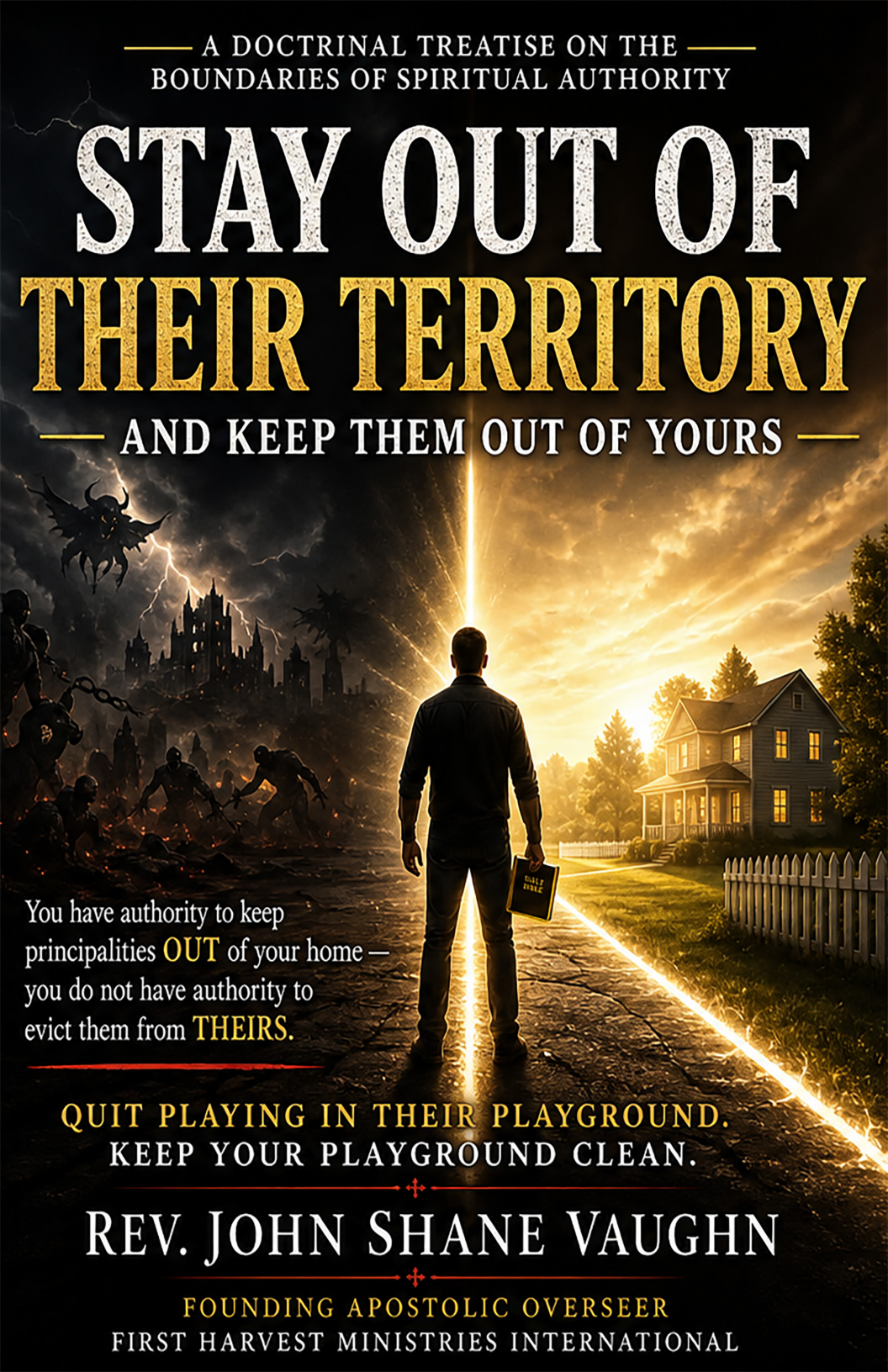


— A DOCTRINAL TREATISE ON THE —
BOUNDARIES OF SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

STAY OUT OF THEIR TERRITORY

— AND KEEP THEM OUT OF YOURS —



You have authority to keep
principalities **OUT** of your home —
you do not have authority to
evict them from **THEIRS**.

