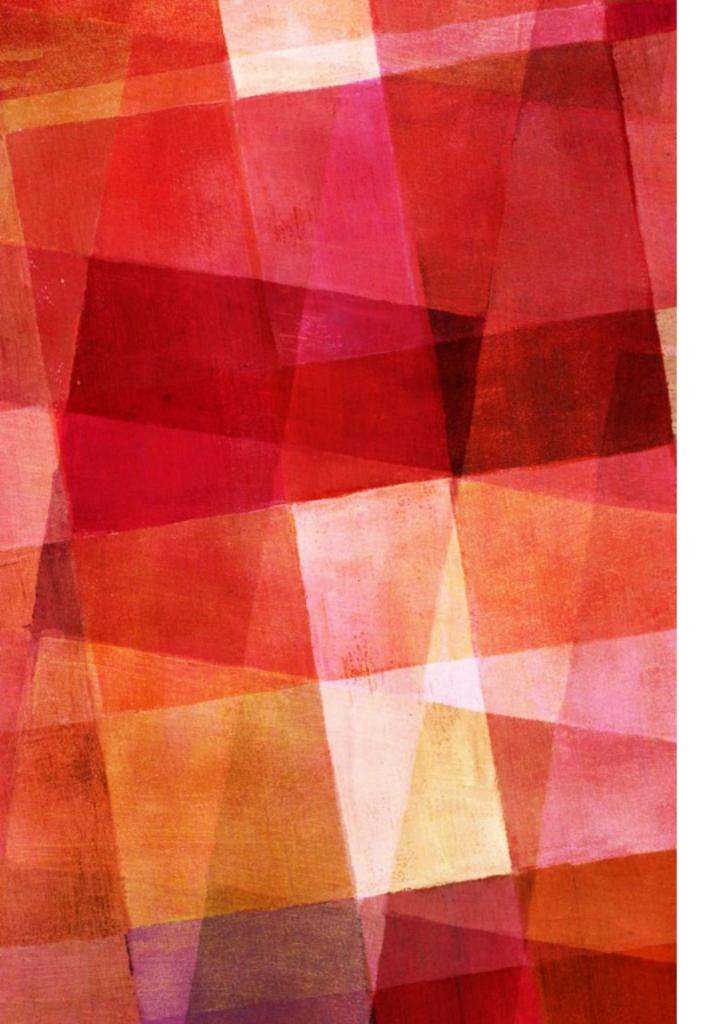


MARRIAGE IS UNDER ATTACK!

Part 1: External Foes

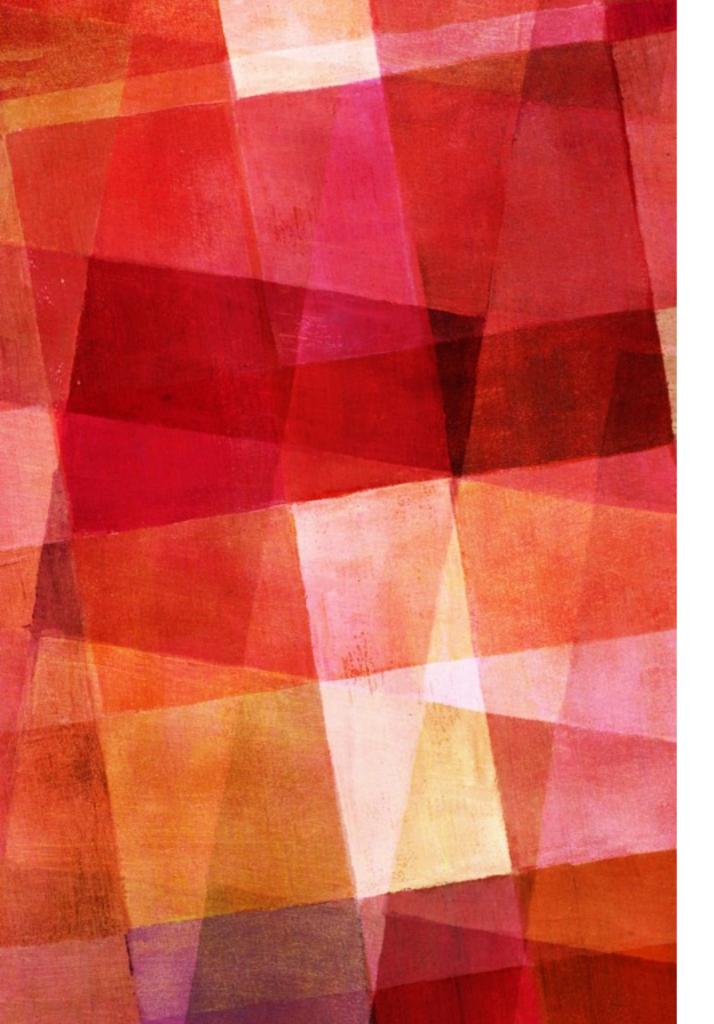
- A. Principalities & Powers
- B. The "world"
- C. Circumstances



