

## Demons

We cannot talk about the Holy Spirit in our lives without addressing Demons. Demons exist and they desire to poses the part of us that is reserved for the Holy Spirit. There is no place for demons in our spirit when we are born again and have the spirit of God in us. We must be vigilant spiritually and defend ourselves from the attacks of the devil.

| Spirit                                       | Soul        | Body  |
|--|-------------|-------|
| New Birth                                    | Mind        | See   |
| Communicates with God                        | Emotions    | Smell |
| <b>Power of God comes through our Spirit</b> | Conscience  | Taste |
|  | Personality | Hear  |
|  | Will        | Feel  |

Luke 11:24-26

“When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first.”

The moral of the lesson here is we must have the deposit of the Holy Spirit and even the baptism when we are delivered from demonic possession. We are vulnerable to the forces of evil without the new birth and the spirit of God in us.

Acts 19:13-16

Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, “In the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.” Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. The evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?” The the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.

The ability to cast out demons comes from the power that Jesus has is given to us at salvation.

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Mark 9:14-29

17 A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. 18 Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.”

25 When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “**You deaf and mute spirit,**” he said, “**I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.**”

28 After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” 29 He replied, “**This kind can come out only by prayer *and fasting.***”

Jesus shows us the battle we have with demons. We are not always up to the task. Praying and fasting brings a maturity of faith to fight the tougher battles.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

We have to control our thoughts and our actions so we don't give the devil an opening in our lives. We receive forgiveness for our sins at salvation, but we must repent and renounce our sinful acts to live the victorious life in Christ.