

Welcome Home

Introduction - Pastor Theresa is performing a wedding for Angelo and Rosa Merenda's daughter in Minnesota. She is returning later today.

Pray for safe travel.

Pray for the Service - Thanksgiving

Let's praise the Lord together

Lord You are Mighty

Roar From Zion

The Battle is Yours

Moving with the Lamb

The title of this message is

The Mighty Power of God in Us

I have the special privilege of sharing the word of God with you today. Have you thought about how important this hour on Sunday morning is? This is one hour a week, there are only 52 weeks a year, so only 52 messages you can hear this way. In this message, you will hear about the mighty power of God that is available to us and you will also hear about the opposition we face that holds "mighty powers in this dark world".

Lets begin with prayer from [Ephesians 1:18-23](#)

[Ephesians 1:18-23 NLT](#)

¹⁸ I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. ¹⁹ I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power ²⁰ that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. ²¹ Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. ²² God has put all things under the authority of

pastor Theresa has recently taught from [Ephesians 6:13-20](#) which says to “put on every piece of God’s armor”.

This message isn’t about the armor.

Let’s go back a few verses to [Ephesians 6:10](#) which says

[Ephesians 6:10 NLT](#)

¹⁰ A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

“Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power”

How do you think about yourself? Do you recognize the “mighty power” God has given to us?

Jesus said this to His disciples in [Matthew 28:18–20](#)

[Matthew 28:18–20 NLT](#)

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

This authority, this power was confirmed in them with the Baptism in the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost and from that day, God has been confirming His word with signs following as we, the Church, the Son’s and Daughters of God declare the “good news” of the gospel of Jesus Christ that John the Baptist began to preach in [Mark 1:15](#).

[Mark 1:15 NLT](#)

¹⁵ “The time promised by God has come at last!” he announced. “The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!”

After this, as the Apostles preached the word, it says in [Acts 14:3](#)

[Acts 14:3 NLT](#)

³ But the apostles stayed there a long time, preaching boldly about the grace of the Lord. And the Lord proved their message was true by giving them power to do miraculous signs and wonders.

Do you hear this? Do you see what happened?

“the Lord proved their message was true by giving them power to do miraculous signs and wonders”.

Ephesians 6:12 NLT

¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Our enemy is not flesh and blood.

Our enemy exists in the “unseen world”, the realm of spirits.

Our enemy has ruling power and authority, and as it says here, they are “mighty powers in this dark world”.

Our enemy is evil and they exist as “spirits in the heavenly places”.

As I first thought about this, I thought, this is too much. How can we battle these forces? Well, in our natural ability we can't.

Then I thought about how much of my time I spend just doing what is required to exist.

We Live in the Flesh

The reality of life is we live in the flesh.

After eating and sleeping and working there are only about seven (7) hours a day for other things like groceries, laundry, exercise, and for spending time with God. For most of us, finding an hour a day to read the Bible and Pray is a challenge. And there are many people that can't find even an hour or two a week to gather together in Church.

Before we have any discussion about spiritual beings we must deal with our natural life.

Our Fallen Human Nature is an Enemy to our Souls

There is a sinful nature in our flesh as it says in [Galatians 5:17](#).

Galatians 5:17 NLT

¹⁷ The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the

¹⁶ But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. ¹⁸ And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. ¹⁹ I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. ²⁰ But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. ²¹ I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. ²² I love God's law with all my heart. ²³ But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.

The power of the Spirit is given to us by God so we can put to death the deeds of our sinful nature, see [Romans 8:13](#).

[Romans 8:13 NLT](#)

¹³ For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live.

Since we have the power of the Holy Spirit, then we should “put to death” the “sinful, early things” as in [Colossians 3:5](#).

[Colossians 3:5 NLT](#)

⁵ So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.

We often get caught up in quarrels and fights because of our own evil desires that war within us. see [James 4:1](#).

James 4:4 NLT

⁴ You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.

In these verses, “the world” refers to the world system that is controlled by the devil. We are told not to love “the world” in [1 John 2:15-17](#).

1 John 2:15-17 NLT

¹⁵ Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶ For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. ¹⁷ And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

The world hates Christians

Because “the world”, the system is under the control of the devil we can expect the same hatred that was demonstrated to Jesus as He said in John 19-20.

John 15:19-20 NLT

¹⁹ The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates

These deceptive spirits will come with messages that deny Jesus Christ came in a real body like in [2 John 7](#)

[2 John 7 NLT](#)

⁷ I say this because many deceivers have gone out into the world. They deny that Jesus Christ came in a real body. Such a person is a deceiver and an antichrist.

These deceptive spirits will also come with messages that God's grace allows us to live immoral lives like in [Jude 4](#)

[Jude 4 NLT](#)

⁴ I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

The world seeks to seduce Christians

These angels, these mighty ones that live in the spirit realm where God is, these angels are ministering spirits in [Hebrews 1:14](#).

Hebrews 1:14 NLT

¹⁴ Therefore, angels are only servants—spirits sent to care for people who will inherit salvation.

We need to recognize that these angels are sent for our benefit but they also will execute God's word without any regret or empathy. Jesus, through the mercy seat, made a way for us to be reconciled to God but even God's angels can oppose us when we act contrary to God's word.

and sending them. Internally, sinfulness frustrates the efforts of believers to serve God fully.

But Jesus did not pray that we be taken out of the world. Instead, he prayed in [John 17:15](#).

John 17:15 NLT

15 Do not take these people out of the world, but protect them from the evil one.

