

DEMONOLOGY STUDIES

#25

WE WRESTLE NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD

By Sam Fife



The Highest Purpose for Man

To be content with food and raiment,
the necessities of life

To be in a place free from the influence of
Babylon and free to exercise and grow in God

To find your place in the Kingdom of God
which is coming on the Earth

WE WRESTLE NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-12

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places.

This is a study on the subject of demonology in the scriptures. It is recommended that those who are reading take their Bibles and follow along with us as we study. For this is not merely the record of some testimonies of experiences with demon spirits. This is a scriptural study, a scriptural exposition of what the Bible has to say concerning the invisible demoniac kingdom against which all humanity, and particularly Christians, are daily wrestling that they might have life. Against the invisible kingdom that is seeking daily to rob all humanity of peace, joy, self happiness, and all those things which make up life.

We feel that there is a great necessity for such a study at this time for three reasons. First, because across the world, reports are coming in of the millions of people, and even God's people, and even God's ministers, who are breaking down under the influence that the demoniac kingdom is having upon their minds. Not so long ago, we were flown a thousand miles to cast demon spirits out of a minister who was hearing voices. When we laid our hands upon his head, and commanded the spirits to come out of him in Jesus' name, they took full possession of him, and began to speak through him and told me that I stank. Not so long ago, a report was published in one of our leading magazines of a mother who stepped off a plane at the great International Airport in Miami, Florida, leading her little girl around on a leash like a dog. The little girl was crawling around on all fours, barking and snapping at people like a dog. When my wife and I were traveling across the country recently, a

report came over the radio of a minister of a certain denomination who had just murdered his wife and his children. Continually people come to us, broken down, having taken shock treatments, victims of nervous breakdowns, and even those who preach the gospel are experiencing what many call nervous breakdowns. Surely it is not a thing that should be told in Gath, or published among the Philistines, that the ministers of the full gospel of Jesus Christ should be subject to nervous breakdowns. This is the first reason we feel a great necessity of education in this area of the scriptures, on the subject of demonology.

The second reason we feel that there is a need for teaching on this subject in the church of Jesus Christ, is because of the tremendous fear of this subject that we see in Christians everywhere, and even in ministries, when the subject of demons is mentioned.

The Lord Jesus Christ said in His commission, to His disciples, "Go and preach the gospel in all nations, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved and he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe." And then the first sign that He set before them was "they shall cast out devils." Surely when this is the word of the Master, something is wrong when we find Christians trembling in fear when you mention the subject of demons.

Not too many years ago, we were teaching a Bible study in a certain large city. The wife of a minister of a certain denomination was attending all our Bible studies and receiving tremendous blessings from the previous healing truths that we were teaching from the Word of God. We taught the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as we maintained the deeper truths of God's Word. But when, in the natural course of our studies of the scriptures, we came to the subject of demonology, and we taught one morning on that subject, that was the last time this minister's wife came to the Bible study. When we questioned some of her friends as to why she was absent, we were told that we frightened her almost to death, when we began to teach on the subject of demons.

In this hour, God is sending us across the country, and to many places, teaching a series of studies on the subject of demonology. But we find in many places, pastors are afraid to allow this subject to be taught in their churches. They are afraid that their people will be afraid, and all are bound by fear. Certainly this is again not something that should be published among the Philistines, the enemies of God, or told in Gath, that the servants, the armies of the living God, should be trembling before the name of demons. Certainly it is the other way around. The armies of hell should be trembling before those who bear the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The third reason we feel that there is a great need for teaching upon this subject is because we believe this is the area, the next area of warfare, into which Jesus is leading His Church - warfare in the Spirit. Eight years ago, God poured out His Spirit upon the Southern Baptist Church that we pastored. In three weeks time, I and all the members of the church, received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues and the other spiritual gifts. Then God led us over a period of months and years, through a pattern that we believe is going to be a pattern for the whole Church of Jesus Christ before the Master is finished.

First, in three weeks' time we all received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and He established us in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit truth. We had already been established in the salvation truth. Then for the next six weeks the gifts of the Spirit began to come forth in our assembly and to operate. The gift of tongues, the gift of interpretation, the gift of prophecy, and the other gifts of the Spirit, and we were established in the operation of the gifts of the Spirit. Then God began to unveil for me all those precious healing truths in the Word of God that I had simply passed over before as a Baptist minister, relegating them to another day. He began to make them leap out at me from the scriptures and I received healing from my stomach ulcers. My deacon got his deaf ear healed. The people in my church began to

receive their healings. Pretty soon the news began to get around, and people began to come from all over the city, and a healing line was established. And within the next eight months, many people were healed, and we were established in the healing truth. The salvation truth, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit truth, the gifts of the Spirit and then the healing truth.

Then God led us into the next area of warfare. He spoke to me in a dream one night. He told me that He was going to lead my people and me into a search for knowledge of the devil and his kingdom. That we might come against them to destroy them.

I had gone to God and I asked God to speak to me, to confirm to me that He wanted me to lead my people out into spiritual warfare. That night He spoke to me in a dream, and in the dream, I and all the people in my church, were traveling through fields and woods. In the dream we were all little children seemingly about nine years old. Suddenly we came to a great open space in the fields. There, stretched out in that open space, was a great big long serpent about 20 feet long. He looked like he was dead, and all the children said, "He is dead."

But then one of the men in my church, who was a child in the dream reached down behind his head and picked him up, and when he did, this great serpent came to life, and began to wriggle and squirm. The man of my church dropped him and he slithered off. Then I and all the children sat down upon the ground and made a covenant together to search and seek out this serpent, and find him and destroy him. It was not very hard to interpret this dream. In the scripture, according to Jesus' words, the field is the world, children are always the children of God. We all know that the serpent is the devil. The reason he looked like he was dead in the dream was because 95% of Christianity live like they think the devil is dead or asleep, or not real. But God is saying that, when we begin to come against him, we would find that he is very real, and very alive. We all sat down in the dream

and made a covenant together, to search and seek out this serpent until we found him and destroy him. God was saying that He was calling us to a search for knowledge of the demoniac kingdom, that we might be used to do what the Bible says Jesus came to do, to destroy the works of the devil. For the next three years, God led us in the scriptures, in a search for revelation concerning this subject more than any other. When He had trained us, and prepared us over the three year period, He began to send us many people, who were depressed, vexed, oppressed, and some possessed, to be delivered from demon oppression and demon possession.

We believe that the pattern that God set in our church is a pattern which Jesus is bringing forth in His whole church throughout the world. First, establishment in the salvation truth, then the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, then the operation of the gifts of the Spirit, and the divine healing truth. Then we believe that warfare in the Spirit is the ultimate area in which Jesus is leading His Church. That we might be prepared to move as the Body of Christ against the demoniac kingdom, topple Satan off his throne, purge him out of the earth, and bring the Lord Jesus Christ back.

Up until the time that we come to this area of warfare in the Spirit, we are simply warring against Satan on the fleshy plane. We are warring in the flesh. When we are preaching sermons, witnessing to people, teaching truth to people, we are only warring against the manifestation of demon spirits. We are only dealing with people, with flesh, giving them truths to offset the lies and the false doctrine and the error that the demon spirits have planted in their hearts. But this will never fulfill the ultimate purpose of God. For we are only picking the branches off the tree. As we pray for the sick, and physical healing comes forth, again we are only dealing with the manifestations of demon work, and again we are dealing with people in the physical realm, we are dealing with the flesh. We believe it is only when Jesus leads us into the knowledge of the demoniac kingdom that we can begin to war against the spirits themselves, who are

causing all the trouble, to war effectively against them, that we will then begin to cut the tree out by its roots, to overcome Satan completely and to prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have no condemnation in our hearts for the fact that Christians are afraid of this subject, afraid of demon spirits, afraid to have this subject taught in their churches, afraid to talk about it. It is understandable that they are afraid, for people always fear what they do not understand. But if we of the 20th century learned anything, we have learned that education overcomes fear. And we believe that education in this area, in the subject of demonology of the scriptures, until we come to the point where we know the enemy that we are fighting and we know how to fight them, will overcome fear, and victory will come into being.

We should also like to say, in beginning this study, that when we speak of teaching on this subject of demonology, we are not just thinking in weird, far out terms of casting out, as so many people think, but our main burden is for education on this subject. When God's people are properly educated on this subject of demonology there will be much less need for casting out than there is now. Preventative medicine is still far better than surgery. It is still far better to take preventative medicine, so that one does not get so sick that surgery must be performed, than it is to go on in ignorance and darkness until God's people become so oppressed and possessed, that there must be the surgical operation of casting out demons.

