

# Teaching Guide – Chapter 2

*Hell's Spells* by Jim Raley

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## Chapter Theme

Satan is limited — but believers must understand his strategies and stand in spiritual authority.

Chapter 2 presents a balanced biblical truth: the enemy is real, yet he is restricted. He operates within limits of time, authority, and divine permission. Victory belongs to those who discern his tactics, remain submitted to God, and refuse to surrender spiritual ground.

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## 1. Satan Is Limited by Time

### Core Truth

The devil operates on a deadline. His judgment is certain and appointed.

**Matthew 8:28–29 (NKJV)**

The demons ask Jesus, “Have You come here to torment us before the time?”

### Teaching Emphasis

- Even demons recognize an appointed time of judgment.
  - Satan’s activity reflects urgency because his end is fixed.
  - Evil is temporary; God’s kingdom is eternal.
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**Psalm 30:5 (NKJV)**

“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.”

### Teaching Emphasis

- Seasons of hardship are temporary.
- God’s favor outlasts affliction.
- Darkness never outlives dawn.

**James 4:7 (NKJV)**

“Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

### **Teaching Emphasis**

- Authority flows from submission.
  - Resistance is active, not passive.
  - The devil cannot remain where he is firmly resisted.
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## **2. Satan Is Limited in Power**

### **Core Truth**

Satan is not equal to God. He is a created being under divine sovereignty.

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**Revelation 20:1–2 (NKJV)**

An angel binds Satan for a thousand years.

### **Teaching Emphasis**

- One angel restrains him — he is not omnipotent.
  - His authority is delegated and temporary.
  - His ultimate defeat is guaranteed.
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**Psalms 91:11–12 (NKJV)**

### **Teaching Emphasis**

- God establishes protective boundaries.
  - Angels are assigned to minister to believers.
  - The enemy cannot override divine authority.
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**Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)**

### **Teaching Emphasis**

- Spiritual warfare is real.
  - The enemy operates through organized strategies.
  - His influence is strategic and deceptive — not unlimited force.
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## **3. Satan Uses Mind Games**

### **Core Truth**

The primary battlefield is the mind.

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**2 Corinthians 2:11 (NLT)**

“We are familiar with his evil schemes.”

### **Teaching Emphasis**

- “Schemes” refers to calculated, deceptive strategies.
  - Deception often begins with distorted perception.
  - Spiritual battles require spiritual discernment.
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**Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV)**

### **Breakdown**

- **Finally** – This is essential instruction.
  - **Be strong** – Continuous dependence.
  - **In the Lord** – Strength is sourced in Him.
  - **Power of His might** – Victory flows from divine power, not human effort.
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**1 Corinthians 10:12 (NKJV)**

### **Teaching Emphasis**

- Pride creates vulnerability.
  - Self-reliance invites instability.
  - Vigilance guards spiritual health.
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## 4. Spiritual Maturity Is Essential

### Key Principles

- Spiritual maturity requires intentional growth.
- The enemy cannot possess a redeemed believer, but he seeks to influence thoughts and behavior.
- He attempts to introduce:
  - Fear
  - Doubt
  - Pride
  - Confusion
  - Disorder

He works through deception, accusation, temptation, and distortion of truth.

### Clarified Foundational Truth

Satan seeks to destroy (John 10:10), but he often does so through deception. When lies are believed and acted upon, destructive consequences follow.

### Authority Principle

Satan exploits areas of vulnerability and unguarded obedience. While believers are secure in Christ, unrepented sin, fear, and pride can open doors to influence.

He commonly operates where:

- Fear is embraced
  - Pride is nurtured
  - Sin is practiced
  - Lies are believed
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## 5. Job and Judas — Two Different Responses

Two men faced intense spiritual pressure:

- **Job** — Endured suffering while maintaining integrity.
- **Judas Iscariot** — Allowed personal motives and disillusionment to override devotion.

Both experienced testing.  
Their responses shaped their outcomes.

## **Lesson**

Attack does not define destiny — response does.

God can use difficult seasons to:

- Strengthen faith
- Refine motives
- Deepen dependence
- Reveal His sustaining grace

As expressed in the song “Through It All” by Andraé Crouch:

“Through it all, I’ve learned to trust in Jesus... I’ve learned to depend upon His Word.”

Trials become testimonies when faith remains anchored in God.

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# **6. My Fiercest Foe**

Often, the greatest battle is internal — self-will versus surrender.

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## **1. Know What Is Right**

**Proverbs 16:25 (NIV)**

Discernment guards against deception.

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## **2. Desire What Is Right**

**Psalms 37:4 (NKJV)**

Delight reshapes desire.  
As we delight in God, our desires align with His will.

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### **3. Do What Is Right**

**Ephesians 2:8–9 (NKJV)**

Salvation is by grace — not works. Obedience flows from grace, not toward it.

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**James 1:22 (NKJV)**

Application prevents self-deception.

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**Luke 22:42 (NKJV)**

Surrender is the pathway to victory.

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**Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)**

Focus sustains endurance. Christ-centered vision produces perseverance.

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## **Chapter Summary**

- Satan is limited by time.
  - Satan is limited in authority and power.
  - His primary weapon is deception.
  - Spiritual influence often targets the mind.
  - Response to hardship shapes spiritual outcome.
  - Victory flows from submission, discernment, humility, and obedience.
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## **Closing Declaration**

“I will not surrender authority through fear.  
I will submit to God and resist the devil.  
I will guard my mind.  
I will delight in the Lord.  
And I will stand strong in the power of His might.”

