

First Baptist Poinciana
Spiritual Warfare Series
Dr. Wayne Harrell, Senior Pastor

SESSION FOUR | DEMONIC STRATEGIES 2
“Bitterness”

Family Time:

Recite Series Theme Verse : 2 Corinthians 2:11

Recite Memory Verse : Ephesians 6:10

When it comes to demonic attack in our lives - what will we do?

Detect - Deactivate - Demolish!

Believers living full of the Spirit and in unity flow together like a mighty river of God’s power. (Last weeks notes) (**Psalm 46:4**)

There is a specific demonic trait found in **Revelation 8:10-11** that describes the demon of _____ coming into the flow, and move of God, and wrecking the people that it latches on to.

1. The name of the great star has a name, it is _____
 - It fell into the “rivers and springs” of water.
 - River = God’s flow
 - Springs = represents the Holy Spirit in God’s people
 - John 4:14 = God provides salvation (quenching thirst) and fills us with the Holy Spirit (springs that flow out of us)
2. Wormwood is the Greek word for _____.
 - This demon has fallen to earth and has contaminated the water, and spreads death over God’s life-giving rivers.
 - This demonic entity is also mentioned in the Old Testament
 - Deut. 29:18 - You cannot be bitter and
 - _____ God
 - _____ God (The root of bitterness will attempt to grow, typically having a target.)

BRIEF WORD STUDY: Bitterness and Wormwood

- **Bitterness** originally *ROSH* - means "Head of _____"
- This word was used to describe the poison from snakes, or the head of a plant.
- **Wormwood** originally *LAANAH*, refers to a poison that _____

Absinthos Starts Small

James 4:1-5

Notice that it is Words that bring bitterness.

We've learned that Leviathan twists things and causes confusion.

Bitterness always follows.

*You are snared by the words of your mouth; you are taken by the words of your mouth.
Proverbs 6:2*

God's answer for those that try to disrupt unity, and God's Flow by way of their own bitterness: Proverbs 6:12-19

ABSINTHOS SPREADS _____

- **Bitterness spreads quickly from one person to the next.**
- Bitterness defiles the whole body. (Misery loves company)
- A little bitterness can poison and weaken the entire church body.
- Lamentations 1:4

ABSINTHOS HINDERS BLESSINGS AND DELIVERS CURSES

- Absinthos stops the flow of blessings that we should be releasing on each other.
- We should be BLESSING each other.
- Jealousy and Bitterness within the church and ministries reduce the flow of God's river to a trickle.
- Bitterness leads to mistrust and is often not justified, bitterness prevents a church from moving forward by keeping people focused on the past. (Hurts, events, people, and so on) If you are still bringing up things that happened years ago - you are bitter and it is overflowing in to all you touch, say and do. You cannot please, serve, love, nor experience God while under the effects of this demonic plague. **James 4:7-12**

(Continued)

Absinthos is _____ that is deadly to your spiritual life and hinders you from bringing forth the fruit of God in your life.

- You cannot curse and bless at the same time.
- We come to church and say “**GOD BLESS YOU**” (or) “**PRAYING FOR YOU**” then we go home and verbally kill the pastor, teachers, other church members, even our spouse.

Subliminally teaching our children the art of murder.

Many times we turn right around and ask God to bless our food.

Meanwhile, our murderous conversations reverberate off the walls and back into our lives.

- Church sayings need to be addressed as well:
 - When asking how someone is doing we often hear: “I am blessed and highly favored”

A murderous tongue is not, nor will it ever be blessed. Ask yourself this question before you respond in this way - “is my mouth allowing me to be blessed, and do I have God’s favor based on my conversation?”

Remember: God wants us to be umbrellas - helping to cover others
NOT weather reporters - pointing out the storms in other.

ABSINTHOS IS THE WISDOM FROM HELL UNLEASHED.

We now see the source more clearly. It Is:

1. **EARTHLY** (epigeios) - that which is of and in the whole world.
2. **SENSUAL** (psache) - coming from emotions, not your spirit. Mode: Oppression, Mental attack, Character Assassination.
3. **DEMONIC** (diamonia) - comes from demonic oppression. This demonic spirit opens the door to envy, self - seeking, personal attacks on others; especially in leadership, and every evil thing.

HOW TO FIND FREEDOM FROM WORMWOOD/ABSINTHOS

First we must walk in the spirit using pure, peaceable wisdom from God.

James 3:13-18

1. We need God to speak to our bitterness. (Acknowledge it)
2. God will bring forgiveness and release blessings in your life
3. To walk in freedom, we must put away wrong words as instructed in **Ephesians 4:31** - *Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice*".
4. We must show forgiveness and pardon to others. When one is pardoned the crime is no longer subject to further inquiry, scrutiny, discussion, or explanation. (Stop living in the past)
5. Be Nice. **Ephesians 4:32**
6. Pursue peace. Peace means that everyone in a society operates harmoniously. It does not mean that we all operate the same. God's people always get into trouble when they reject God's leadership - (Moses in the desert with First Church of Negativity)
7. Follow **Hebrews 12:14-15**
 1. No Bad Talk
 2. No Unforgiveness
 3. No Poison taking root in our lives
 4. Get rid of it, and choose peace. For you, for the church, for others. (Repent)

Notice this phrase:

"Cause Trouble" - the word trouble in Greek is *ENOCHLEO* and it means to be harassed by a mob. (Hebrews 12:14-15)

What do you need to do today?

1. Accept Christ as Savior and purge our sin?
2. Repent and ask God to forgive a heart of bitterness?