A. PRINCIPALITIES & POWERS

EPH 6:10-18

"FOR WE DO NOT WRESTLE AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD, **BUT AGAINST PRINCIPALITIES, AGAINST POWERS, AGAINST** THE RULERS OF THE DARKNESS OF THIS AGE. **AGAINST SPIRITUAL HOSTS OF** WICKEDNESS IN THE **HEAVENLY PLACES.**"



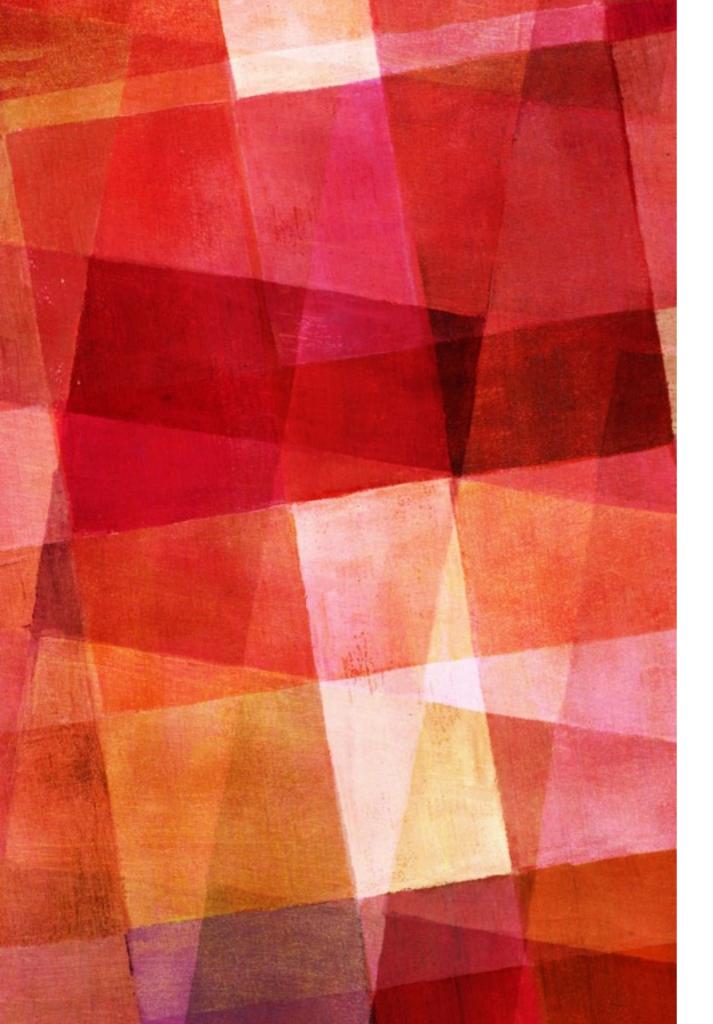
THE ENEMY'S GOAL IS ...

