### **How To Be Free From This Stronghold**

First, we must get honest and agree with God that we have been walking in rebellion and sincerely repent.

Then, renounce and rebuke controlling spirits of rebellion and witchcraft by the authority *all children of God have* in Jesus Christ.

Request prayer from others who are experienced in spiritual warfare. Ask them pray for you.

In order to *stay free*, we must be vigilant not to allow these sins back into our lives (the devil always attempts to regain access).

# Become willing to become accountable for your actions <u>Get an accountability patner</u>

Ask the Holy Spirit to help in continuing to walk in victory over these sins.... After this, submission to God, *his* righteousness and <u>all</u> *legitimate* authority is the <u>only way</u> to remain free of the stronghold of rebellion. This includes not only legal authority and that of our parents (while we are still in our minority), but also recognizing and submitting to our *spiritual leadership*.

\*\*God gives us <u>ongoing protection</u>
from the stronghold of rebellion
only <u>through submission</u> to <u>all</u> legitimate authority.

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# Breaking the Stronghold of...



Many very sincere Christians have failed in their attempts to live for God and end up falling back into old sins because...

## they rebel against God

by setting up their *own* ideas of what God's righteousness consists of....

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Romans 10:2-3 deals with the subject of refusing to submit to the righteousness of God which he gives to us through his son Jesus Christ.

When we refuse to submit to the righteousness of God through Jesus, this is equal to rebelling against God.

Refusing to submit to the righteousness of God, which is freely given to all his children through Christ Jesus, *always* leads to the issue of *control*. It is *very important that we understand this because...* 

#### If God is not in control--who is?

The scriptures tell us we fight not against flesh and blood...Ephesians 6:12

### It is never "just us"

There is a certain spiritual matrix (a place or enveloping element in which something originates, takes form or develops) which is <u>always</u> present in a person prone to addiction or other compulsive sinful behavior.

Understand This

# There is no such thing as an "addictive personality"

That is a completely humanistic, psychological, *unscriptural* concept!

What we are dealing with is the scriptural admonition against sins that *easily* beset us. These sins are always accompanied by a team of predatory devils, who attempt to establish (or re-establish) strongholds in our lives.

One of these devils is a <u>spirit of rebellion</u>. This spirit is present and active in the lives of *all* who struggle with sin of any sort.

#### How do we know this?

We know this because, *anytime* we attempt to escape and release the pressure in our lives by *any* means other than <u>submitting to the pressure</u> and allowing God to work his righteousness in our lives *through the pressure* (which may cause us temporary/severe discomfort)...

we are rebelling against the will of God

Where there is rebellion--rest assured, there is a demonic

### spirit of rebellion

actively working with its cohorts to strengthen any other strongholds that may already be present

But the weapons of our warfare are...mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. 2 Corinthians 3:4

Understanding the Stronghold of Rebellion is the first step to getting free from sins that easily beset us.

Rebellion is a sin equated in the scriptures with witchcraft

According to 1 Samuel 15:23

### Rebellion=Control=Witchcraft

Anytime we seek to control our own lives (or to manipulate the lives and actions of other persons or situations) instead of trusting the Lord to accomplish his will in all of the above, we are entering into

#### the dangerous arena of rebellion

which the scriptures tell us is the <u>same as witchcraft</u>. Powerful spirits are all too available (and willing) to assist us in destroying (at the very least hindering the work of God in) our lives and the lives of others through this stronghold.