What many people don't know is that there are six areas of demon work in human experience. There is the deceiving work of demons, the tempting work of demons, the vexing work of demons, the depressing work of demons, the oppressing work of demons and demon possession. Many of God's people must fight the battle against demon spirits in at least the first three areas, and often the first four areas of human experience with demons, every day. And our burden is to so educate God's people in this subject, that they can

fight the battle, and win the victory every day so that we may not think in terms of casting out. Many of God's people feel no burden to prepare themselves in this area, or to study this subject, or to seek truth from God on this subject, simply because they think the only area in which we deal with demons is in the far out realm of casting out.

Therefore, since they themselves are not oppressed, or possessed, they feel no burden and no need to seek the knowledge of God's Word upon this subject. But not only are we called that we are going to be ministers and believers of the full gospel of Jesus Christ, and to know what God's Word says on this subject, but we are called to prepare ourselves, regardless of whether we are oppressed, or possessed, to be able to meet the need of those who are.

I was teaching a series of studies on demonology in a certain city, not so long ago. A young man graphically made this truth real to my heart when, after the study, he came to me and said, "Sam, I think I see the picture. Since Jesus said, 'these signs shall follow them that believe my gospel. They shall cast out devils,' if we don't conquer in this realm also, we cannot conscientiously call ourselves ministers of the full gospel of Jesus Christ." I said to this young man, "You are so right. In my preaching on this subject I go a little further. Jesus did not say, these signs MIGHT follow them that believe. He did not say these signs POSSIBLY WILL follow them that believe my gospel. They shall cast out devils, speak in new tongues, taking authority over every deadly thing, even serpents and poisons, lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." Brethren, if these signs are not following our lives and in our ministries, then something is wrong with our believing.

With this as a good solid revelation of the reason for the necessity of teaching on the subject of demonology, we go into the scripture, and we begin to dig out the great wealth of information that God has for us. Of course, the foundation for the beginning of a study on the subject of demonology is found in our scripture text that we read at the beginning,

Ephesians 6:12, where we are enjoined by God to be strong IN THE LORD, and in the power of His might. We will be coming back to that subject at the close of the study. It is the reason the Bible tells us that we should be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, which is the foundation for the study in demonology. The reason is found in verse 12 of Ephesians chapter 6, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world. Against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places." The King James version says "high places," but your later translation, which gives the better Greek, say "heavenly places." Here the Bible tells us our wrestling, our warfare, as human beings, and especially as Christians, in order that we may have life, is not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers. If you will take your Webster's dictionary and look up the word *principalities*, you will find a 'pality' is a kingdom and a *principalities* is a kingdom ruled over by a prince. Therefore what the Bible is telling us here, is that the enemy that we wrestle against as Christians, is a kingdom, an efficiently organized kingdom, a world-wide kingdom, a kingdom that is ruled over by a prince, whose name is Lucifer. And since the Bible tells us that this kingdom is not a flesh and blood enemy, there is only one other thing that it can be, it is a kingdom of evil demon spirits, demoniac spirits. This is the enemy that we wrestle against, an efficiently organized, invisible, world-wide kingdom of evil demon spirit personalities, whose express purpose for existing is to keep you and me from having life. The fact that Satan has a kingdom is made very clear to us in the gospels. One day Jesus was casting devils, demons, out of a person who was demon possessed, and the Pharisees accused Him of casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub. Jesus said, "If Satan cast out Satan how shall his kingdom stand?" Our warfare is not against people, it is not against a flesh and blood enemy, it is against this invisible kingdom of evil, demoniac, spirit-personalities who are seeking continually to destroy us.

The Bible tells us also, in Ephesians 6:12, that this principality, these powers, are the rulers of the darkness of this world. The rulers of the darkness of THIS world. These earthly organizations, and these human beings who are causing all the evil and the misery and the suffering in this world, are not ultimates of themselves. They are only the puppets on the string. The word "darkness," as it is used here in the scripture, represents all the evil which is going on. All the sufferings, all the strife, all the warfare, all the trial, all the tribulation, all the trouble that is going on in the world, is wrapped up in this term darkness. The earthly organizations and the human beings who are involved in all this strife and trouble are not ultimates in themselves. They are only the slaves. They are only the puppets on the string. Lucifer and his demoniac kingdom who are ruling and guiding the minds of the human beings and the earthly organizations that are causing all the darkness, are the true rulers over the darkness in this world.

The communists who are sweeping the earth with their godless ideologies, and with their determination to destroy every one who names the name of God in the earth, are not ultimates in themselves. They are only puppets on a string. Karl Marx did not dig the doctrines by which they live, that he wrote in his books, out of his own mind. They were given to him by revelation from the demoniac spirits. And the demoniac spirits who gave Karl Marx the set pattern of doctrines which is sending communism across the world, are the same

demoniac spirits who are inspiring every communist to dedicate, and even give his life, to taking over rulership of the world.

This is another trick of Satan. This is only another one of Lucifer's attempts to rule the world by ruling through the minds of men, and systems and nations. I had this proof graphically driven home to my heart a couple of years ago, when a book mysteriously came to me. Somebody sent it to me. I do not buy any books hardly, except the Bible, but

sometimes when God wants me to see something He sends one my way. This book was called, "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich." It was a record of Hitler's attempt to conquer the world and set up his world empire, and all the misery and suffering he caused in the world. In the biography, Hitler confessed that he got all his political philosophy, upon which he was going to build his world empire, and all his ideas out of a book. This book was written by a man who himself confessed that the way he wrote the book was that he was riding along on a train one day, and some unseen power took hold of his mind. He got off the train and went and rented a hotel room and he was there in that hotel room eight days.

During the eight days, this unseen power poured into his mind, and he wrote in the book all the political philosophies upon which they were going to build his world empire. It is not very hard to see where these revelations came from. They came from the same demoniac kingdom that the Bible speaks of here in Ephesians 6:12, when it says, "Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places."

Oh that God would burn this truth into the hearts of Christians! That our enemy is not flesh and blood, but an invisible kingdom of demoniac spirits. If Christians ever learn this truth, then no longer would we look at people, and what they do. But we would look back behind people and see the demoniac spirits which are tempting, and deceiving, and motivating them, and guiding them around like puppets on a string. Then we would no longer be angry with the people. Then we would no longer fight and strive against the people, but we would look back behind the people and see the enemy which was causing all the trouble. Then we would no longer see in the flesh, but see in the Spirit. We would see the demon spirits which were causing all the trouble in the first place, and instead of striving against one

another, instead of striving against the person, we would wrap our spiritual arms around the person in love and fall on our knees and take our stand and pray for the person. Instead of striving against the person, we would fight with them against the demon spirits who are binding them and causing them to do what they do, and be what they are. When God's people., and when Christ's Church, learn this great truth no longer will we have the great tearing gashes and splits in our churches. No longer will Christians be separated and divided. No longer will they be striving one against the other, but they will be moving in the Spirit. They will be walking in the Spirit. They will no longer see in the flesh, neither will they any longer see flesh, but they will see in the Spirit. And they will look always back behind the visible and see the invisible. As the Apostle Paul said, they will look not upon the seen things but upon the unseen things, for the seen things are temporal, but the unseen things are eternal. They will look back behind the brethren who are erring and see the spirits which are deceiving them. They will wrap their spiritual arms around the brethren and begin to believe God for them against the enemy that they might be delivered.

It happens in our churches today. If the demon spirits begin to divide the members of a church, they will bring up a question in which there is a difference of opinion, then they will begin to pour into one of the faction's minds many lies about the other side. And they will pour into the other side's mind lies about that side. Pretty soon all have listened to so many false ideas and lies from demons about what the other person is thinking, or what the other person is saying, or about what the other person is doing. Until pretty soon both sides are so aggravated with one another that they do not have any desire whatsoever to pray for one another at all. They only want to strive in the flesh and fight against one another. And, instead of moving in the Spirit, and in the Spirit claim the other side's deliverance, and moving in the Spirit and in spiritual warfare, and in prayer getting the

spirits out of the other side, they right away want to get the other side out of the church. Pretty soon there is a great tearing split and gash. And the enemy stands back laughing in glee, while the testimony of Jesus Christ is dishonored, and the devil continues to bring confusion in the earth and in the Body of Christ.

Oh! Beloved, but when we begin to see in the Spirit, when we begin to see this invisible kingdom when we begin to look back behind the flesh and see the spirit beings which are causing all the trouble, then when the enemy creeps in, and begins to seek to cause division, whoever has the clearest vision from God will immediately see, not the person that is striving against them, but the demon spirits which are motivating the person. They will not fight against the person, but wrap their spiritual arms around that person, and fall on their knees, and in the Spirit claim that person's deliverance, and redeem their brother.

