

Lesson 23

The Work of Deliverance

Opening Verses:

Mark 16:17

*And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they **cast out devils**; they shall speak with new tongues;*

Matthew 10:5-8

*⁵These twelve Jesus sent forth, and **commanded them**, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: ⁶But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. ⁸Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, **cast out devils**: freely ye have received, freely give.*

Introduction:

Did you know that one of the main things that the Lord Jesus commanded and expected from His disciples was to CAST OUT DEVILS?! As you read about the recorded works of Jesus in the Gospels, you will learn that He spent 30 – 35% of His ministry casting out devils!

In this lesson, we will cover the biblical meaning, principle and process of “casting out devils,” as you will soon learn how important this revelation is to all of us!

Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

In this verse, Jesus was **equating the casting out of devils with the advancement of God’s kingdom!**

Satan is the prince and power of the air. He is the god of this world and he set up his government here. If our gospel be hid – it is hid to them that are lost (2 Cor. 4:3-4). In order for somebody who is lost to see the gospel (to believe and understand the gospel) – the god of this world who has blinded their minds – **has got to be prayed off of them!**

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2 Cor. 4:3-4⁴ In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

In order for the Kingdom of God to be **ADVANCED** – the kingdom of darkness has got to be **CAST OUT!**

Luke 11:20 *But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.*

God has Given Us the Authority to Cast out devils!

Luke 9:1 *Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.*

Matthew 10:1 *And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.*

Mark 6:7 *And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;*

Mark 16:17 *And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;*

So if we have this power and authority as part of the body of Christ, why are we not doing what God commanded us to do?

There are Different Levels and Types of Devils

Ephesians 6:12 talks about the different levels of demonic spirits. A **principality** or **ruler of darkness** must be higher in rank, as a ruler of a particular city or region. For example, the major types of spirits that operate in the city of *Chicago* seem to be the spirits of *violence* and *murder*.

Then the little **foot soldiers** are what normally infest humans as they attack the flesh. A principality that is over a city is not going to get in one individual since it's at a different level. So when we cast out devils from human beings, we are dealing with the lowest level of demonic spirits. And the good news is that this process should be **quick** and **easy!**

Demon “POSSESSION” is a FALSE Concept!

There is no such thing as the term “demon possessed.” The devil can never possess a human being even when one willfully “sells his soul” to the devil. For he can quickly repent and renounce it at any time that would cause the devil to immediately lose his legal right over that person.

What about the verses that we read in the gospels that state certain people being “possessed with devil/s?”

There are certain words that can’t be exactly translated from one language to another. And this was one of them.

- That **same Greek word** is translated as “**vexed**” in **Matt. 15:22** ²² *And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously **vexed** with a devil.*
- The **same Greek word** was used in **John 10:21** ²¹ *Others said, These are not the words of him that **hath** a devil...*

Nothing in this world is the possession of Satan. Even when the devil enters an open door, he does NOT POSSESS the person in the sense of OWNERSHIP (in the same way the word “possession” is used in Acts 2:45). For they have a **spirit that can be cast out quickly and easily!**

The **correct biblical terminology** of being “possessed” by the devil are: Being vexed with a devil, having a devil, or being under the power of a devil (demonized).

What about the DEMONSTRATIVE Manifestations of a Demonized Person?

You will read about certain examples in the Gospels of individuals who were vexed with a devil, displaying very demonstrative manifestations - such as possessing extreme strength that no man can tame, losing their mind or speaking with a different voice (Mark 8:28; Mark 5:1-5).

As you study this, you will find that the **demonstrative types were usually those who were infested by VERY MANY devils, such as with a LEGION** (6,000 demons).

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Usually a demonic spirit would prefer to stay “hidden” but whenever it would manifest itself in extreme behavior – it is being desperate and is attempting to intimidate since it is afraid to be cast out.

And when it starts obeying or responding to any simple command that we give – that’s a good sign that it is already acknowledging our God-given authority.

Take note that **Mary Magdalene** had seven demonic spirits that Jesus cast out (*Mark 16:9*) but there is no record of her having any demonstrative manifestation. Another account is when a spirit entered into **Judas** during the last supper (*John 13:21-27*). Judas did not have any crazy manifestations afterwards but just did a “normal” business transaction when he betrayed the Lord.

