



United We Stand – Divided We Fall

Matthew 12:25-30

TIGERS.



HOUSE

CRIMSON TIDE.



DIVIDED

A Divided House

- **Matthew 12:25-30** - ²⁵ Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. ²⁶ And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁸ But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²⁹ Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house. ³⁰ Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

The Heart of Division

- **Matthew 12:33-34** - ³³ “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. ³⁴ You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.
- **Luke 6:45** - ⁴⁵ The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Jesus – All Authority

- **Matthew 28:18** - ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

In the Beginning

God's Creation – Order and Peace

God's Plan For Creation

Genesis 1:26-31 - ²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. **And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”**

²⁷ **So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, **and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**” ²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ **And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.** And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Man's Rebellious Spirit and Attitude

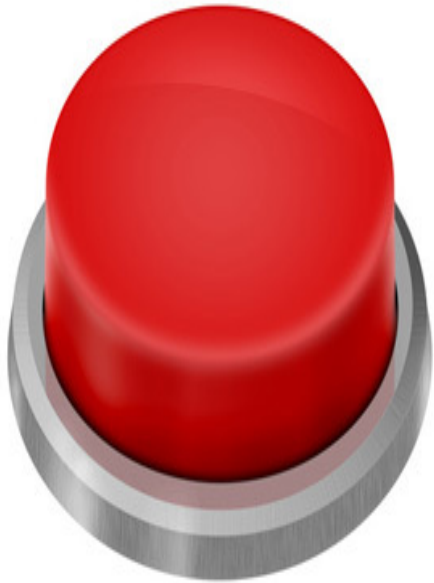
The Serpent's Deception

- **Genesis 3:1-5** - Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

The Lord's Command

- **Genesis 2:16** - ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Don't press this button!



Discipline Prevents Rebellious Heart

- **Proverbs 22:15** - ¹⁵ Folly is bound up in the heart of a child but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.
- **Proverbs 29:15** - ¹⁵ The rod and reproof give wisdom but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.

Temptation Creates a Divided House

- **James 1:13-15** - ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Causes of a Divided House

- **James 4:1-4** - What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴ You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

We Think We Know Better
Than God

My Thoughts Are Not Your Thoughts

- **Isaiah 55:8-9** - ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Foolishness of Man

- **Proverbs 14:12** - ² There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death
- **1 Corinthians 1:25** - ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
- **1 Corinthians 2:14** - ¹⁴ The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

Ministry of Reconciliation

We Are to be Peacemakers

- **Matthew 5:9** - ⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

A Call to be Holy

- **1 Peter 1:13-16** - ¹³Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

Ministry of Reconciliation

- God is reconciling the world back to Him through Jesus.
- **2 Corinthians 5:18-19** - ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling^l the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.