"steal, kill & destroy" Jn 10:10

"devour" 1 Pet 5:8-9

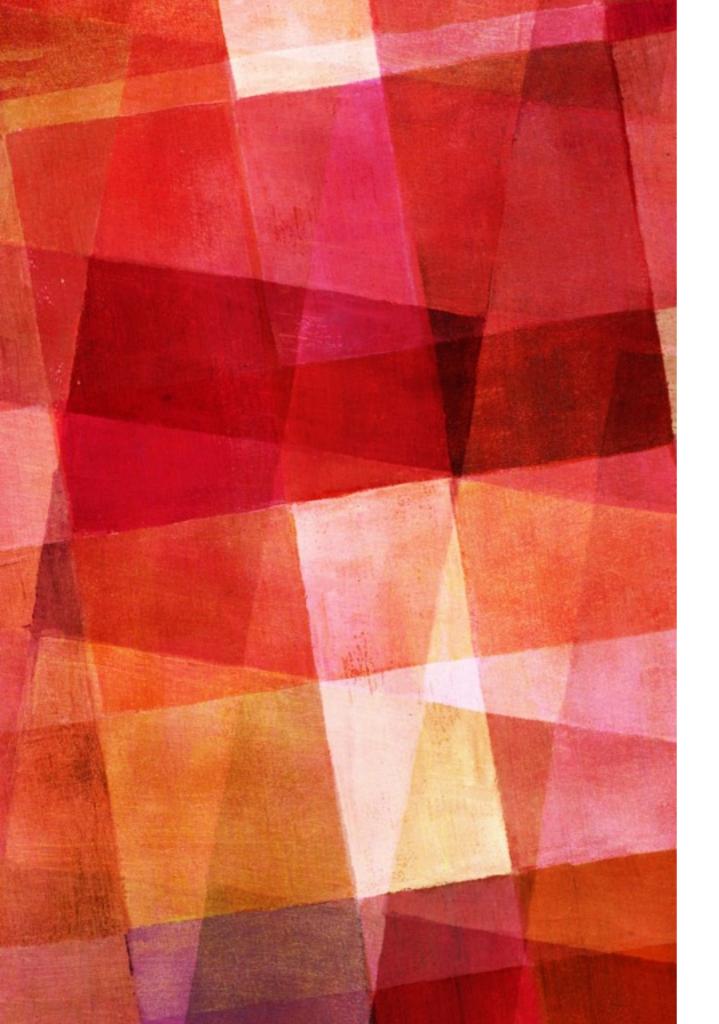
We are no match for such a powerful & deceitful foe ...

BUT: Christ has already gained the victory! Col 2:15 Jn 16:33
1 Jn 4:4 1 Cor 15:57 2 Cor 10:4



What do I need to do to access the resources God has provided for spiritual warfare?

- Eph 6:10-11 "be strong <u>in the</u> <u>Lord</u> ... <u>put on</u> the whole <u>armour</u> of God"
- 1 Pet 5:8-9 stay alert ... stand guard ... resist ... steadfast in faith
- James 4:7-8 "submit to God … resist the devil … draw near to God … cleanse your hands … purify your heart"



HOW DO THESE ATTACKS COME?