**QUIT PLAYING IN THEIR PLAYGROUND.
KEEP YOUR PLAYGROUND CLEAN.**

REV. JOHN SHANE VAUGHN

**FOUNDING APOSTOLIC OVERSEER
FIRST HARVEST MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**

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By Rev. John Shane Vaughn

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PROLOGUE

A Word Before the Word

— —

Beloved, before you read another sentence, I want you to hear me as a father, not as a theologian. I have watched too many sincere believers — good men, good women, sanctified saints — get themselves wrecked spiritually, mentally, and even physically because somebody told them they had authority they never actually possessed.

They were taught to “march around the city seven times.” They were taught to “name and bind the prince over Memphis.” They were taught to “cast down the spirit of Jezebel over America.” They were taught to climb mountains they were never commissioned to climb.

And what happened?

They got carnal. They got weird. They started seeing demons behind every doorknob. Their marriages cracked. Their minds fractured. Their finances collapsed. Their joy evaporated. They thought they were *winning* — and they were *losing*. Because the moment a believer steps onto a battlefield YAHWEH did not assign him to, he steps into a fight he was never armored for.

YAHSHUA already won that fight. The Cross already settled the territorial question. Calvary already disarmed principalities and powers (Colossians 2:15). The blood already spoke. The veil already tore. The keys already changed hands.

So why are we still trying to fight a war that’s already been won — *on a battlefield we were never deployed to?*

This treatise is the answer. And the answer is simple:

Stay out of their territory. Keep them out of yours.

That’s the assignment. That’s the whole assignment.

CHAPTER ONE

The Property Line That Scripture Draws

Every believer must understand that authority in YAHWEH's economy is not unlimited — it is delegated, bounded, and territorial. This is not a small point. It is the entire point.

When a sheriff is sworn into office, he carries a badge. That badge gives him authority — but only inside his county. He cannot drive across the state line and start arresting people. He cannot fly to another country and execute warrants. The moment he steps off his jurisdiction, his badge becomes a costume.

The Church has forgotten this.

We have raised up an entire generation of believers who believe their badge works in every jurisdiction in the unseen realm. They walk into spiritual territories YAHWEH never gave them, brandishing an authority that does not extend that far, and they wonder why they come home bloodied, battered, and broken.

The Apostle Paul gave us the boundary line in plain language:

“What have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?” — 1 Corinthians 5:12

Inside the camp — yes. Outside the camp — no. Paul drew the property line at the edge of the assembly. He did not march into the pagan temples of Corinth and rebuke Aphrodite. He did not climb the steps of the Areopagus and bind the spirit of Athens. He did not stand at the gates of Rome and cast down Jupiter. He preached the gospel, gathered the called-out ones, sanctified them, and kept his jurisdiction clean.

That is the apostolic pattern. That has always been the apostolic pattern. And anything else is presumption.

CHAPTER TWO

What YAHSHUA Actually Gave You

Look carefully at what YAHSHUA gave His disciples — and more importantly, what He did *not* give them.

“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” — Luke 10:19

Read that again. The power is *defensive*. The power is *protective*. The power is so that **nothing shall hurt YOU**. It is not a commission to invade Hell. It is a hedge of protection around the disciple.

Then look at the Lord’s Prayer:

*“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”
— Matthew 6:13*

Notice the posture. The disciple does not pray, “Lord, send me into the heavenlies to do battle with Beelzebub.” The disciple prays, “**Deliver us from evil.**” The arrow points one direction — *away from* the believer, *toward* protection.

And again, when YAHSHUA prayed His high priestly prayer for the disciples:

“I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.” — John 17:15

KEEP THEM. Not *send them into the demonic realm to subdue it.*
KEEP THEM.

Beloved, the entire posture of New Testament authority is **custodial**, not **conquistadorial**. YAHSHUA gave His disciples the keys to bind and loose what was already happening *in their assembly* (Matthew 18:18) — He did not hand them a passport to march into geographic strongholds and evict the gods of the nations.

CHAPTER THREE

The Ground YAHWEH Gave the Nations

Here is the verse the dominion teachers do not want you to read:

“When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.” — Deuteronomy 32:8

And more pointedly, in Deuteronomy 4:19, Moses tells Israel that YAHWEH has “divided unto all nations under the whole heaven” the sun, moon, and stars — but to ISRAEL alone, He gave Himself.

The Hebrew Scriptures testify that YAHWEH allotted the nations a measure of governance — and this is why Daniel speaks of “the prince of Persia” and “the prince of Grecia” (Daniel 10:13, 20). These are not metaphors. These are assigned territorial spirits — fallen, yes, but operating within a jurisdictional framework YAHWEH Himself permitted.

Now hear this carefully: if YAHWEH allotted those territorial principalities a sphere of operation, who do you think you are to march onto their territory and demand they vacate?

