

# Bringing down the Prince

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**“See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.” (Joshua 6:2)**

**For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ( 2 Corinthians 10:3-4)**

**“Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.” (Daniel 10:12-13)**

**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:12)**

**And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (Colossians 2:15)**

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!” (Revelation 5:12)**

## **Introduction**

When we look at Nations from the spiritual point of view, we will soon become aware of the spiritual battle in a different way. In this environment we have to deal not with flesh and blood:-

**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:12)**

Here is what we are up against in the heavenly places:-

**How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, "I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. But you are brought down to the realm of the dead. (Isaiah 14:12-14)**

How can we face such a strong enemy? From the evidence we have, we believe that each nation has a "Guardian angel", watching over the greater influences which affect nations. The People of Israel after they came out of Egypt had been promised that God would send his angel before them. This angel would have the name of God in him:-

**"See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him. If you listen carefully to what he says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you. My angel will go ahead of you and bring you into the land of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites, and I will wipe them out. (Exodus 23:20 - 23)<sup>1</sup>**

Daniel gives us a clear picture:-

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<sup>1</sup> Good site for this - [hebrewsnation.com](http://hebrewsnation.com)

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(Daniel 10:12-13)

So where does that leave us with the Nation of Ghana? Do we have a Guardian angel? Does the enemy have a Principality which attacks Ghana? What can we do about it? As I reflected on the Prince, this is what the Lord showed me.

## **The Prince**

My understanding of this issue began as I rested in the heavenly places.

*I saw a figure of a very old man. He has been around for a very long time. His very presence was depressive and his every action brought more and more depression. Gloom and despair hung like a mist around him.*

*His name was **The Ancient One**. His purpose was, and still is, to bring Ghana down.*

## **His character**

If this is from God, then what is the aim of the Ancient one – this Prince? Here it is – his purpose for Ghana

He weakens the will, suppresses hope, undermines anything that is good, deceives and destroys everything that is good by deception, trickery or threat. He wants to humiliate Ghana, so that he can mock the Lord and show that he has broken the Lord's precious child. He wants to reign over Ghana.

What is his character? The Bible reveals it clearly to us:-

**\* Worship**

**Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."**  
(Matthew 4:8-9)

The Prince wants to be worshipped. If the fallen angels once had a place in heaven, then the Prince wants it back - but not to receive our free worship. He wants forced worship. He wants the human spirit to be bowed down to worship in defeat. We see this in Nebuchadnezzar:-

**Then the herald loudly proclaimed, "Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do. As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. 6 Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace."** (Daniel 3:4-6)

The Prince will spoil our worship in these way:-

**Corrupt** our worship.

**Fill our worship** with counterfeit signs, gifts and wonders which do not come from the Spirit.

**Exalt personal ministries** - putting pride and personal satisfaction at the heart, when the heart should be a free offering to the Lord without any desire for reward.

**Dazzle us with big events**, big Preachers, big feelings and emotions - worship which does not have the heart, yet we do not see it.

If the Prince can achieve this, then our greatest route to access to Father's throne will be blocked. It will be said of us:-

**"These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."** (Matthew 15:8)

**\* To reign and rule**

The Prince wants to rule over humanity. We see this characteristic in Revelation:-

**Then I saw a second beast, coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon. It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. And it performed great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people.**

**Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honour of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed.**

**It also forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name.**

The Prince does everything to get onto the throne of Ghana. He does not do it from love and sacrifice, but from arrogance, aggression and a desire to dominate. He will do all he can to hide this from us. He will show himself as the voice of reason, of tolerance of any and every Faith, of a mature "Everyone can have his own idea" approach. Or he will blind us to his working, while in secret he builds his strength. He will use deception. He will enter the heart of the church, weakening and enslaving. He will use every avenue open to him and he will persist, especially as he is mostly unopposed.

### **\* Obstruct**

**Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof and said to them, "I know that the Lord has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed.**

**When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below. (Joshua 2:8-11)**

The Prince will obstruct the work of the Lord, just as Jericho tried to. He will raise up mighty strongholds and taunt God's people. What are the strongholds he has erected in Ghana? <sup>2</sup>

### **\* The Strong man and Babylon**

**"In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up."** (Mark 4:27)

The Prince is strong, and he builds his own Babylon, where he can settle in comfort and challenge the Lord.

### **\* Roots reach into the darkness**

**"Some lived in darkness and in the shadow of death."** (Ps 107:10)

The Prince has many smaller strongholds reaching down into the darkness. We might start with these – Fetish, witches, spiritists, Voodoo, natural religions, superstition and fear. But we might add corruption in the Nation and in the high places of power. All this gives the Prince strength. Then he can bind, deceive damage, and control.

### **\* Destruction of the heritage<sup>3</sup>**

**"The people of Samaria must bear their guilt, because they have rebelled against their God. They will fall by the sword; their little ones will be dashed to the ground, their pregnant women ripped open."** (Hosea 13:16)

The Prince would gladly "rip open" our heritage, stealing the young and corrupting them as he has corrupted the current generation.