When you become more involved in the ministry of Deliverance (casting out devils) – you will notice that these demonstrative manifestations are **VERY RARE!**

You will also realize that you now possess a **GREAT responsibility to set the captives free!** Why? Because these demonic manifestations can seem very subtle from the outside but can be very tormenting from the inside!

Luke 4:18 *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,*

3 Levels of Demonic Influence

1. With the **MIND** – Habitual thinking
2. With the **FLESH** – Addictions (works of the flesh)
3. With the **DEMONIC SPIRIT** – Bondage by demonic spirits

Demonic influence is **PROGRESSIVE**:

The battle always starts with the **mind**. What we entertain can influence us and then what we believe will build a stronghold in our mind! Then this belief results into an action in our **flesh**. Thoughts produce actions (*Prov. 23:7*) so wrong thoughts will produce wrong actions. Every false thought that we entertain can result into a stronghold of our flesh. And then for every work of the flesh (*Gal. 5:19-21*), there is a demonic spirit associated with it. When a person gets more involved in a work of the flesh and does not repent of it – it gets worse and opens the door to spiritual or **demonic bondage**.

Deliverance from Ungodly Strongholds:

1. **For Strongholds of the Mind** – we cast these down and replace them with the Word of God (2 Cor. 10:3-5; Rom. 12:2; James 4:7).
 - If we can eliminate the FIRST level of demonic influence from our MIND – then it will save us from a whole lot of trouble!
2. **For Strongholds of the Flesh** – repentance (deciding to turn away from sin) will bring deliverance.
3. **For Strongholds of the Demonic Spirit** – we take dominion over it and **CAST IT OUT**.
 - Any Holy Ghost-filled person can do this!
 - YOU can do this for Yourself!

Aside from the **works of the flesh** listed and implied in Gal. 5:19-21, there are OTHER DOORS that can give access to these demonic spirits.

DOORS that People Open to Demonic Spirits: (*this is not an extensive list*)

1. Fornication

1 Cor. 6:15–17 ¹⁵ Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. ¹⁶ What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. ¹⁷ But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

What happens when someone commits the sin of fornication? If one of the partners for example, has a **spirit of violence** (an angry spirit), when those two are joined in an unholy act – one spirit can leave one individual and enter into the other individual. This happens a lot especially with the homosexuals. It can apply to any **spirit of BONDAGE** (any addiction or repetitive/continual sin).

2. **The Occult** - any area of the occult is an open door to an evil spirit. This is true even if it was done out of ignorance or curiosity. Nevertheless, we have the power to repent of it and to renounce it in Jesus name.

3. Abortion

For a Mother who commits the sin of abortion, it can open the door to ***spirits of self-rejection, depression***, etc. When it is not correctly dealt with by repentance, forgiveness and inner healing, it can also affect the helpless infant during the Mother's next pregnancy. This child may then inherit a ***spirit of rejection***.

4. Pornography

This sin involves a ***spirit of lust*** and everything that "goes along with it." This usually starts from a "lower" level. For example, a child molester must have been involved with pornography first, as one spirit links up with another spirit (through an open door) to defile the individual.

Thus, we must always be careful with what we allow our eyes to see, the movies that we watch, the books that we read, or any type of media that we expose ourselves to. For even just a few minutes of viewing - could open ourselves to any of these demonic spirits associated with worldly entertainment (spirits of lust, witchcraft, violence, etc.).

5. Drugs

Some drugs have a more addictive effect than others which can more "quickly" open a door to the ***spirit of bondage***.

6. Traumatic Experiences

The most common spirit that can come through this door is that of **fear**. Emotional wounds can also result from it.

7. Unhealed Wounds

A spirit can attach itself to any unhealed wound in our heart (inner man), such as a ***spirit of unforgiveness, rejection, depression, anger***, etc. And it is God's will for us to receive inner healing ...

The Process of Inner Healing: As you take the time to cry out to God in prayer, surrender your wound/hurts to Him and He is faithful to heal it.

1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. **Psalm 30:2** O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

God's process of inner healing does not have to take months or years. It can happen in just a few hours or days.