That is not faith. That is presumption.

That is not warfare. That is trespass.

That is not authority. That is cosplay.

The angel told Daniel plainly: “the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days” (Daniel 10:13). Daniel did not bind the prince of Persia. Daniel did not cast him out of Babylon. Daniel did not declare a seven-mountain takeover of the Medo-Persian Empire. Daniel mourned. Daniel fasted. Daniel prayed. Daniel waited. And the angel — the angel, not Daniel — fought the territorial principality with the help of Michael the archangel.

Even Michael — the chief prince of heaven — “durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee” (Jude 1:9). If Michael will not address a fallen principality presumptuously, what makes a Pentecostal preacher in Plano think he can?

CHAPTER FOUR

The Two Playgrounds

Let me give you the simplest framework I can give you. There are two playgrounds in the unseen realm.

THE FIRST PLAYGROUND IS YOURS.

Your playground includes:

- Your body — *“the temple of the Holy Ghost”* (1 Corinthians 6:19)
- Your home — *“as for me and my house, we will serve YAHWEH”* (Joshua 24:15)
- Your marriage — *“what therefore God hath joined together”* (Matthew 19:6)
- Your children while under your roof — *“thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children”* (Deuteronomy 6:7)
- Your assembly under apostolic covering — *“feed the flock of God which is among you”* (1 Peter 5:2)

In **your** playground, you have **full authority**. You can — and you must — sweep it clean. You can rebuke the unclean spirit at the threshold. You can break covenant with iniquity in the bloodline. You can sanctify your home with the blood of the Lamb. You can teach your children to flee idolatry. You can discipline the flock of YAHWEH.

This is your jurisdiction. This is your assignment. This is your sheriff’s badge.

THE SECOND PLAYGROUND IS THEIRS.

Their playground includes:

- The earth as a fallen system — *“the whole world lieth in wickedness”* (1 John 5:19)
- The cities of the nations — *“the kingdoms of this world”* until Revelation 11:15
- The political structures of the Gentiles — operating under principalities until the return of YAHSHUA
- The cultural mountains — Hollywood, Wall Street, Washington, the academy — *Babylon’s machinery, not yours*
- The territorial realms of fallen principalities — assigned by YAHWEH, removed only by YAHWEH
-

In **their** playground, you have **NO commission to evict**. You can preach the gospel there. You can bear witness there. You can rescue captives by the testimony of YAHSHUA there. But you cannot bind the principality, cast down the territorial spirit, or take the mountain. **That is not yours to take**. Christ will take it when He returns.

“And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.” — Revelation 11:15

Notice the tense. The kingdoms of this world *are become* — future, accomplished by the seventh trumpet, not by your seven mountains.

CHAPTER FIVE

Why Trespassing Gets You Hurt

Here is why this matters practically — not just theologically.

When you walk onto territory you were not commissioned for, you give the enemy a legal foothold against you that he did not previously have. Read this slowly:

The principality cannot lawfully touch you in your jurisdiction. But the moment you step into HIS jurisdiction without divine commission, you have surrendered your covering.

This is why dominion warriors get sick. This is why deliverance ministers go mad. This is why “apostolic generals” end up in scandals, addictions, and mental collapse. They were not deployed by YAHWEH onto that battlefield. They deployed themselves. And when you self-deploy, Heaven does not back the play.

Read the seven sons of Sceva carefully:

“And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.” — Acts 19:15-16

These were the sons of a chief priest. Religious credentials. Hebrew bloodline. Knowledge of Scripture. And they got beaten naked and bloody by ONE demon — because they were operating outside their commission.

If a single demon could do that to seven priests, what do you think a territorial principality will do to a self-appointed prayer warrior who decides to “take down the spirit of witchcraft over Salem”?

I will tell you what it will do. It will eat his lunch. It will eat his marriage. It will eat his ministry. It will eat his mind.

Stay out of their territory.

CHAPTER SIX

Keeping Your Playground Clean

Now we turn to the positive command — because this treatise is not passive. This is not “do nothing.” This is “do the right thing in the right place.”

You have an enormous, weighty, daily responsibility to sweep your own house.

“When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished.” — Matthew 12:43-44

YAHSHUA describes the house in three states: empty, swept, and garnished. And He warns that an empty-but-swept house is a more vulnerable house than the original — because the unclean spirit returns with seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and the last state of the man is worse than the first (Matthew 12:45).

This is the warning of every dominion warrior who “casts out” without “filling in.” You cannot just sweep. You must garnish — fill the house with the Word, the Spirit, the worship, the obedience, the holiness of YAHWEH.