I am here to tell you, beloved, that this thing works. I remember a time, some seven years ago, when God had poured out His Spirit upon the Southern Baptist Church that I pastored, and every member of the church, except one, had received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We had moved into the manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit in our church. God was moving us forward in a tremendous walk in our church. God was moving us forward in a tremendous walk in the Spirit. A healing line was formed and people were coming from all over and many people were being healed. Then one of my finest men in my church, who was a Training Union Director (at that time we still had a Training Union). This man, who had also received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, suddenly began to manifest a strange feeling toward me. He began to bicker with me concerning every move that I sought to make in the assembly. When I stood in his presence, I could tell he was irritated with me. When he came to the service, though he would take my hand and say, "Hello, Brother Sam," and sometimes smile, still in the Spirit I could feel a great enmity, and I did not really understand it. I

loved this man and up until that time he had loved me, and we had worked very closely together in the work of the Lord. But this division, this enmity, grew and grew, and grew. I did not know as much as I do at this time, and it was breaking my heart, for I loved this man, for he was a good man.

Finally I went to him, after one service, and I said, "Brother," - I called him by his name - I said, "Please tell me what is this thing which is working on you? Have I done something to offend you? Have I done something that you think is wrong?" This man broke down and began to cry, and he said, "Brother Sam, I do not really know. Sometimes I think I must be losing my mind. When I am around you, and I used to love to be around you, but now when I am around you, I can't stand you, I feel like I hate you. Even during the day, when I am at work, I find myself thinking thoughts of anger toward you, but when I come to the assembly I can't work with you. I feel bitter toward you. I don't know, I have no reason."

This is of course before God spoke to us and said He was going to lead us in a study of demonology. And I did not really know that it was demon spirits and I was not wise enough in the things of the spirit to deal with it. So I said, "Dear brother, I pray that God will help you to overcome this," and we prayed together. But I did not really know what to do about it. And the thing got worse and worse, and the man began to feel bitter towards all the rest of the assembly. Finally the day came when he stood up before the assembly and told us that God was speaking to him to leave the assembly and go to another church. We of course all knew that it was not God that was speaking to him, but there was nothing that we could say. And this man left. He denied his Baptism of the Holy Spirit. He went back into a nominal church, went back into a fleshy walk that God had led him out of when he came into the Baptism of the Spirit. The last I heard of him, he was not going to church at all. He was not serving God at all. I did not know, or understand at

this time, how demon spirits could do this. This is an example of how they can divide. I understand now that these demon Spirits wanted to turn this dear brother back from the mighty walk in the Spirit that God was leading us to, and particularly from me. They simply separated us as brethren in Christ.

Now I will give you another illustration, a recent one. One which turned out to the glory and the victory of God instead of to Satan's glory. No more than a year ago in the assembly that we have now, a Spirit-filled assembly walking in God's Divine Order, and walking in God's truth, in one of the finest men, one of our right arms in that assembly, suddenly I began to feel the spirits working. Suddenly I began to feel that the oneness, the blessed fellowship that we had had in Christ, was broken. Oh, on the surface all things looked the same. When he would come to the service, he would shake my hand and smile and say, "Hello, Brother Sam." But in the Spirit I could feel this thing that was wrong. I did not know what it was that the demons had planted in his mind, that I had done wrong, or that I was wrong, or that I had done something to him. I never did find out, but the thing got worse and worse. Finally it came to me, through the 'grapevine,' that this brother was considering leaving our assembly. My heart was burdened and my heart was broken, but I have learned something over the years since the other experience, I did not go to him, even to ask him what was wrong. I went into my bedroom and got on my knees and I prayed, "Father in the name of Jesus I loose my brother from these spirits which are binding him, and seeking to separate us and tear him loose from thine assembly." I rose up from that prayer, and it was only two days until we had our next meeting. But at our very next meeting, this my brother came up to me. As he approached me, I felt the old oneness of Spirit that had been there before. He came up to me and said, "Brother Sam, I notice that you have a bad tire on your car." And he said, "Here is \$15.00. I want you to go and buy a new tire for your automobile." I felt the old love. I felt the

old union. I felt the old oneness. My dear brother is one of the elders in our assembly that does much of the preaching when God sends us away for long periods of time, he is one of the right arms in our assembly at this hour, and never has the enemy been able to separate us again.

It works beloved, seeing in the Spirit, and not in the flesh, walking in the Spirit and not in the flesh. It does not only work with individuals, it works collectively. By way of illustration, I must share with you another experience.

There was a time, a year and a half or so ago, when a group of people from the assembly that I was ministering in, called me about eleven o'clock one night. They said, "Brother Sam, would you come over to our house, we would like to talk to you," I said, "Yes, I'll be there." When I got over there, there were some six or seven of them gathered together and they had had a prayer meeting. They said, "Brother Sam, we called you to talk with you because we feel that you are running ahead of the Lord." I had felt that God was leading us to establish a mission work downtown in the city where our assembly was. A work out of which we could operate to hold street meetings, win men to Christ on the street and bring them in to the mission work and try to take them further in God. Since we were burdened to work with the Spanish people of our city, we were setting up the mission to seek to reach them.

Not long after God put the burden in my heart, God sent a young Spanish minister, a Spanish-speaking minister, to our midst, and I felt led of God to establish him as assistant pastor over this mission work. He didn't fully receive all the truths that we ministered in Christ. But he did love the Lord and he was filled with the power of God. He was a powerful preacher of God's word, in the area of truth, the salvation truth, that he ministered. So I had felt led of God, that God sent him, to put him over this work. But the brothers insisted to call me into conference that night, and said, "Brother Sam, we feel that you are running ahead of the Lord in putting this brother over the work of the mission. We don't feel that it is

not God's will that we establish the mission, but this brother has not received all the message that we preach. He disagrees in some of the different truths that we preach, and we feel that you are running ahead of the Lord."

Well, there was a time when something would have risen up in me against these beloved people. Something of pride, something of egotism, and I probably would have been rather upset with them if they dared to infer that I was running ahead of God. I would probably have quickly inferred to them, I was the leader, that if God spoke to anyone, he would speak through me. But this was before the growth of God had come, before wisdom and knowledge in the understanding that demons can trick the best of God's servants in running ahead of the Lord.

So for that reason I felt no rebellion in my heart against these good people at all. They were good brethren. They loved the Lord, they loved me. They sincerely believed that they had the leadership of God and that it was their duty to check me from possibly running ahead of the Lord in something. So I said to them in the same 'love with which they spoke to me, "Dear brethren, I appreciate your feeling and it might be that it is God that wants to use you to check me that I don't get ahead of the Lord in something." But I said, "Would you give me your reason why you feel that I am running ahead of the Lord."

And they gave me their reasons. And I said, "Well, I can certainly see that you feel that you have heard from God. Now may I give you my reasons why I feel God wants us to do this and establish this brother over the mission work?" And I shared with them some things that God had spoken to me that He hadn't spoken to them. This gave them understanding of my reasons why I felt led of God to do this. It gave them a much clearer picture than they had before. Then when we had both shared, in love, our reasons why we felt that we had God's leading in moving the way we did, then I said to them, "Dear brethren, let's all put this matter in the hands of the Lord now, and go home and pray that God

will show us which one is being deceived, and I know God will," and they agreed. We joined our hands together and had prayer. I went home. Because I sincerely felt that I had God's leading and I felt that a deceiving spirit was trying to separate my brethren from me, and to hinder us moving out into something God was leading us into, once again, I knelt beside my bed, and in the Spirit I prayed, "Father, loose my brethren from these demon spirits which are separating, which are dividing. In the name of Jesus, I receive it." I arose from my bed. That was on Friday night when I prayed that prayer, and we have services on Saturday night in our assembly. The next night, Saturday night, as we gathered together to begin our service, before the service started, everyone of them came to me, individually, one by one, and said, "Brother Sam, God has spoken to me today, we feel this is the leading of the Lord to move forward in this way, and we are ready to stand behind you 100%." Tears came down my cheeks and I rejoiced in the knowledge that was demonstrated once again, that instead of fighting against our brethren, we can see back behind them and see the spirits that are deceiving them, and in loving faith we can speak the word of faith and loose them from the spirits that are binding them.

Not so long ago, we had it graphically illustrated to us, how demon spirits would take one human being and deceive them and use them to get other human beings, other Christians, so aggravated, and so mad, and sometimes so furious with them, that the other Christians have no power. They get out of the Spirit and they have no power whatsoever to deliver the person the demons are using to aggravate them.