Demonic Spirits mentioned in the Bible:**1. A spirit of divination** (*Acts 16:16-18*)

Manifestations - anything linked with the occult, when one visits a fortune teller, magic, reading of horoscopes, anything to do with witchcraft or sorcery.

2. A familiar spirit (*Lev. 20:7*)

Manifestations – a wizard, one who evokes the dead, yoga, false prophecy. In the Old Testament, one with a familiar spirit was stoned to death because they did not have authority to cast it out (*Lev. 20:27*).

3. A spirit of jealousy

*Numbers 5:14*¹⁴ **And the spirit of jealousy** come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be defiled: or if the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be not defiled:

Manifestations – extreme competitiveness that consumes a person which can involve murder, divisions, contentions, cruelty and strife.

4. A lying spirit

2 Chronicles 18:22 Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a **lying spirit** in the mouth of these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil against thee.

Manifestations – gossip or always has bad news to tell, flattery (to gain something, different from complimenting), false teachers, slander (character assassination), false prophecies, and lies.

5. A perverse spirit

Isaiah 19:14 The LORD hath mingled a **perverse spirit** in the midst thereof:

Manifestations – homosexuality, incest, pornography, abortion, foolishness (senselessness), evil actions, or putting things in “reverse” (calling good as evil, and calling evil as good, etc.)

6. A spirit of pride (or a haughty spirit)

Proverbs 16:18 *Pride goeth before destruction, And an haughty spirit before a fall.*

Manifestations – rebellion (too prideful to submit to authority), self-deception, rejection of God (setting SELF on the throne to be better than others), self-righteousness, having a big ego that devalues others.

7. A spirit of heaviness

Isaiah 61:3 *To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, To give unto them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the **spirit of heaviness**; That they might be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.*

Manifestations – depression, brokenhearted, suicidal tendencies, despair, dejection, hopelessness.

- Depression stands on two legs: Hopelessness and Helplessness

8. A spirit of whoredoms

Hosea 5:4 *They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: For the **spirit of whoredoms** is in the midst of them, And they have not known the LORD.*

Manifestations - Involves all kinds of idolatry, prostitution, fornication, love of money, worldliness (*those who don't want to live right but claim to be a child of God*).

9. A spirit of infirmity

Luke 13:11-13 *And, behold, there was a woman which had a **spirit of infirmity** eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. ¹² And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. ¹³ And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.*

- **A clue that it is a spirit of infirmity:** When you pray for a specific condition and it heals BUT then it jumps to a different part of the body.
- **Manifestations** (not that same with every case) – can manifest as arthritis, can be any LINGERING DISORDER, any LONG TERM disease, cancer, a bent body/spine.

10. The dumb and deaf spirit (*Mark 9:25*)

Manifestations – speech problems, ear problems, epilepsy, foaming at the mouth.

11. A spirit of bondage (very common)

Romans 8:15 *For ye have not received the **spirit of bondage** again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

Manifestations – addictions (drugs, nicotine, alcohol, eating disorders), anything that is a **COMPULSION** (which is different from a temptation).

- Everything that God allows people to do (even good things) has a boundary.

12. A spirit of fear

2 Timothy 1:7 *For God hath not given us the **spirit of fear**; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*

Manifestations – phobias of any kind, fears, torments, anxiety, stress, nightmares.

13. A seducing spirit

1 Timothy 4:1 *Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to **seducing spirits**, and doctrines of devils;*

Manifestations – deception, a seared conscience (*can commit sin without any remorse – like one who just keeps lying and making up stories. When you get to that point, you are lost because God is no longer involved in your conscience*); false prophets.

14. A spirit of antichrist

1 John 4:3 *And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that **spirit of antichrist**, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*

Manifestations – humanism, deceivers, lawlessness, go against Christians, denies the atonement and/or the deity of Christ.

15. The spirit of error

1 John 4:6 *We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the **spirit of error**.*

Manifestations – unteachable people, un-submissive people, argumentative, contentious, the new age.