Directly & spiritually

Deception & Lies

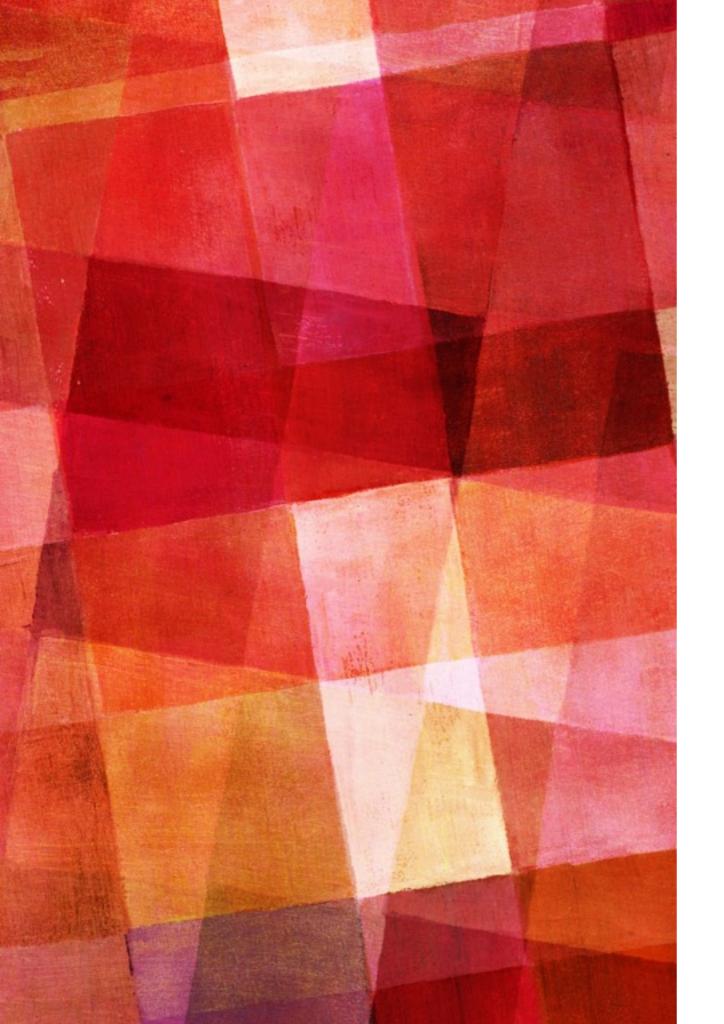
Temptation

Discouragement/ depression

Discontent

Unbelief/ doubts

5 senses



MOST USUALLY VIA "THE WORLD"

1 John 5:19

"the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one."

MARRIAGE IS UNDER ATTACK!