We had this truth driven home to us to the highest degree many months ago, when we were in a battle to deliver my own sister from demon possession, from what the world would call complete insanity. She had gone completely insane, and she had become a babbling idiot. So much so, that we had to lock her in the room, and keep her there for a

long time while we were casting the demons out of her. During that period, when we were casting the demons out of her, and bringing her deliverance, we were taught experientially like few have ever been taught, how demons use one person to get another person angry, and out of the spirit, so that they have no power to gain that person's deliverance.

During that period, often, when we would hope and pray that my sister would manifest a little normality, and give us a little hope that we were gaining victory, we would let her out of the locked room and take her to the table to eat, and take hope that we could at least have her to sit at the table and eat half way normally. The demon spirits would let her walk quietly to the table and sit down. My mother, in whose home she was staying, would put all the food on the table. Then she would deliberately sweep all the food off the table, and break the dishes and tumble the food in a mess on the floor and then stand and laugh and laugh at us, looking at our faces as if to say, "Now what are you going to do about it?"

Pretty soon God showed us that this was the demon spirits trying to get us so furious with her, that we would get out of the Spirit and have no power to deliver her. When we finally saw that we could not bring her to the table to eat, we would take a banana into her locked room and give it to her, so trying to get something down her in the way of food. Quietly and calmly the demon spirits would allow her to peel the banana. Then they would cause her to just squash and squeeze it in her hand, until it was nothing but a thick paste and then mush it all in her hair, and then stand and laugh at us again, as if to say, "What are you going to do about it?"

Our grace was tested to the nth degree. But God told us that these demon spirits were only trying to work in her to make us furious with her so that we would get out of the Spirit and have no power to deliver her. God graciously showed us the devil's chief trick, and we stayed in the Spirit. We claimed the victory at Calvary until every last demon spirit was cast out of her, and now she is delivered through

the power that is in the name of Jesus, and living a normal life and manifesting a Christian testimony. This is how the principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, the evil invisible demoniac spirits use people, particularly Christians in a church, to keep a church so stirred up and so divided, that nobody has the power to defeat the devil and his kingdom. This is why there is no healing, why there is no power. This is the way that the demoniac kingdom operates.

In closing we go back to verse 10, in this study, to the word of the Spirit of God, and the Word of God. "Brethren, be strong IN THE LORD, and in the power of His might." Be strong in the Lord, not in your own talents, not in your educational degrees, not in any of these things, your worldly prestige or position, but in the Lord, in the Spirit. At this point a message in tongues came forth and this is the interpretation - "Therefore the Lord thy God would say unto thee, my people, walk no longer in the flesh but walk in My Spirit. See no longer in the flesh, but see in My Spirit. Think no longer in the flesh, but think in My Spirit. Then shalt thou have victory over the enemy of thy soul."

Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Dear friend, the devil does not care how many natural talents you have. The devil does not care how many degrees of education you have, even if it be theological education. The devil does not care what your position is in your church or in your denomination. The only thing that is ever going to make him tremble in fear is when you can speak the word of faith IN THE SPIRIT and BELIEVE IN THE SPIRIT. Through the power that is in the name of Jesus, every knee must bow at your word when you command in that name. When you can get down on your knees and war in the Spirit against the invisible enemy, which is seeking to destroy us, and to keep us from having life. When you can kneel there believing hour after hour, even in extreme cases, as my sister was, that because you are kneeling there believing though you may not be saying a word, Hallelujah!, that in the

spiritual heavenlies the word is going forth, and the host of the Lord, over which Michael and Gabriel command, that host that Jesus was speaking of when He said, "He that will confess me before men, I will confess before my angels," will begin to move against the demon spirits in the invisible, that are possessing that person or oppressing that person and move them out, then will Satan's kingdom begin to tremble before the Body of Christ.

I could close this study with many testimonies of the delivering power that is in the name of Jesus when we war in the Spirit. I feel to just give you one. Not so long ago I was in the city of Amarillo, Texas, holding a meeting and a mother came to me with tears in her eyes and asked me to pray for her teenage daughter, 14 years old. She told me her daughter's problem. She could not keep her at home nights. She refused to obey her mother. Every night she walked out of the house and stayed out with the boys until eleven, twelve, one o'clock at night. When her mother would ask her to stay home, she would simply curse her mother out, and walk out any way. Continually kept her ear tuned to the rock and roll music trash on her transistor radio, continually sitting before the television. As her mother told me her story, I realized that 14 year old girl was filled with spirits of lust. I told her mother, "I will wait on God as to see how I should move, but to begin bringing the girl to my meeting." And she did for the next three nights. Then one night, the Spirit of God spoke to me and said it was the time. I called this little girl into the pastor's study after the meeting, and I said, "Becky, if you don't get on your knees and pray through and get deliverance from these spirits which are oppressing you, they are going to possess your soul, and drag you down to hell." I thought to shock her and frighten her into seeking God, but her eyes rolled back into her head and she sneered at me and she said, "I don't care if I go to hell." And I saw that this little girl was so bound by these demon spirits right on the verge of possession, that she did not have the strength to help herself.

So I called the pastor in and some godly women and men saints that I had there with me, who worked with me in deliverance, in the pastor's study, and we laid our hands on her head, and we began to command the demons to come out of this child. They took possession of her and she began to scream and cry and fight us and stick her tongue out at us. They made her put her finger in her mouth and bite it, as if she was going to bite it off, they were so excited. After 45 minutes commanding in the name of Jesus, the last spirit came out and her hands shot up in the air and she cried, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus." Three nights later in a meeting she got stammering lips, three nights after that she received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and now I have a letter in my files that she wrote me a few weeks ago, in which she said, "Brother Fife, I don't understand how I used to curse my mother and be so mean to her, for now I love her with all my heart." That little girl is now filled with the Spirit, and walking in God and a tremendous testimony for the Lord.

Therefore may God make real to your heart the foundational fact that we are not wrestling against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world in the Heavenly Places. - In Jesus Name - Amen.

This is one of four Studies on the study of demonology. May we make you aware that we have available on tape the actual deliverance of Jane Miller, from demon spirits. This tape is most helpful with these studies as it conveys the very reality of the demoniac kingdom, on this **ACTUAL LIVE** recording.

NATURE AND DWELLING PLACE OF DEMONS

Having established in Demonology study No. 1, the reality of the demoniac kingdom, let us go on to see where they have their dwelling place. Where are they? Where do they exist?

This we are told also in the sixth chapter of the Book of Ephesians, the 12th verse. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness IN HIGH PLACES."

This is where they have their being. This is where they exist. Now in order to find out just what this means, we need to study this expression "heavenly places," or "high places."

We find that it is used four times in the Book of Ephesians. The first time is in Ephesians 1:20 where we are told that God "raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places." So the HEAVENLY PLACES are where Christ has been made to sit at the right hand of God.

Therefore, we conclude that the heavenly places are where God is. The one foundational truth that all theologians agree on and probably the only one that they all agree on, is that God is omnipresent spirit that fills the whole universe. Our scientists tell us it is so big that there are more worlds out there than all the individual grains of sand on all the beaches in the world. That is a big universe, and a big God who fills it.

To understand where the "heavenly places" are we need to disassociate our minds from the idea that we have had for many years after we became Christians. This is the idea that God exists in a physical form. When we first become Christians, because we read in the Bible that God "stretched forth His hand" to this person or God "walked with that person, we get the idea that God is some kind of physical being, or that He exists in a physical form. We get the idea that He has hands, arms, legs, etc., like we do. This is

particularly enhanced to us because we read in the Book of Genesis that in the beginning God created man in "His own image." Because we look at ourselves as a physical being and hear that God created us in His image, made us like Him, then we assume that He must be a physical being like we are. But, our error is this, we ourselves are not physical beings. This body that we see, is just a house that God made out of clay in which the "spirit" which is the "real us" dwells. This is the sense that He created us in His image, for He is Spirit.

Jesus said to the woman at the Samaritan well, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." (John 4:24) So we are not physical beings. The body is just a house that God made out of clay for the spirit to dwell in. We are spirit-beings in the sense that we are created in the image of God.

The problem is that when we first come to the Bible, we are yet carnal, physical, dead in trespasses and sins, material-minded, carnal thinking beings. As such, we can only think in the physical. We can only think in the literal and the material. Therefore, we think of everything as being physical.