ADDITIONAL INSIGHTS:

- There are **MANY OTHER** demonic spirits that are evident in our present day. Examples of these are the spirits of *anger, cursing, restlessness, weariness, poverty, insecurity, unforgiveness, iniquity, offense, anxiety, rejection, suicide*, etc.
- The manifestation of a demonic spirit is anything that is **UNCLEAN** and **UNRIGHTEOUS**.
- It may seem very subtle, but if you constantly experience a particular vexation with the same type of trigger, then it might be a spirit that needs to be cast out!
- Some spirits are more wicked than others.
- Spirits can only enter through an open door and so they're always looking for an open access since they can't force their way in.
- Every spirit is subject to its own and can't cause "other" bondages (i.e. the *spirit of fear* can't cause the bondage/influence of *lust*, etc.).

NOTES

Pray for the Gift of Discerning of Spirits so that you can recognize the different **types of spirits** as well as identify when it is the **work of the flesh** (since we don't deal with flesh the same way).

Experience will be your best teacher as you apply the principles in this lesson. At any time when you are not sure what to do or when you are not seeing the immediate release, **allow the Spirit to guide you** and **operate in the Gifts of the Spirit.**

Basic Steps for Deliverance:

- 1. Confess the sin (or the door you opened)**
James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed ...
- 2. Repent of the sin (make a decision to change):**
Father, I am sorry for my sin of _____ and by Your grace, I make a choose to change.
- 3. Exercise forgiveness (toward God, a person, self):**
I forgive (name of person) / God / Myself
- 4. Pray for deliverance.**
 - **To cast out** = to drive out, to remove, to expel

Sample Prayer:

By the power of Your name and by the authority of Your Word, I take dominion and authority over this spirit (of fear) and I cast it out in the name of Jesus!

Hindrances:

- 1) Unrepented or hidden sin**
- 2) Unforgiveness and Shame**
 - Both of these hindrances give the devil a legal right to torment a person.
 - Once confession and forgiveness are expressed – **their release is quick!**
- 3) Bondage that was inherited or which started from the Parent or spiritual authority**
 - Once the parent or spiritual authority is set free (repented, has forgiven and wounds healed) – then the affected child will also be set free.
- 4) Occult Involvement**
Sample Prayer for deliverance: *I renounce Satan and all of his works. I am making Jesus as my Lord.*
- 5) Lack of desire to change**
 - This is something wherein we have no power over. Every person needs to DESIRE change for them to be truly delivered. It is always best to ask the person first if they want deliverance.

NOTES

Proverbs 28:13

*He that covereth his sins shall not prosper:
But whoso **confesseth** and **forsaketh** them shall have mercy.*

*As you pray and minister to others, allow the **Spirit to guide you in discerning any possible hindrances** that may be affecting the person's deliverance so that you can guide them in receiving their tangible **RELEASE** in Jesus' name!*

- You want to deal with the "root" of the problem and not just with the "surface" manifestations.

Methods of Praying for Deliverance:

1. Personal Prayer
2. A Word of Faith released to a group
3. One-on-one Ministry

God can use any of these methods of prayer but the one-on one ministry seems to be the **most effective**.

James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, **that ye may be healed**. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man **availeth much**.

Signs of Receiving Deliverance:

The most important and common sign is that you will **definitely feel a RELEASE in your spirit!**

Then there could be OTHER emotional or physical signs that could happen, such as: *a loud cry, a cough, throwing up, etc.*

Mark 1:26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and **cried with a loud voice, he came out of him**.

Demonic spirits can be cast out by ANY deep move of the Holy Ghost!

Aside from all the methods of prayer mentioned in this lesson, deliverance can flow at any time when God's authority is flowing = as you minister **in TONGUES**, when you flow in the **Gift of Faith**, and even as you **Worship God!** This is all possible because the enemy gets intimidated by the glory of God and by the authority that God has released to His body!

Maintain Your Deliverance

Staying delivered is always God's will for us because it only gets better from here with MORE deliverance and liberty to experience! **Keep all "doors" to the enemy closed**, continue **resisting his lies** (as you submit to God), **be full of the Spirit of God** and **renew your mind with God's Truth**. Also remember that dealing with the enemy's temptations will now be much easier to resist!

NOTES

James 5:16:

The power of **confession** (transparency) releases the power of God's light upon hidden sin and quickly removes the work of darkness.

For one who has been bound by **shame**, this has affected their level of faith – so it would be helpful for someone who is full of faith (righteous) to effectively pray for them.