

In this series we are learning how to execute the power of God in order to set the captives free. As disciples we are commissioned to make more disciples (**Matthew 28:19**). In order to do that we must be able to facilitate, by the power of the Holy Ghost, healing and deliverance (“These signs will follow those who believe; in my name they will cast out devils” **Mark 16:17**). Since the church has ignored, for the most part, demonization, there is a pandemic of epic proportions. As generals of the faith we must be the **ambassadors of change**.

THREE CHAMBERS

The Christian vessel is the home of the Holy Spirit. Christians become “the house of God” (**1 Cor. 6:19**).

1. The Old Testament Temple Outer Court, Inner Court, and the Holy of Holies (Heb. 9:8)
 - a. The Holy Ghost did not dwell in all three parts, but should influence and transform all three.
2. The Temple in the Old Testament was a forshadowing of the NT Temple
 - a. Christians are replicas of the Old Testament Temple
 - i. Body- Tent, encasement (2 Cor. 5:1)
 - ii. Soul- Mind, Will, Emotions (1 Thess. 5:23)
 - iii. Spirit- The Home of God, either dead in sin or alive in Christ (I Cor. 2:14; Eph. 2:1-5)

THE EVIL WITHIN

The Apostle Paul says that evil is within him as a born again believer. (**Rom. 7:21**) Christians have known for some times that the flesh is the fallen state of man. The old man as many would describe. Paul described his body as a “body of death” and that a personality lived in side of him that desired evil. Even though he was born again. So we know biblically that sin and the Holy Spirit can live in the same vessel. He also stated “in my flesh dwells **NO GOOD THING.**”

1. Two separate references Romans 7:17 & Romans 7:20
2. The Apostle is making a point that must be made clear to us

THE DUALITY OF SCRIPTURE

Is there a duality of Scripture we must understand? If so, what is it? Others will quote single scriptures as entire truths, rather than using the sum of all to form full truths. We cannot continue to take part and apply as whole.

1. The “old man” is dead. (Gal. 5:24)
2. Paul crucifies the flesh daily (1 Cor. 15:31)
3. “By His stripes, we were healed” (common reference used) (**Isaiah 53**)

SIDE NOTES:

You are either sick or well, in bondage or free.

The Bible simply recognized an individual in bondage by the devil or they were free in that area (mental, emotional, or physical health). Being delivered of an evil spirit was similar to a sick person being healed, in the sense that... they didn't really emphasize whether they were saved or unsaved, baptized in the Holy Ghost or not. They simply focused on whether they were sick or well, in bondage or torment.

OPPRESSION VS. DEMONIZATION○ **daimonizomai****Mark 5:15**

Original Word: δαιμονίζομαι

Transliteration: daimonizomai

Usage: I am possessed, am **under the power of an evil-spirit or demon**.

○ **lad·dāk****Psalms 9:9**

לַדְדָּאֵק (lad·dāk)

Strong's Hebrew 1790: 1) crushed, **oppressed**

1. Being under the influence of a demon- outside the house
2. Being indwelled by a demon- in the house

Can a Christian be Possessed**Mark 5:15-18**

15When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been **possessed** by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.

16Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-**possessed** man—and told about the pigs as well. **17**Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

THE PATRISTICS

The Patristics were the early church fathers and writers who hammered out our theological Christian framework. They are generally divided into the Ante-Nicene Fathers (before 325 AD) and the Post-Nicene Fathers (after 325 AD).

The Church father, **Augustine**, wrote in chapter 25 of his City of God, Book 2:

"What spirit can that be which by a hidden inspiration stirs men's corruption, and goads them into adultery, and feeds on full-fledged iniquity, unless it be the same that finds pleasure in such religious ceremonies, sets in the temples images of devils, and loves to see in play the images of

vices; that whispers in secret some righteous sayings to deceive the few who are good, and scatters in public invitations to profligacy, to gain possession of the millions who are wicked?"