When we come to the Bible, and to Christ, being born-again of the Spirit of God, we move out of the carnal, physical, fleshly realm and we are born into the spiritual realm as spiritual beings. But yet we are BABY spiritual beings. We come with just about all of our carnality, all of our fleshliness, all of our material mindedness, and all of our physical thinking.

Therefore, as we read the Bible, we think literally, we think physically, and materially. When we read that "God stretched out His hand" to this person, we think that God has literal hands. When we read that "God walked" with that person, we think that God literally walked with somebody, and that He has legs and feet as we do.

Right after we are born again in the Spirit of God, we begin at once a process of growth. We read the Word and

the revelation of the Word becomes real to us. We begin a transition from the carnal, physical, fleshly beings that we were into the spiritual beings that God purposes for us to one day be. In the middle of this growth and transition instead of thinking always in the physical and the carnal and fleshly, we are becoming spiritual beings, we then begin to think in spiritual terms and in the Spirit. We begin to see back behind the literal letter of the Word and begin to see the spiritual reality to the spiritual truth. We begin to learn what Jesus meant when He said, "The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

Then we begin to see back behind the material and the literal and begin to see the spiritual truth, and the spiritual reality and the spiritual being that the Bible reveals to us.

At this point we learn through the Word that God is omnipresent Spirit which is everywhere, all around us. Then the next step as we learn that God is omnipresent Spirit which fills this whole universe, is only common sense then to realize that you cannot take a being that big and bottle him up in some physical form somewhere, even if it be a mile high and a mile wide. It cannot be done.

Our God which fills the whole universe is too big to be bottled up in a physical form. Then we know that He does not exist in ANY physical form. We notice, and we certainly know that Christ is not sitting on any physical throne beside a physical God who is sitting on a physical throne. When we understand this, we can begin to look back behind the literal expression, "Christ is raised up to sit at the right hand of God." Then we do not get a mental image of Jesus sitting beside a physical God on a physical throne for the past 1900 years, just sitting, sitting, sitting. We see the spiritual truth that is presented to us by that expression.

The idea of God sitting on a throne and Jesus sitting on a throne beside Him reveals to us the truth that Jesus was raised up to co-equality, co-rulership with God. This is the spiritual truth that God wanted to present by the literal expression "and make Him to sit at His right hand in the

heavenly places." We see that it denotes to us Jesus' spiritual position, not any physical position. Then when we learn where God is, and that God is everywhere, then we see that the "heavenly places" are all around us. It is the invisible spiritual realm where God is, and not only where God the Spirit is, but where Jesus and His holy angels have their existence.

But, it is also where Lucifer and his demons, his unclean, evil spirits have their existence. So that the "heavenly places" we read about in Ephesians 1:20 where Christ is, are the same heavenly places that we read about in Ephesians 6:12, where the Bible says that the demoniac kingdom is. The Bible does not make any distinction, it is the same "heavenly places."

You see the problem is that in the past, Christians have received an idea somewhere, certainly not from the Scriptures, that Jesus and His holy angels are way off over here on one side in heaven and that Lucifer and his demons are way out in another place in some hell, some physical place called "hell" and that the two never have any contact or intercourse with one another.

Now this is a pretty good idea, but it is just not scriptural. The Scriptures just do not teach it. They do not bear it out, The Bible teaches that not only do they have contact and intercourse with one another, but they have actual warfare with one another, the angels of Jesus and the demons of Satan.

We read in the tenth chapter of the Book of Daniel that when Daniel the young prophet who lived about 500 years before Jesus, prayed and fasted for 21 days, that God would reveal to him what was going to happen to Israel in the latter days, after 21 days of prayer and fasting, an angel materialized before him at the river Chebar. He told Daniel that God had heard his prayer the first day, and he had been dispatched to bring the answer, but the Prince of Persia (one of the devil's angels, one of the devil's demons) detained him for 21 days, until Michael (the chief prince of Jesus'

heavenly host) came and took up the battle and let him go free to bring the answer to Daniel. When he told Daniel what he came to tell him, he said, "Now will I return to fight with the Prince of Persia."

So we see that the "heavenly places" are simply the invisible spiritual realm where God is, where Jesus and His holy angels are, and where Lucifer and his demons exist as spirit beings. Notice that the Bible says "heavenly places," not "heavenly place." There are places in the invisible spiritual realm just as there are places here on the physical realm. Jesus and His holy angels are able to move from place to place, and so are Lucifer and his demons. Often they have contact and warfare with one another.

So we see that the heavenly places are simply the invisible spiritual realm which is all around us. This is where Lucifer and his demon spirits, his invisible kingdom have their being. That is why they can always be with us, deceiving, tempting, vexing, etc., doing their evil work in our lives.

If you want further evidence that this is literally their dwelling place, you need only to read Eph. 6: 12 (the verse of scripture that we have been studying) as it is translated in the Amplified New Testament which gives us an even better expression of the original Greek, "For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood, contending only with physical opponents, but against the despotism, against the Powers, against the master spirits who are rulers of present darkness against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly supernatural sphere." This is the amplified translation, the original Greek. All I have revealed to you in my exposition is of the King James version. Demons have their dwelling place in the heavenly supernatural sphere or the invisible spiritual realm which is all around us.

If you need more evidence that this demoniac kingdom exists in the air all around us, you need only to turn to Ephesians 2:2. There Paul reminds the Christians that, "Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air,

the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." Here we are told that there are powers in the very air around 'us. They have a prince that is Lucifer, and they are the spirits that work in the children of disobedience or cause people to be disobedient to God.

We want to stress for you an idea of the scope, the size and the number of the demons, just how many of them there are. We have evidence in Scripture that gives us an idea. First we are told in Revelation 12 that when Lucifer rebelled against God, one third of the angels of heaven rebelled against God with him, and they became the demon spirits..

We are told also in Hebrews 12, verses 22-24, that our fellowship as Christians is with Jesus, the Son of God, the "General assembly and church of the firstborn, the New Jerusalem, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to an INNUMERABLE COMPANY of angels." Here we are told that there is an innumerable company of angels. We have big numerical terms in our human experience. We could think of billion which is ten hundred million, or trillion which is ten hundred billion. Then we are getting beyond the scope of our finite minds to conceive this. But the Bible says that there are an innumerable company of angels, a number so big that it cannot be numbered. Take one third of that number, and you have the number of those angels that have become the demon spirits. You know there are a lot of them.

Now having established the reality of the demoniac kingdom, and the fact that the very air around us is full of them, we understand why the apostle Paul says in Eph. 6:10, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Not in our own strength, not with worldly promotions and organizations but IN THE LORD, and IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT. We cannot fight these spirit beings with carnal weapons.

These spirit beings are not at all impressed with all our worldly promotion. They are not at all impressed with all of our organizations ability. They are not at all impressed with

the millions of dollars that we spend to get people into church, to get them to go through a carnal, physical form and ritual. They are not at all impressed with all of these fleshly efforts.

They are only impressed when people begin to get down on their knees and pray, sending forth spiritual power through outpourings of faith from their hearts. They are only impressed when people get down on their knees and pray, yielding to the Spirit of God so that God begins to pour out upon them revelations by the Spirit. Revelation concerning the demoniac kingdom. They are only impressed when they see Christians cease to fight warfare in the physical plane and begin warfare in the spirit. They are only impressed when Christians look back behind the visible and begin to see the invisible. They are only impressed when Christians begin to realize that the enemy which we are fighting is not flesh and blood, therefore they cease to deal with the manifestations only, they cease to deal only with the people and the things that they do or say. They begin to allow the Spirit of God to lead them to fight in the Spirit and to deal with the spirit beings which are the cause of all the confusion in the first place. They are only impressed when Christians recognize that we are not fighting flesh and blood, therefore, they cease to strive against one another.

When Christians learn this great truth, they will no longer be striving against one another, criticizing one another. They will recognize that they have a common enemy. They will band themselves together in love and begin to pray for one another. How often are churches today torn with great gashes which cause great harm to the testimony of Jesus Christ, simply because these invisible spirits sweep in and begin to project into one group's mind objections about the others. Then both groups, instead of looking back behind the flesh and blood and seeing the demoniac kingdom which is causing the division, and getting down on their knees and praying for one another, the two sides begin to strive against one another. Instead of getting down on their knees seeking

God that the Holy Spirit might bring them together in love working out their differences of opinion so that each side might be delivered from the demon spirits which are causing the division in the first place, they begin to strive and to fight against one another. Pretty soon these groups become so aggravated with one another that they have no desire to even pray for one another at all but only to blame one another. Only to make sure that the other side is proven wrong. The demons who are causing all the division in the first place are setting back laughing with glee. The thing goes on until there is a split in God's church. The world looks at it and laughs at its professional Christianity, and the testimony of Jesus Christ is brought to dishonor and to disrepute. This is exactly what the invisible kingdom started out to do in the first place.