Cleaning your playground means:

1. **Sanctify your body.** Refuse the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life. Make your body a temple, not a thoroughfare.
2. **Sanctify your speech.** Death and life are in the power of the tongue (Proverbs 18:21). Stop speaking curses over your house.
3. **Sanctify your home.** Remove every idol, every occult artifact, every defiled image, every cursed object — the things in attics and basements that you forgot you owned.
4. **Sanctify your marriage.** Break every soul-tie from former covenants. Repent for every adultery of heart. Honor the marriage bed.
5. **Sanctify your children.** Teach them YAHWEH’s commandments diligently. Cover them in prayer. Disciple them in righteousness.
6. **Sanctify your covenant community.** Submit to apostolic cover-

ing. Walk in accountability. Refuse the lone-ranger spirit.

This is your warfare. **This** is your dominion. **This** is your battlefield.

You will never have to bind the prince of Persia if you have first bound the prince of pride in your own heart.

CHAPTER SEVEN

When YAHWEH Sends You Into Their Territory

Now hear me carefully — because there is one exception, and only one.

YAHWEH sometimes sends a prophet into the enemy's territory. He sent Jonah to Nineveh. He sent Daniel to Babylon. He sent Paul to Rome. He sent Philip to Samaria. He sent the apostles to the ends of the earth.

But notice the pattern in every case:

THEY WERE SENT. THEY DID NOT GO.

Jonah was not freelancing. Daniel was carried captive. Paul was bound in chains. Philip was caught up by the Spirit. They did not wake up one morning, pick a city on the map, and declare, "I'm going to take that mountain for YAHWEH."

If YAHWEH actually sends you into a foreign territory — and sometimes He does — you will know it three ways:

7. **The word of YAHWEH will be unmistakable.** Not a hunch. Not a feeling. Not a "I think God is calling me." The word will be specific, repeated, and confirmed.
8. **The covering will be in place.** You will not go alone. You will be sent by an apostolic authority. "How shall they preach, except they be sent?" (Romans 10:15)
9. **The fruit will be conversion, not conquest.** You will go to *preach the gospel*, not to *bind the principality*. You will go to *gather the elect*, not to *take the mountain*.

If you cannot say YES to all three, **YAHWEH did not send you. You sent yourself. Go home.**

CHAPTER EIGHT

The Lie of the Seven Mountains

I must say a final word about the so-called “Seven Mountain Mandate” — because it is the most popular trespass doctrine of our age.

The teaching says the Church must “take” seven cultural mountains: government, media, education, business, religion, family, and arts/entertainment. The teaching says Christ cannot return until His Church has dominion over these seven spheres.

This is a lie. Not a small one. A foundational one.

Here is why:

First — the New Testament never commands the Church to take cultural mountains. It commands the Church to preach the gospel, make disciples, suffer persecution, and endure to the end. The Great Commission is evangelistic, not dominionist.

Second — YAHSHUA explicitly said, “My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight” (John 18:36). His Kingdom does not advance by taking earthly mountains. His Kingdom advances by witness, suffering, and the testimony of the blood (Revelation 12:11).

Third — the kingdoms of this world remain in the hand of fallen principalities until the seventh trumpet (Revelation 11:15). The Church does not take them. YAHSHUA takes them when He returns. To attempt to seize them before His return is to insert ourselves into a redemptive timeline we do not control.

Fourth — the seven mountain mandate produces political ambition, not apostolic humility. It turns ministers into operatives. It turns prophets into pundits. It turns the Bride into a lobbyist. It is the very spirit YAHSHUA refused on the high mountain when Satan offered Him all the kingdoms of the world (Matthew 4:8-10).

If YAHSHUA refused the kingdoms of the world from Satan’s hand, why is the modern Church running up the same mountain to take them?

Because the modern Church has confused dominion with discipleship, and conquest with witness.

Stop climbing those mountains. They are not yours to climb. The mountain you are called to climb is Mount Zion — the assembly of the firstborn — and that mountain rises higher than every other mountain when YAHSHUA returns (Isaiah 2:2).

CHAPTER NINE

The Family Application

For the FHaMily — for those of you under apostolic covering at First Harvest Ministries — let me make this practical.

You are not called to take Waveland for YAHWEH. You are called to walk holy in Waveland.

You are not called to bind the spirit over Mississippi. You are called to sanctify your home in Mississippi.

You are not called to march against the principality of Hollywood. You are called to refuse Hollywood's filth in your living room.

