



**Darkness Defeated
in the Israelites**

Genesis 12:1-3
1 Chronicles 21:1-29

A. A Declaration of War Against Darkness

1. A Strategic Turning Point

“The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.’” Genesis 12:1 (NIV)

2. A Strategic Blessing

“‘I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.’” Genesis 12:2 (NIV)

3. A Strategic Promise

“I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:3 (NIV)

Notetakers are History Makers:

B. A Failed Tactical Sabotage

1. A Strategic Interference

“Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel.” 1 Chronicles 21:1 (NIV)

2. A Strategic Surrender

“David said to Gad, ‘I am in deep distress. Let me fall into the hands of the Lord, for His mercy is very great; but do not let me fall into human hands.’” 1 Chronicles 21:13 (NIV)

3. A Strategic Foothold

“Then the angel of the Lord ordered Gad to tell David to go up and build an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. So David went up in obedience to the word that Gad had spoken in the name of the Lord.” 1 Chronicles 21:18-19 (NIV)

4. The Strategic Defeat

“Then the Lord spoke to the angel, and he put his sword back into its sheath. At that time, when David saw that the Lord had answered him on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, he offered sacrifices there.” 1 Chronicles 21:27-28 (NIV)

Notetakers are History Makers:

C. The 21st Century “Threshing Floor”

1. Repent of our modern “census” mindset.

“Now the Lord...” Genesis 12:1a (NKJV)

2. Realize that our place of greatest failure is often God’s favorite building site.

“Now Solomon began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David, at the place that David prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.” 2 Chronicles 3:1 (NKJV)

3. Recognize that the Gospel is not free, it is infinitely costly.

“David replied to Araunah, ‘No. I’m buying it from you, and at full market price. I’m not going to offer God sacrifices that are no sacrifice.’” 1 Chronicles 21:24 (MSG)

“Or didn’t you realize that your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don’t you see that you can’t live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for?” 1 Corinthians 6:19 (MSG)

Notetakers are History Makers:

Bottom Line:

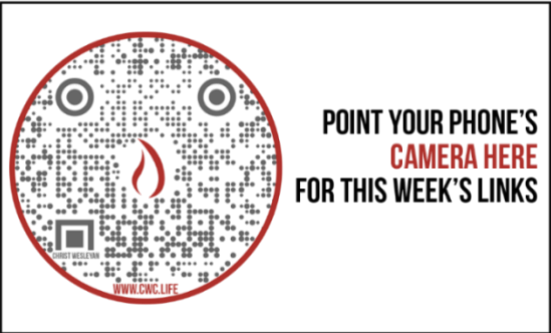
Darkness is defeated the moment we stop hiding a plague and start building an altar.

To begin a relationship with Jesus...
Text: “Jesus” to 570-273-0088

Next Sunday: Darkness Defeated

Week 3:
Darkness Defeated in the Wilderness
Matthew 4:1-11
Luke 4:1-13

Milton Campus: Pastor Branden Mestach
Sunbury Campus: Pastor Billy Robel



Giving & Attendance Update
Giving last Sunday: 79.6%
Giving year to date: 85.4% of goal
Attendance Last Weekend: 1,926
Salvations to date: 302 | Baptisms to date: 65

Upcoming Happenings:
Tuesday, February 24th-April 4th – 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting!

Saturday, March 14th – Real Life Discipleship Workshop / Youth Center / 9a-12p

Saturday, March 14th – Worship Night / Milton Auditorium / 6:30p

Sunday, March 29th – Voting by members for leadership positions (Sunbury and Milton Campus)

“Reach the One” Campaign Update
451 Total Participants
\$4,000,000 – Giving Goal by Nov. 2027
\$2,273,817.60 - Donations Expected by Nov. 2027
\$1,651,541.24 - Received Donations – 41% of \$4M Goal

Want to pledge, donate, or learn more?
Scan:



Looking for your next step at CWC?
Welcome Party: 1st Sunday of Every Month (*Except for Easter Sunday*)

- *If you are new* or if you’ve been around a bit and are looking to build friendships with others, our Welcome Party is for you! **Get to know others** who are newer at CWC as well as our welcome team and our pastors in a relational environment. There will be light refreshments and the opportunity to hear about our small groups, baptism, and your next step of Growth Track. If you’re asking the question, “*How can I make friends here?*” then this is for you! No registration is required, you can just show up. Look for the signs on the first Sunday of the month.

Growth Track: 3-week class on Sunday Mornings

- Growth Track exists to help you learn about the vision of CWC, the gifts God has given you, and how you can use them in specific opportunities to serve at CWC. You’ll learn amongst others of how to become a vital part of the ministries of the church so that we can share the light of Christ with our communities. If you miss a class, don’t worry! Growth Track runs every other month, on Sunday mornings, and we even have an online option you can participate in (though we recommend in-person if you can). You can see what classes are available by going to cwclife.churchcenter.com/registrations.

Membership Class: Once a quarter on Sundays after 2nd service

- Membership class is the last step of fully assimilating at CWC. Learn about our denomination, The Wesleyan Church and the bigger movement we are a part of across the world. This 3-hour class with the lead pastor provides you a place to **ask important questions about our beliefs as a church** and allows you to become eligible for our local board of administration. You also become eligible for denominational events like our district and general conferences. To sign up for our next class, let us know at the Hub or email: loretta.paulhamus@cwclife