Nay, it is only when we are strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might, fighting the warfare in the Spirit that Satan's kingdom is going to be overcome and Jesus is going to return.

Having established the reality of this invisible kingdom, we see why Paul tells us to take unto us the **WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD**. The remainder of this study, we are going to look at this armor and see some of the instruments of warfare that God has given us with which to defeat the demoniac kingdom.

LOINS GIRT ABOUT WITH TRUTH

The first piece of our armor, Paul says, is **TRUTH**. Ephesians 6:14 says, "Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth." It is only when we know the truth concerning the reality of this demoniac kingdom, their nature, their symptoms, their characteristics, the weapons of the Spirit which are given to us with which to successfully overcome them, the different areas of demon work in our lives, the purpose for which the "blood" is given to us, and when we know the truth concerning these things and our

loins are girt about with truth concerning Jesus and God's purpose in Christ for us, we are able to withstand the lies that the demoniac spirits seek to project into our minds daily.

There is a great need for us to feed continually upon the Word of God. There is a great need for us to seek the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation. This is why the burden is upon my heart and the hearts of many others to send forth to the Church of Jesus Christ the truth concerning the demoniac kingdom and unveil for them the great wealth of truth that is revealed to us in the scriptures on this subject of demonology.

This is why God has opened up the door to send these studies on booklets and tapes, across the country, teaching the truth so that God's people can be educated in this area and part of their armor can be strong and they can have their loins girt about with the truth. "Truth" as Jesus said, "shall set you free" and shall also dispel the great fear that binds the Church of Jesus Christ concerning this area of ministry. For that which we understand, we no longer fear.

I was teaching a two-week study on this subject in Texas one time. Many of the people after the close of the study said, "Bro. Fife, just this teaching has brought deliverance to me from a spirit that has been oppressing me for years." These people had been suffering depression and oppression and these experiences from demons. They did not know what it was. Because they did not want to hinder their testimony, they were not confessing what was going on within them to their fellow Christians. They were carrying the burden within themselves, fighting the battle as best they could. They said, "Now I know what has caused this, and the very teaching of the truth has brought my deliverance. "Yea, when we have our loins girt about with truth, then we are prepared to stand against the enemy."

THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

This is a very important part of our armor and warfare against demon spirits. If we are not walking in holiness and righteousness, when the demons tempt and trick us into these things which are sin and which our regenerated nature and consciences know to be sin, as soon as they trick us into something overcoming us, causing us to commit the act, they come right back and begin to project to our mind CONDEMNATION. The devil who is the "accuser of the brethren" begins to accuse us, to point out to us that we have failed God. Thus he tries to inject upon us a sense and feeling that God is displeased with us, and that we are no good, that we just cannot live the Christian life anyway. This puts us under condemnation, under a sense of guilt, increasing a guilt complex within us. When we come to pray, we feel that God is displeased with us, therefore we cannot pray with real faith so He will hear and answer our prayers. We cannot pray with real faith. And because faith is the thing that moves the hand of God, He cannot answer. Thus the power of God has been robbed from our lives.

When we walk in holiness and righteousness and have on the breastplate of righteousness, the enemy has no weapon with which to accuse us, with which to separate us from God.

At this point we want to reveal the tremendous power, the weapon of the "imputed righteousness" that is given to us in Christ. Here we can learn how to effectively use the blood in order to defeat demon spirits. You see, one reason God gave His Son Jesus to shed His blood on the cross for us in the first place is because He knew that Satan would continually be tempting us to sin, overcoming us and causing us to sin, and then when he tempted us and overcame us, he could come right back and point the accusing finger at us and say, "See, you're no good. You've failed God again," and thus put us under condemnation and say "God is displeased with you."

The devil knows that as long as we are bowed down under this tremendous guilt complex that we could never come to

God with real faith believing that our Heavenly Father loves us, and that He is pleased with us and that we are perfectly acceptable to Him and therefore, pray in faith believing that we have received what we have prayed for. Jesus said that in order to receive it, we must believe, to have the power of God working in our lives. The devil knows that as long as he can keep us under condemnation we could never have the faith to go on to overcome our sins and weaknesses.

For this reason, God gave us Christ and the cross and the blood so that we could know that our acceptability to God does not depend on what we do, but on what Jesus has done for us. We can know that we are cleansed before God, not by our actions, but by the blood of Jesus and are perfectly acceptable to our Father, not through our own holiness but through the blood of Jesus.

So when we come to God in prayer and Satan has been tricking us (that is the way Satan works), by tempting you and then convincing you to commit the act, then coming back and throwing condemnation on you to convince you that you are not acceptable to God, you can take the power that is in the blood of Jesus and come and kneel and pray even though the enemy may have overcome you, trying to pour his condemnation upon you, and you can say with Jesus, "Get thee behind me, Satan. You are a liar. I am perfectly acceptable to my Father at this time, not because I have already attained to perfect holiness, not because of what I do, but because of what my Lord Jesus has done for me through His blood."

The power that the sin held over us is then broken and the power of the condemnation of Satan is broken. We cannot only pray with faith receiving the power of God in our lives, but we can have faith to go on to overcome our weaknesses, to stand in the imputed righteousness that is given to us until such time as we come unto that perfect righteousness of our own which God will lead us into.

So we see that the breastplate of righteousness and the blood of Jesus are the weapons in our armor and instruments of warfare that are given to us with which to fight the enemy.

GOSPEL OF PEACE

"And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." Our FEET speak of our WALK. Here the Lord says we should walk forth in the gospel of peace. You see, demon spirits are always trying to stir up divisions. They are always trying to cause enmity not only between the people of the world but Christians.

The purpose of the demoniac kingdom has always been to bring forth divisions, strife and warfare. They do this in order to seek to always keep us in an atmosphere of strife and misery so that they can weaken our minds and spirits, continually weaken our minds, and spirits and our faith ultimately with the hope of getting us and completely possessing us. But when we walk in Jesus' Gospel of peace we can stand right in the middle of all the holocaust that is all around us, and we can have peace in our hearts.

Our Lord Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you: not as the world giveth give I unto you." (John 14:27) You see Jesus' peace that He gives is not the kind the world gives. The peace the world gives is a temporary feeling of contentment that one has when things are going well financially, no one in the family is sick, they have plenty of material goods, and for a little while they feel a measure of security and contentment. But when one is depending on that kind of peace, they are on false ground. Tomorrow the children will get sick. The next day financial problems arise. The next day demons will sweep in with all sorts of divisions in the family. And this peace is immediately gone, because it is a worldly thing, and it is not lasting. The bottom will fall out and the house will fall.

The peace that Jesus gives is not the kind of peace that gives only comfort when things are going well materially.

The peace that Jesus gives comes from our knowing that, "All things work together for good to them that love God." Whatever testing we are going through, our Heavenly Father is only leading us toward conformation, to the image of Christ. It enables us to stand right in the midst of a holocaust when things are raging all around us, knowing that He is with us even unto the end of the world. All things work together for good to them that love God, and this is the peace which will enable us to stand in all that the demons are stirring up, having contentment in our hearts and peace in our souls.

THE SHIELD OF FAITH

"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." This is the weapon which we have as our shield when the enemy begins to project his fiery darts of doubt, unbelief, and lies into our minds. We can stick this shield of faith in front of us. Faith in the Word of God, faith in the promises of God, faith in the power that is in the blood of Jesus, faith that He is ever with us and that He will do all that He said He will do, and we can slam the enemy back where he belongs.

THE HELMET OF SALVATION

The helmet goes upon the head. Of course, a head wound can be serious, but thank God the Holy Spirit has revealed to us that we are saved through the blood of Jesus. Our salvation is complete and is done in the heart and mind of God. It only needs to be walked out in our experience. When we have our head covered with the helmet of this knowledge, that we are saved once and for all, forever, through the blood of Jesus, then all the tricks the demons play upon us, all the lies that they present before our eyes to

try to make us stop, cannot keep us from going on to that place that God has prepared for us.

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

"And the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God." All the other weapons that have been mentioned here: The breastplate of righteousness, loins girt with the truth, the helmet of salvation, feet shod with the gospel of peace, the shield of faith are defensive weapons with which to resist the attack of the enemy. But the **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT** which is the **WORD OF GOD** is an offensive weapon. It is a weapon with which we can go forth against the enemy, a weapon which the enemy cannot stand.

