

BATTLE TIME

BASED ON THE SERMON: "Spiritual Beings Throughout Time"

THE BIG IDEA: This study will focus on how we battle the rebellious spiritual beings that wreak havoc in our world.

PRIMER Q: Why do you believe spiritual beings seem to show up sometimes but not at other times.

SERMON RECAP Q: What stood out to you in this week's sermon? Why did it stand out? How has God used the sermon to challenge and/or change you this week?

READ: Let's recap where we began this series and read **Psalm 82** (Remember "God & god(s)" is the same Hebrew word in our Old Testament; *elohim*.) **Q:** What stood out to you in these verses? Why did it stand out? What is God's judgment against the other gods (*elohim*) who ruled unfaithfully?

Q: What does verse 6 teach us about these rebellious *elohim*?

READ: Keeping the divine council in mind. Look at the following graphic observing the plagues of Egypt and Egyptian gods that YHWH God systematically dismantled. **Q:** What stands out to you in light of seeing God establish supremacy over the Egyptian gods?

2 THE PLAGUES OF EGYPT

When God rescued his people from Egypt after many years of slavery there, he displayed his power over Egypt's gods through a series of plagues. Each plague can be seen as a direct challenge to a specific Egyptian deity.

1	blood	2	frogs	3	gnats	4	flies	5	cattle
PLAGUE									
EGYPTIAN DEITY	Hapi god of the Nile, bringer of fertility	Heqet frog-headed goddess of fruitfulness	Geb god of the earth, from which the gnats came	Khepri beetle-headed god of the morning sun	Hathor cow-headed goddess of motherhood & childbirth				
6	boils	7	hail	8	locusts	9	darkness	10	firstborn
PLAGUE									
EGYPTIAN DEITY	Sekhmet goddess of healing	Nut goddess of the sky	Shu god of the wind	Ra sun god, king of the gods, father of mankind	Bes protector of households				

For Bible Nerds

For those looking to learn more about spiritual warfare in light of the divine council check out this podcast from The Bible Project guys.

<https://bibleproject.com/podcast/theme-god-e3-spiritual-warfare/>

Prayer Requests

Take prayer requests in your group. Instead of *only* praying for people at your gathering set up a calendar event or reminder on your phone later in the week with prayer details as well.

READ: Check out **Colossians 2:8**, "See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ."

Q: What categories does Paul warn us against? **Q:** What patterns in the OT worship of gods do you see in our modern times? [Money? Power? Nature? Child Sacrifice? War?]

READ: Let's read **Ephesians 6:10-20**.

Q: How does this passage change your perspective when taking into account spiritual beings as our actual enemy?

Q: How does this change the way you view people who are different than you?

Q: Discuss the following pieces and how each piece might help you battle spiritual beings of evil.

"Take up whole armor" - not part of armor.

"Belt of truth"

"Breastplate of righteousness"

"Ready shoes by the gospel of peace"

"Shield of faith"

"Helmet of salvation"

"Sword of the Spirit"

Q: What promises does God give us for each of the battle gear? For the totality of the battle gear?

[Leader Note: Allow time for discussion and questions.]

If you or your group have any further questions please text them to 813.444.7170 or email rtirona@thechapelfh.org

Closing Thoughts: Taking this week's sermon and bible study into account, what area of faith and doctrine do you feel compelled to study further?

CLOSE IN PRAYER