

Overcoming Demons

The Presence of Demons

- Demon from *daimon*, “dai” can mean “divide,” “disrupt,” “distributor of destiny.”
- Satan rules over fallen angels. Revelation 12:4, 9; Matthew 12:24-29
- Demons have organized “schemes” of attack and levels of authority. Ephesians 6:11-12
- Demons exist in two classes:
 - Those presently confined. I Peter 2:4-5, Jude 6-7, Genesis 6
 - Those free to attack

The Power of Demons

- They have intellectual knowledge of Jesus as God. Mark 1:23-26; James 2:19
- They can seek to possess and control anybody. Matthew 8:28-32
- They know the future and can fool people. Acts 16:16-18
- They know Christian leaders and can overpower an unprepared person. Acts 19:7-11

The Purpose of Demons

- To cause disobedience to God. Ephesians 2:1-3; Psalm 106:34-39; Revelation 2:20-24
- To promote false doctrine. I Timothy 4:1-5; Ephesians 4:14; II Corinthians 11:13-15; Matthew 24:22, 23
“...deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons...”

Deceit =

Seared =

Doctrine includes:

- To defeat our prayers. Daniel 10:10-14
- To stir up selfishness and disorder in Christians. James 3:13-18
- To prevent nonbelievers from knowing Jesus and His salvation. II Corinthians 4:4
- To spread disease, pain and suffering.
 - Inability to speak Matthew 9:32-33
 - Blindness Matthew 12:22
 - Deformity Luke 13:11-17
 - Epilepsy Matthew 17:15-18
 - Insanity Luke 8:27-29
 - Suicidal Matthew 9:22
 - Drive to injury Mark 5:5
 - Destroy life Revelation 18:1-8

Possession by Demons

- **Definition:** “A condition in which one or more evil spirits or demons inhabit the body of a human being and can take complete control of their victim at will.”
- **Characteristics of demon possession** Mark 5
 - Indwelling of unclean spirit. (v.2)
 - Unusual physical strength. (v.3)
 - Fits of rage. Acting out in unnatural ways. (v.4-5)
 - Projection of a new personality. (v.6-7)
 - Recognition and fear of Jesus’ power. (v.7)
 - Change in vocal expression. (v.9)
 - Cast out and seek to inhabit another body. (v.10-13)
- **Can a believer in Jesus be demon possessed?**
 - Believers are removed from the evil demonic world and transferred to Christ’s kingdom. Colossians 1:13-14
 - Believers are indwelt and sealed by the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13, 14
 - Believers live in the power of Christ who rules over the spirit world. Ephesians 1:18-23

Protection from Demons

- **Confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.** Acts 26:18
 - Jesus has judged Satan on the cross and rendered him powerless. John 12:31-33; 16:11; Hebrews 2:14
 - Jesus is greater than the evil spirit world. I John 4:4
 - Jesus has publicly displayed His power over the spirit world. Colossians 2:15
 - Jesus’ resurrection will cause all to bow before Him. Philippians 2:9-11
 - **Live in the power of the Holy Spirit.** Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 3:3; 5:16-26; Matthew 12:43-45
 - **Confess and turn from any attachments to occult or evil spirit world.** Acts 19:17-20
 - **Grow in your knowledge of the Bible to live obedient to Christ.** II Corinthians 10:3-5
 - **Test and discern false doctrine.** I John 4:1-3
 - **Pray the words of Ephesians 1:18-23**
 - **Connect with growing Christians to grow your faith.** Hebrews 10:23-25
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Next Steps:

1. **Research this topic further by reading one of these books:** *The Christian Versus Demon Activity* by Mark Bubecka; *3 Crucial Questions about Spiritual Warfare* by Clinton Arnold; *Powers of Evil* by Sydney Page; *Angels, Satan and Demons* by Robert Lightner; and *The Invisible War* by Chip Ingram.
2. **Attend the Spiritual Warfare Workshop** led by Brandon and Desiree Elrod on Sunday, May 3 from 1:30 – 3:30 pm in W-209 (upstairs in the Worship Center).
3. **Draw Near to God** –memorizing passages of the Bible helps you know the voice of God and are filling your mind with His words and spend time in prayer so that you are filling your heart with God’s love and care.

LifeGroup Discussion:

1. What new things did you learn about demons? What struck you as most important to know? Why?
2. Have you seen any evidence of demons in your experience? If so, what is it?
3. Which of the ways under ‘Protection from Demons’ from the outline is an area you would like to grow in?