride of religious spirits.

Pride's question, "Why God?" (Who are you to ask God?)

"I want some private ministry. Can I talk to you alone?" Here is pride speaking. These are just some of the professions of pride.

"When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble is wisdom." -Proverbs 11:2

"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up." -James 4:10

"Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time." -I Peter 5:6

May all of us, like Job, be given to finally see what is working in us and be humbled and delivered so we can pray for our friends.

Lord, bless this word.



A PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE

Father in heaven, I come to you in the name of Jesus, Your son and my deliverer. I willfully humble myself before you seeking deliverance from all pride that has been hidden in my heart as a son of man. For all the pride, stubbornness and arrogance that I cannot see in myself, I ask for self-discernment and your great mercy and love toward me to grant me forgiveness for and deliverance from such.

I submit myself to have a broken and contrite heart that I not be despised but given healing of my soul as I confess such great sin to you. Although, the effects of blindness from my pride does not yet let me see all of the depths of such hardness, I lay my heart before you for cleansing of all unrighteousness, as promised, through the blood of Jesus Christ.

For all of the people I have criticized and judged, I ask your blessings and gracious mercy to be extended to them, confessing my desperate need for forgiveness for falling into the snare of Satan as an accuser. Have mercy upon me and deliver me of the curses brought upon myself by my own sin and folly.

Father, in the name of Jesus, I renounce and expel every unclean, foul spirit out of my thinking, my mind, my emotions and my very flesh. Set me free this day that I may be all you have called me to be and manifest your glory in and through my life forevermore.

With Thanksgiving I rejoice and accept your forgiveness and love.

AMEN