Remember when Jesus in the wilderness was tempted by Satan? He took the Word of God and whipped Satan to a frazzle, Satan said, "If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread." Jesus answered him saying, "It is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." (Luke 4:3-4)

However, there is one point we want to make here concerning the use of the Word of God which needs to be made with many Christians. How often have I heard Christians say, "Jesus defeated Satan by quoting to him the Word of God." How often have I heard ministered that "You can defeat Satan by quoting him the Word of God." No, dear friends, you do not defeat Satan by "quoting" him the Word of God. You defeat Satan by feeding upon the Word of God yourself. Many people can quote the Word of God to Satan, and he does not care how much they quote it. He laughs in their faces, and demons laugh in their faces when they quote it.

It is only when we feed on the Word of God and when we believe the Word of God ourselves that Satan begins to tremble. He does not care how much man quotes the Word as long as they do not feed upon it and believe it themselves. Jesus said, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone

but by every word of God." He was pouring into His own consciousness that scripture, building up His own faith in that truth,

I had this truth revealed to me some years ago, by an experience of one of the deacons of our church. He was an insurance agent. One day while he was out on his insurance route, he was suddenly taken with a migraine headache that was so tremendous in pain that he began to drive home. By the time he got to his home, he could not even walk into the house. He stumbled and fell in the yard and his wife had to come out and help him inside. He laid out on the bed and having been healed before through the power of faith, he began to pray for God to heal this headache. Having heard this statement before of quoting scripture to Satan, he began to quote scripture to Satan of the promises of God. As he did, suddenly he began to see a vision.

In the vision he saw himself surrounded by a wall and directly in front of him was an entrance or gate in the wall. Standing just outside the gate he saw a giant bulldog guarding the gate to keep him from getting out. Then he saw himself throwing chunks of bread dough at this giant bulldog. But every time he would throw a chunk of bread dough, as it would pass through the gate, a little imp like figure would dart his head out just outside the wall and catch the bread dough. It would never get to the dog. Then the vision changed. He saw himself and instead of throwing the bread dough at the bulldog, he began eating the bread dough himself. When he did, immediately his headache was healed, and the pain stopped. The vision was over. He knew that God had said to him "Do not quote the Word to Satan (the Word is symbolized by the bread dough) but eat the Word yourself."

When he did, faith began to mount up in his heart. The power of God began to work and he was completely healed. So the first thing we want to see is that we must feed upon the Word of God ourselves, then we can give it out to others in order that they might feed upon it and when all of us feed

upon it and believe it, and stand upon it, then the demoniac kingdom is defeated. No point in quoting it to them. They do not believe it. They will never believe it. They have gone past the point of no return. But when WE believe it, then all of the demons lies can have no effect on us and the power of the Almighty God works in our lives.

I would like to add to the closing of this study a few more weapons that are given to us with which to fight the enemy. The most important one of all is LOVE. You see, when you understand that people do what they do and are what they are, not because of themselves but because of the demoniac spirits which are deceiving them, we then do not get aggravated with those people or look at the manifestation. We love them. Then we can always go to them in love, and we can not only pray for them but get through to them by drawing them to us and being able to point out to them what the spirits are doing to them. We can teach them, and then they can overcome the spirits. We have GAINED OUR BROTHER, and God is glorified. When we do not love them when we get aggravated with them because of what they do, then the spirits have succeeded in separating them and us. We cannot help them, and the demoniac kingdom wins the battle.

PRAISE

The next instrument I want to share with you that is powerful against Satan is the weapon of praise. Demon spirits cannot stand praise. They cannot stand it when we are praising God and adoring Jesus in praise. There is a very good reason for this. You see, a demon spirit has a nature which is diametrically opposite to yours and mine. We have the nature of God. We love to be in an atmosphere where people are talking about God and worshipping and adoring Him. Put any of us in a house of prostitution or in a bar room with all kinds of filthy talk coming forth, and it would so grate against our nature that we would want to get out of

that place quickly. But then if it got bad enough, we definitely could not stand it. We would just HAVE to get up and leave.

Even so, demon spirits have a nature which love that kind of atmosphere. They revel in it, and it is pleasing to their nature. But put them in an atmosphere among a group of Spirit-filled people who are praising and worshipping the name of the Lord Jesus, and it so grates upon their nature that they cannot stand it, and they have to get out.

How often have I seen this truth manifested. I could think of a time some years ago when we were dedicating a new church building, and we had invited four or five visiting ministers in. We had all day services with dinner on the grounds. After lunch, we came back at 2 o'clock and all the rest of the day we would praise God a while then someone would preach a word. Then we would praise God again and someone else would get up and preach. Finally at 5 o'clock in the afternoon the power of praise became so strong that there was one man sitting out in the congregation who was indwelled by demon spirits, and they could not stand it any longer. Suddenly they made him jump up and make all kinds of weird motions as if he was putting a hex on the congregation. Then he ran out of the door as fast as he could. The demons could no longer stand the praise, the worship, and the adoration of God that was going forth. I have seen them break down and cry under the power of praise.

I remember a deaf boy once who we set in our midst because the demon spirits in him were resisting. We just began to praise. After a half hour of praise, worship and adoration of God, the demon spirits in the boy began to break down and cry through him. And they began to come out. The boy himself had not heard a word we said, but the demon spirits could not stand the praise.

Some months ago, I was called to the city of Lubbock, Texas, to cast out demons from a young man who was possessed with them. When I arrived there, I insisted on a

week of teaching the family and friends who were burdened for the boy before I began to command the spirits out, so that they would understand where we were going and what we were doing.

For a week I taught on the subject of demonology. Then in their church on the next Sunday morning, I ministered on the power of praise as an instrument to defeat Satan. When I finished the sermon and the service closed, the boy's 25 year old sister was standing, lost in the Spirit still worshipping God. I stood back

by the door and said good-bye to the last person, and then I looked back in the great church building and the young girl was gone. I wondered where she was, and then suddenly I heard her way back in the prayer room shouting, "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!" over and over and over again. This church seated approximately 1,200 people, and was very large seemingly a half block long. But you could hear this girl shouting in the Spirit with her Texas drawl, "Hallelujah!" that it reverberated off the walls throughout the whole church. Then for the next hour her father and I sat there, waiting for her as she knelt in the prayer room praising God.

But then that night when the spirits that were in her brother manifested themselves, I started to cast them out, and this young girl suddenly stepped in front of me and swept me aside and commanded the spirits to come out herself, in the name of Jesus. Then she burst forth with a "Hallelujah to the name of Jesus." It seemed to make all the walls of the house push out. Having a college trained voice in the conservatory of Music, it was very strong and very powerful.

When she did, her brother began to cough and gag. The spirits that were in him began to come out, and he was set free.

The next morning I received a call from another person. A woman in that city who had a woman in her home who was demon possessed. This woman had an operation six weeks before, and when she was physically weak, the spirits which had been inside her for all these years manifested

themselves and took over. The night before we were called, the woman had gone completely out of her mind, and she had been crazy all night.

We went to her bedroom in the house where she was, and started to lay hands on her to cast the spirits out of her. Again this young woman stepped before me. I saw that God was raising up a great deliverer, and I very happily stepped aside. Again she laid hands upon this woman, and she burst forth with a volume of praise that made the walls reverberate and commanded the spirits to come out. When she did, the power of God became so strong that the woman began to tremble, starting at her feet and then on up to her head. The spirits began to come out, but before they came out, each one was forced to confess through the woman's own lips what he had been doing to her.

The first spirit that came up said, "I am the one which caused her to lose all of her friends. She does not have a friend in the world because I have tricked her into talking about her friends for years." The next one that came up after he went said, "I am the spirit that has been putting fear into her. She is scared to death that she is going to die. That is why she cannot be healed of her physical sickness. I have been pouring the fear into her." There were 15 spirits in this woman, and each one as he came up was forced by the power of God to confess what he had been doing with the woman and then went out. When the last one came up, he was forced to confess, "I am the last." I thought he was lying, but he wasn't. After he came out we prayed with the woman, and she was filled with the Holy Spirit. We left her speaking in tongues and magnifying God.

Demons cannot stand praise. This is why the great Pentecostal revivals have swept the earth for the last sixty years on the wings of two things - PRAISE and TONGUES. If you will check the statistics, and study the record of Pentecost, you will discover the first thing that the Holy Spirit has brought forth in every church in which the

Baptism of the Holy Spirit has broken out is tongues and then praise.

In the life of every individual who has received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the first thing that the Spirit has brought forth is first tongues, and then great praise. This is because the Holy Spirit knows that these are the two things that the demons cannot stand. This is why there is no power to heal in the nominal churches who have not received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit truth. Because there is no praise to drive out the demons which are continually hovering and lurking in their church services.