### **\* Innocent blood<sup>4</sup>**

**Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.** (Genesis 4:10-11)

Innocent blood cries out for justice and revenge, for avenging. The Prince draws strength from this uncovered and unredeemed blood. Most in Ghana seem unaware of this – just what the Prince wants.

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<sup>2</sup> More on INTERCESSION and REPENTANCE page of [www.touchingthesoul.org](http://www.touchingthesoul.org)

<sup>3</sup> See THE NEW GENERATION page of [www.touchingthesoul.org](http://www.touchingthesoul.org)

<sup>4</sup> See RELEASING THE POWER OF THE BLOOD at [www.touchingthesoul.org](http://www.touchingthesoul.org)

## **\* Pride**

**"I thank you Father that I am not like other men."** (Luke 18:11)

This stronghold is so dangerous because it stands against the Lord's authority. He himself said "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:2) The Virgin Mary underlined this – "He has performed mighty deeds with his arm. He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts." (Luke 1:51)

## **\* Spiritual blindness**

**Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him.** (Mark 14:1)

This is one of the hardest strongholds to break down. When Jesus challenged the Jewish leaders, they shut their minds by saying "We have Abraham as our father!" In other words, "There is nothing you can tell us that we do not already know." I have found this stronghold everywhere in Ghana. We see it in this - "Whatever you say, God will never judge Ghana or leave us." I can explain the issue of obedience and judgement over and over again, but I am met with this total denial of reality. This stronghold kills. It cannot stand by while we try to open people's minds. It crushes ministries and blocks prayer. It has to be brought down.

## **\* Hidden sin**

**If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;** (Psalm 66:18)

This is another dangerous stronghold as Joshua discovered with Achan. (Joshua 7:1-12)

Hidden sin is ground on which Satan can build this stronghold. Often good things fail and we do not know why. This is where we have to pray for discernment. The Lord will reveal, but if we are unaware of this stronghold, how can he reveal anything to us?

We will find hidden sin everywhere - in Politics, in business and in the Church. It has to be rooted out or it will hold back the spirit of repentance. As we see in the passage from Joshua, the Lord will not overlook hidden and unconfessed sin - a truth which the stronghold of spiritual blindness will take hold of and use.

## **\* Satanic activity**

**Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (1 Peter 5:8)**

Satanic activity in the land gives him ground on which to oppose us. And his activity is ugly.

## **\* Pull down**

**One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. Then she went back home. The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." (2 Samuel 10:2-5)**

David's sin pulled him down from the integrity which should be in the heart of a leader. David recovered - but at a great cost. The Prince is not a force which builds up but one which pulls down. He will pull down leaders - political and spiritual. He will pull them down by corruption, by pride, or by deceit. But as he pulls down integrity, so falsehood and deceit advance. He will take decades to undermine in this way. Once he has pulled down, the way is open for him to increase.

## **Spiritual powers**

**"A people has come out of Egypt; they cover the face of the land and have settled next to me. Now come and put a curse on these people, because they are too powerful for me. Perhaps then I will be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land. For I know that whoever you bless is blessed, and whoever you curse is cursed." (Numbers 22:5-6)**

**Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. (1 Samuel 17:41-43)**

The Prince will never hesitate to use spiritual powers against us. Balaam used curses and so did Goliath. We are fighting against the dark powers in the heavenly places

**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.** (Ephesians 6:12)

Sometimes that means that we face curses, blood offered to demons to break us, sacrifices to Satan to break us and all the occult trickery of Fetish and Voodoo. This is war, and the enemy will set the demons against us.

In the end, he is evil, and if all else fails he will manifest himself to us in other evil forces. It can be vile:-

**When the king of Moab saw that the battle had gone against him, he took with him seven hundred swordsmen to break through to the king of Edom, but they failed. Then he took his firstborn son, who was to succeed him as king, and offered him as a sacrifice on the city wall.** (2 Kings 3:26-7)

## **Chains**

**This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.** (Mark 5:3-5)

It is so important that we get to the heart of the Prince, and with the story of Legion a number of characteristics all come together. There is no good there, even if he tries to deceive with a good face. His nature is violent:-

**Goliath** - As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. (1 Samuel 17:48)

**Golden Statue** - Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace." (Daniel 3:6)

**The beast** - The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed. (Revelation 13:16)

The Prince will chain and break. This is his nature as we see in Revelation:-

They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer). (Revelation 9:11)

## **Deceiver**

**Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"** (Genesis 3:1)

**And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.** (2 Corinthians 11:14)

The Prince remains a dangerous threat to Ghana. Why hasn't he been pulled down before? Because he deceives God's people. He uses intellect and philosophy to convince the wise that he is not there. Or he comes to an agreement - "Leave me alone and I will leave you alone." He lulls us into a false sense of security. He shows himself as not really a big threat.

He is a liar and a deceiver - the Father of Lies. (John 8:44) In this disguise he is really at his most dangerous. For unopposed he will gain access to the Kingdom and destroy the church. Once he has weakened or destroyed us, he can march across the nation, crying "They are mine."