You are not called to declare prophetic decrees over Washington. You are called to pray for kings and all in authority (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

You are not called to cast down territorial spirits over America. You are called to be set-apart — peculiar people (1 Peter 2:9) — in America.

Your jurisdiction is your house, your assembly, your covenant community, your bloodline. Sweep that. Garnish that. Sanctify that. And let YAHWEH handle the principalities.

If every believer simply kept their playground clean — if every household in covenant with YAHWEH simply refused to host the unclean spirit at the threshold — the demonic infrastructure of this nation would crumble not because we attacked it, but because we denied it hosts.

You do not defeat darkness by chasing it. You defeat darkness by refusing to feed it.

CHAPTER TEN

The Final Charge

Beloved, hear me close.

The enemy wants you on his playground. He will whisper grand commissions in your ear. He will inflate your sense of authority. He will tell you that you are an “apostolic general,” a “prophetic warrior,” a “kingdom enforcer.” He will dress you up in spiritual costumes and send you into battles you were never armored for.

And then he will eat you alive.

*“Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.” —
Matthew 10:16*

Sheep do not invade wolf dens. Sheep stay near the Shepherd. Sheep eat the grass of the meadow YAHWEH assigned to them.

You are a sheep. You have a Shepherd. You have a meadow. Eat the grass YAHWEH gave you, and stop trying to be a lion in someone else’s forest.

The Cross has already triumphed over principalities and powers (Colossians 2:15). YAHSHUA has already been given all authority in heaven and earth (Matthew 28:18). The principalities are already disarmed. They are already condemned. They are already on borrowed time.

Your job is not to evict them from their playground. YAHWEH will do that at the appointed hour.

Your job is to keep them out of yours.

So here is the charge:

Stay out of their territory.

Keep them out of yours.

Sweep your house. Garnish your house. Guard your house.

Walk holy in your jurisdiction.

Wait faithfully for the King.

Refuse to fight a war Calvary already won.

Refuse to climb mountains YAHSHUA never told you to climb.

Refuse to be a sheep that thinks it's a lion.

And when YAHSHUA returns — and He will return — you will not be ashamed. You will not be wounded. You will not be naked and bleeding from a battlefield you should never have entered. You will be standing clean in the meadow YAHWEH gave you, with your house swept and garnished, with your bloodline sanctified, with your assembly walking in covenant — and the King will say to you what He said to the faithful servant:

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.” — Matthew 25:21

Notice — YAHSHUA does not say, “Well done, thou conquering general; thou didst take seven mountains.” He says, “Thou hast been faithful over a few things.”

A few things.

Your house. Your marriage. Your children. Your assembly. Your bloodline. Your testimony.

A few things.

That is your playground. Keep it clean.

The rest belongs to the King.

EPILOGUE

A Word to the Weary Warrior

— —

If you are reading this and you have been wounded on a battlefield you were never sent to — come home.

If you have been chasing principalities that bit you back — come home.

If you have been climbing mountains you cannot conquer — come home.

If you have been pretending to authority you never possessed — come home.

The Father is not angry that you went. He is grieved that you got hurt. The Shepherd will bind your wounds. The Spirit will restore your strength. The Word will recalibrate your assignment. The Cross will reclaim your peace.

Come home to your jurisdiction. Come home to your meadow. Come home to your house — sweep it, garnish it, sanctify it — and let YAHWEH be YAHWEH over the rest of the world.

He does not need your help to defeat the principalities. He needs your faithfulness in your assigned territory.

That is the whole of it.

That is the doctrine.

Stay out of their territory. Keep them out of yours.

—

In the name of YAHSHUA the Messiah, the Son of YAHWEH, who reigns until every enemy is made His footstool —

Amen and Amen.

MOST BELIEVERS ARE LOSING BATTLES THEY WERE NEVER ASSIGNED TO FIGHT.



This book dismantles one of the most dangerous lies in modern Christianity: that you have authority everywhere.

YOU DON'T.

Authority is **delegated**.






Authority is **territorial**.

Authority is **bounded**.

And misunderstanding that will cost you everything.



INSIDE THIS DOCTRINAL TREATISE, YOU WILL DISCOVER:

-  Why spiritual authority is jurisdictional, not universal
-  What Yahshua actually gave — and what He never gave
-  The danger of trespassing into unauthorized spiritual territory
-  Why many believers are wounded, burned out, and confused
-  The true battlefield: your home, your body, your covenant



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KEEP THEM OUT OF YOURS.
THAT IS THE ASSIGNMENT.**



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WAVELAND, MISSISSIPPI

ISBN 979-8-89824-001-0



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