Part 1: External Foes

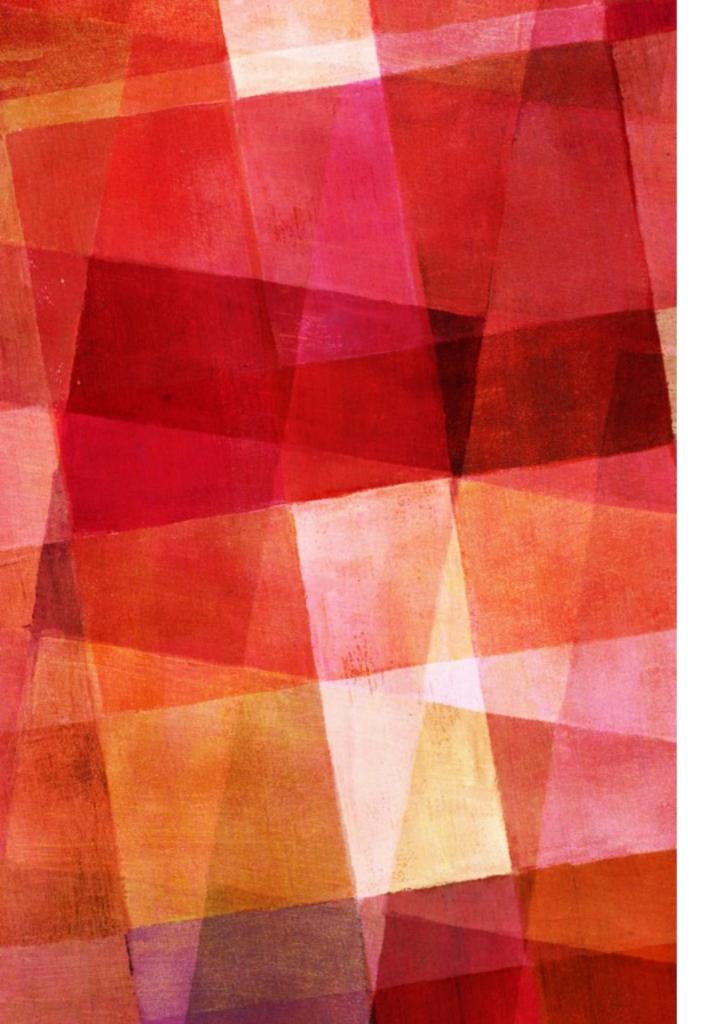
A. Principalities & Powers

B. The "world"

... its systems, institutions, philosophies, etc, etc!!

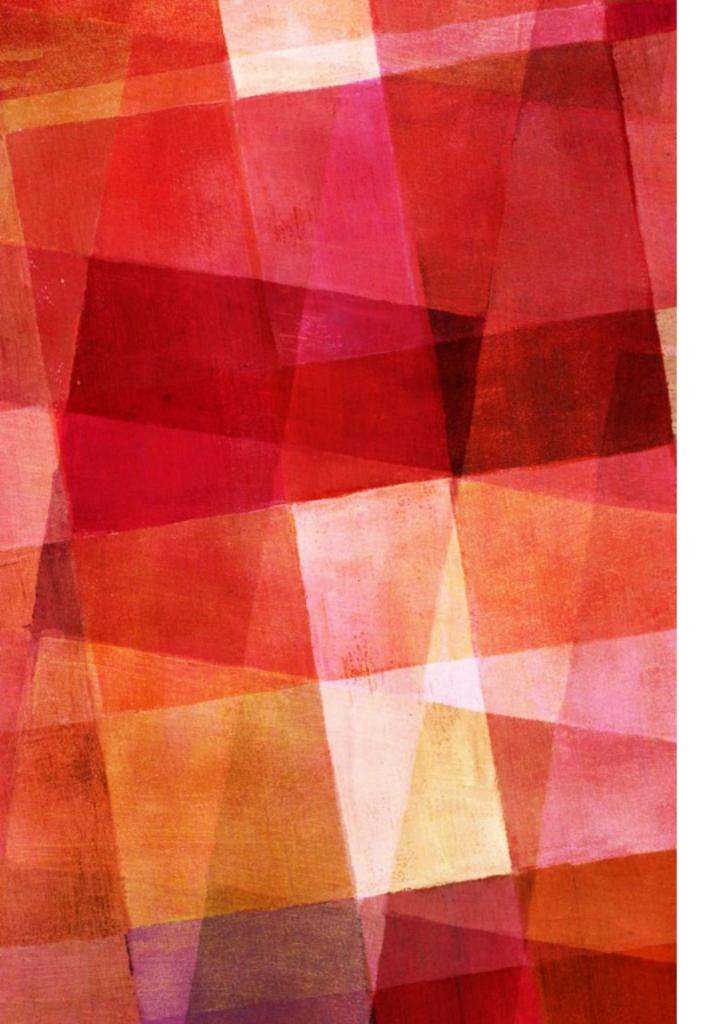
• Current Political/ Social issues





A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE?

- 1. "Father, forgive them"
- 2. Love, not hatred.
- 3. Wisdom (Col 4:4-5)
- 4. Changed hearts ... not forced legislation
- 5. Hold a <u>Biblical</u> position
- 6. Prayer waging warfare on our knees!
- 7. Keep perspective: ALL sin is wrong!
- 8. Guard your own heart!
 - 1 John 2:15-17 James 1:27 Col 3:1-5



MARRIAGE IS UNDER ATTACK!

Part 1: External Foes

- A. Principalities & Powers
- B. The "world"

C. <u>Circumstances</u>

Satan can use things that happen to us & situations which arise to 'plunder' us ... divide us ... overwhelm, etc.

eg. financial strains, illness, accidents, tiredness, busyness, loss of job, pregnancy & children, vehicle breakdowns, etc