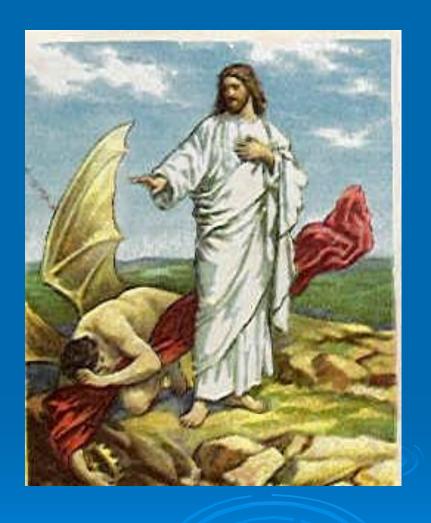
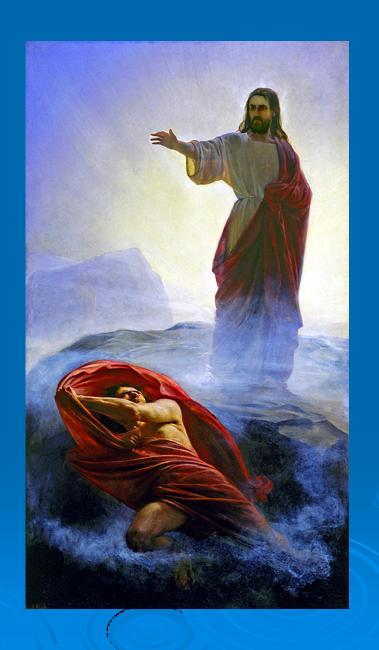
"No one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man"



Mark 3:27

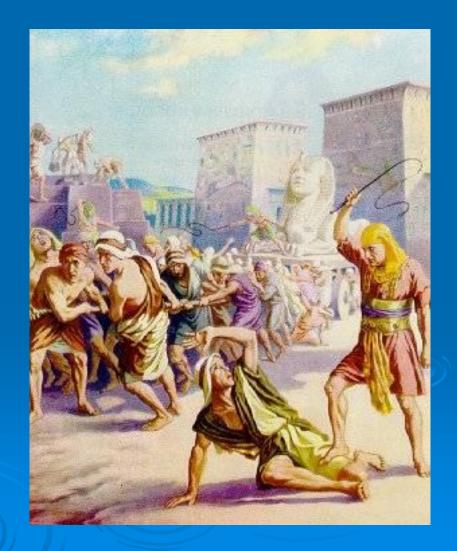
The battle over man's soul: Toward whom are we biased?



Satan's battle to subdue the creation (1)

- "...because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God" Romans 8:21
- Pharaoh's rule over the Israelites is an example of Satan's bondage: "And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage"

Exodus 1:14



Satan's battle to subdue the creation (2)

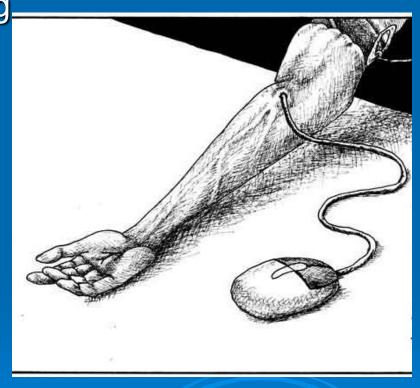
The bondage of sin: "for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage"
 2 Peter 2:19

Today's slavery is addiction either to substances or activities



The losses incurred due to bondage

- The gift of freedom: switching from being masters over the creation to being slaves to it
- Obsession and the loss of focus and determination
- 3. Tolerance of sin
- 4. Anxiety and depression
- Time, relationships, health, possessions, and, finally, the soul



Bondage is made worse through... (1)

- Denial: "They answered Him, 'We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone" John 8:33
- 2. Acceptance: "For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.'"

Romans 8:15



Bondage is made worse through... (2)

- 3. Fear: "...and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" Hebrews 2:15
- 4. Ignorance: "For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours you, if one takes from you, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face"
 - 2 Corinthians 11:20



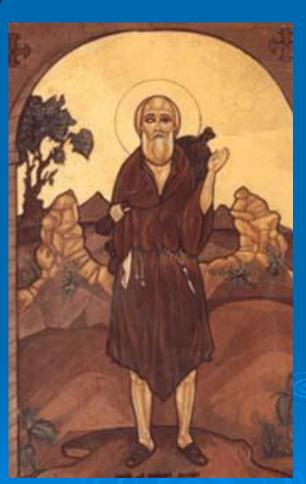
The battle to keep/regain my freedom (1)

1. Avoidance:

- "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful.
All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any"

1 Corinthians 6:12

- "If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you" *Matthew 5:29*



The battle to keep/regain my freedom (2)

- 2. Admitting and seeking help:
 - "He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy"

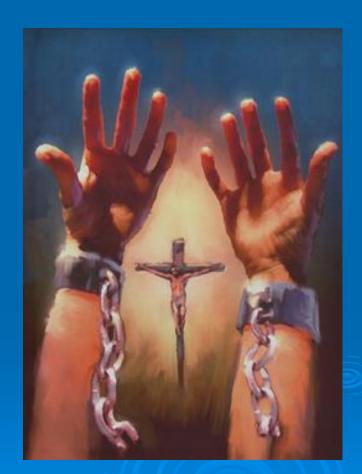
Proverbs 28:13

3. The power of fasting and prayer: "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting" Mark 9:29



The battle to keep/regain my freedom (3)

- 4. God is the only one who can set us free:
 - "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed" *John 8:36*
- 5. <u>Seek the Truth and do not be</u> <u>deceived by lies:</u>
 - "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32



The battle to keep/regain my freedom (4)

- 6. Change the pattern and acquire a good habit
- 7. Trust in God's mercy and never give up hope:
 - "For we were saved in this hope" *Romans* 8:24