In chapter 33 of his **Seventh Book**, **Augustine** rightly argues that Christianity, the only true religion, "has alone been able to manifest that the gods of the nations are most impure demons, who desire to be thought gods, **availing themselves of the names of certain defunct souls**, or the appearance of mundane creatures, and with proud impurity divine honors, and envying human souls their conversion to the true God."

The early Church fathers did believe in and preach against satanic forces.

They taught the casting out, or exorcism, of demons; and they possessed Christ's power to deliver the afflicted from demonic forces. It is modern theologians who have said little about demon power, and I **find that the less preachers teach on demons, the more control the devil has over society. The Word of God says, And the truth shall make you free (John 8:32).**

Tertullian:

"For, though **the whole power of demons and kindred spirits is subject to us**, yet still, as ill-disposed slaves sometimes conjoin contumacy with fear, and delight to injure those of whom they at the same time stand in awe, so is it here" (*Apology*, 27).

"Now if Socrates was pronounced the wisest of men by the **oracle of the Pythian demon**, which, you may be sure, neatly managed the business for his friend, of how much greater dignity and constancy is the assertion of the Christian wisdom, before **the very breath of which the whole host of demons is scattered!**" (*Treatise on the Soul*, 1).

"For God, Creator of the universe, has no need of odors or of blood. These things are the food of devils. But we not only reject those wicked spirits: **we overcome them; we daily hold them up to contempt; we exorcise them from their victims**, as multitudes can testify" (*Ad Scapula*, 2).

DISCUSSION SCRIPTURES

LIGHT AND DARKNESS

Commonly used among those who argue that a "Christian" cannot "have a demon"...

(2 Corinthians 6:14)

What communion does light have with darkness?

- Many believe and will contend that the Bible says light cannot dwell with darkness. This is why we must apply the whole context and not part. This is a misinterpretation of the text. Paul is actually discussing why believers should not associate with unbelievers. He is not stating, nor does scripture imply that God and the devil (angels or demons) cannot be in the same place at the same time. It claims instead that they are at war against each other.

(Mark 4:22-27)

Can Satan cast out Satan?

- A kingdom divided by civil war will collapse. True
- A family splintered by feuding will fall apart. True
- Satan cannot survive if he casts himself out. True

Jesus is making an illustration, He is using parabolic language once again in order to make a point.

How do demons gain access into the believer?

Ecclesiastes 10:8,

- “He that digs a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaks the hedge, a serpent shall bite him.” There is a hedge of protection around God’s people, but if there’s a hole in that hedge, it can open the door to the enemy and we can get bitten.
- Paul warned the believers in **Ephesians 4:27**, “Neither give place to the devil.” Also, **2 Corinthians 2:11** tells us, “Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”
- Either the demon(s) was there before the person came to Christ (past lifestyle, generational curse, bondages they previously came under, vows they made with the enemy, etc.), or it entered since they became a Christian. If the demon came into the person’s life before they accepted Christ, then the demon is likely trespassing because he has **no real legal right** to be there, and simply needs to be cast out (as Jesus did in **Matthew 8:16-17**). The way demons gain access into a believer’s life, is through open doors. There are certain sins and things we can do that will defile us (make us unclean). For example, having unholy sex can create unholy soul ties, which serve as demonic bridges, and can pass bondages from one person to another. Another example is being bitter or unforgiving; both those are closely related and can defile a person (**Hebrews 12:15**).
- Either way, the open door (if any) needs to be shut, and the demons cast out. Just because the enemy may not have legal rights, doesn’t mean he always leaves immediately (**remember the Israelites had to drive out the evil ones, one battle at a time**). Even though Jesus paid the price for our iniquities (**Isaiah 53:5**), doesn’t mean the demons won’t want to hang around until they are actually kicked out. If demons left automatically when their rights were removed, then there would be no need to cast them out. Sometimes though, they do leave without being told, but that’s not always the case. In **Matthew 8:16-17**, it tells us how Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of Him taking on our iniquities/infirmities... it was by the actual casting out of demons.