

## Principalities and Powers

When we read the following terms in the Scriptures, they appear together. It is not a coincidence that “principalities” always precede “powers.”

Rom. 8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come.

Eph. 3:10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God.

Eph. 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Col. 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.

Col. 2:15 *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Titus 3:1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work.

In each of these verses, the Greek word for “principalities” is *archē* which means chief, first, and beginning. Michael, the archangel, is of the highest order. An archenemy is a principal or chief enemy. An architect is a chief workman who plans, designs, and oversees the plans and blueprints.

Principalities in the satanic realm are chief spirits that do the work similar to architects. They study the area, region, people, person and formulate a plan, a strategy, and a blueprint that is designed to accomplish their business, and that is to dominate and destroy the souls of men.

Experienced and intelligent, they engineer evil. As earthly architects give the blueprints to the contractor and his crew to follow the plan, so “principalities” give their plans to the “powers” to accomplish the given work. There is a hierarchy expressed in these terms.

When Jesus Christ was nailed to the cross, hell thought the satanic plan to destroy Jesus was complete. The “powers” had been incessant to find fault with Him, to turn hearts against Him, and to wear Him down. Falsely accused and wrongly charged, they beat Him, scourged Him, and in a grand finale crucified Him.

But God, the Master Architect, had a plan! It existed in His mind before the foundation of the earth was laid. He designed the plan for a lamb to be slain! While they were nailing His body to the cross, He was “Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it” (Colossians 2:14, 15).

-RWT