Have you ever gone into a church service when the service first began and there was a heavy oppressive feeling hanging over the congregation, even in a Spirit filled church, and no power of God was there as a result of it. Then as the people began to worship God and the Spirit of God moves within them, they begin to burst forth in a volume of praise. Suddenly the atmosphere is cleared, there is an instantaneous release, and you can feel it present to heal. This is because the demon spirits which were hovering and lurking over that congregation could not stand the praise that came forth, and they were driven out.

When the nominal churches of our world know this great truth and yield to the Spirit of God, letting Him bring forth the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and then tongues which is the gift to build up our faith, and then praise which is the instrument which drives demons away from us, then the power of God will be present to heal in their services too. It is one of the greatest instruments that is given to us with which to fight demon spirits, and it is perfectly scientific. Their nature cannot stand it. They cannot stand to be in the presence of those who are loving and adoring Jesus. The more we use it, the more the power of God will be manifested in our lives. May God make it real to your heart. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ORIGIN AND SOURCE OF DEMONS

The first study in our series laid the foundation for our study in demonology by revealing the existence of this invisible spirit kingdom made up of Lucifer, the prince of demons, and his demon spirits as revealed to us in Ephesians 6:12.

We also learned the dwelling place of the demoniac kingdom. Ephesians 6:12 says, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." We learned where the 'high' or 'heavenly' places are. They are the invisible spiritual realm that is all around us.

We learned from Ephesians 2:2 that the Bible speaks of the 'prince of the powers of the air.' There are powers in the very air around us. This is where the demoniac spirits have their dwelling place, in the spiritual realm, the very air around us. We got an idea from the evidence given in scripture of the great number of demon spirits that are in this kingdom.

We are going to go on to study the source and the origin of the demoniac kingdom. Where do demon spirits come from? Why are they demon spirits? The Bible reveals this to us very clearly. It reveals demon spirits were once holy angels.

In the Book of Revelation, the 12th chapter, we are told that when Lucifer (or Satan), who is the prince of devils was once an archangel, rebelled against God, he persuaded one-third of the angels of Heaven to rebel with him. In the Book of Jude in the Bible, the 6th verse, we read, "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." These true statements from scripture reveal to us the source and origin of demon spirits and why they are demon spirits.

In order to fully understand these scriptures, we need to first understand what constituted Lucifer's rebellion against

God. What kind of rebellion was it? When we think of the term or word 'rebellion' or 'revolution' here on earth, on a physical plane, we think in terms of one physical being gathering together an army of men (other physical beings) and marching against a physical king or physical government. If we are not careful when we think of Lucifer's rebellion against God, we will also get a mental image of the same. But, this is in error.

In the first place, we have already learned in our previous study of the heavenly places that God is not a physical being. God does not exist in a physical form. He is omnipresent spirit which fills the whole universe. Scientists tell us that there are more worlds out there than all the individual grains of sand on all the beaches in all the world. Therefore, you cannot put God in a physical form. He is too big for that. So you cannot have Lucifer marching against Him to overthrow Him in any one place with an army of physical beings.

This is not what constituted Lucifer's rebellion against God. No one can do anything against God personally. He stands in His omnipotence, His almighty wrapped in the cloak of His power. No one can personally hurt Him or do anything against His person.

This was not what constituted Lucifer's rebellion against God. He rebelled in the beginning before the world was. He rebelled against God's purpose and plan for his existence. God had created him to be an archangel in His heavenly system and to have a certain amount of authority and power over the rest of God's Heavenly system. But, Lucifer desired to have greater authority and rulership over God's creation. He began seeking to fulfill these desires by taking authority and rulership over the rest of God's creation desiring to have all authority, that place which is reserved for Jesus alone. When he sought to fulfill this desire, he was rebelling against God's plan for his purpose. It is in this sense that he rebelled against God.

The only way that any one can be in rebellion against God is by rebelling against His plan and purpose for their

existence or for their life. This is the way human beings are in rebellion against God. God has a definite plan for each of our lives. But so often, early in life, instead of waiting and seeking God's plan for our life and existence that we may walk in it, we begin to have aspirations and desires of our own. "I want to do this with my life" or "I want to do that." "I want to be a business man and marry this woman." "I want to marry that man."

As we begin seeking to fulfill these aspirations and desires (and we do), we are in direct rebellion against God's purpose and plan for our lives. This leads only to misery and frustrations until some day we turn back to Jesus and let Him begin to lead us back into God's plan for our lives.

This is what happened to Lucifer. He rebelled against God's plan for his existence. It has already been stated that this is the only way any one can rebel against God. You cannot hurt God's person. You cannot do anything to Him personally. He stands in omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence. He is all powerful, and no one could even nick His armor of protection to hurt Him personally. We just cannot hurt God personally.

We can only hurt God by hurting the rest of His creation. This is what Lucifer did. We cannot serve God personally. We cannot do anything for Him personally. He needs nothing from us. His Word says, "The Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?" Once David or Solomon thought that they would build Him a house, God spoke this to them.

Again we repeat, we cannot do anything for or against Him personally. We can only hurt Him by hurting His people, and the rest of His creation. We can only serve by serving our brothers and sisters, and the rest of His creation. It is good for Christians to know this.

Lucifer began to have aspirations and desires above and beyond God's plan for him and in seeking to fulfill these aspirations and desires, he was in rebellion against God.

Then Lucifer persuaded, the Bible says, one-third of the Holy Angels in Heaven to rebel with him against God. That is, he persuaded them also to have aspirations and desires above and beyond God's plan for their existence. God had created them to be angels but not to have rulership and authority over one another.

When Lucifer persuaded them to begin to try taking rulership and authority over the rest of the angelic creation, they too were having aspirations and desires above and beyond God's plan for their existence and so were in rebellion against God. They left their first estate, God's first plan for their existence, and they thought to have a higher estate, a higher habitation. Jude 6 says that those angels (including Lucifer) who kept not their first estate but left their own habitation, God reserved in chains of darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Because they rebelled against God, they thought to leave their first estate, their first habitation, God's plan for their existence, the Bible says, "God hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness."

Now this does not mean that God took some literal chains and tied up these angels. These angels are not physical beings, they are spirit beings. So, they could not, of course, be bound with physical chains. This means that when Lucifer and his angels began to have these aspirations and desires which were more than God planned for their existence and they begin to move to seek fulfillment of these desires, to take authority over the rest of God's creation, at the point where they began to do this, they walked out of the leadership and communion with, and guidance from the light of God's Holy Spirit. They cut their communion with the Spirit of God and walked out into darkness.

The Spirit of God was leading them into perfect peace, joy, and happiness as He enabled them to walk God's plan for their existence. When they rebelled against that plan, turned to go their own way, they turned away from the leadership, the light, and the guidance of the Spirit of God. They walked out into darkness. It is in this sense that the

Bible says, "God hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness." It is not that God looked down upon the instant that they turned from Him and said, "Now you rebelled against me, and I am going to drop a curtain of darkness over you."

The true picture is that God in His Wisdom, foreknowing all things before the creation ordained it so when a being has desires outside His plan and purpose for them, and they begin to seek fulfillment of those desires, they walk away from the leadership of His Spirit and into darkness. Since God allowed it to be so in His creation, it is in this sense God reserved them in chains of darkness. They walked out into darkness, and lost the light of God. When they lost the light of God, the holy angels began to sink into depravity. They have had hundreds of thousands of years in which they have been walking in darkness, sinking into deeper and deeper depths of depravity until they have become demoniac beings, demon spirits, evil spirits. And this is the origin and the source of demon spirits. This is why they are demon spirits. They were once holy angels who have degenerated away from the leadership, the light and the union with the Holy Spirit of God into darkness. They have degenerated unto the most evil and depraved spirits. That is why the Bible calls them unclean or evil spirits. They were not always unclean. They were not always evil. They became so as a result of their rebellion against God's plan for their existence walking away from the leadership of the Spirit of God into darkness.

We can illustrate this with the experience of human beings. All of us who have walked with God for some time have known Christians who once walked close with God, were in church every Sunday. The Spirit of God was leading them unto God's plan for their lives. Then all of a sudden they do not show up in church one Sunday. What has happened? Well, business has become good, or they began to make money. This person bought a boat. Instead of coming to church that Sunday, he felt he must go to the lake and try out his new boat.

At the point where he does so, he walks away from the leadership of the Spirit of God. He has planted that boat between him and the light of the Spirit of God. He has cut his communion with God. The Holy Spirit wanted to lead him down to the House of God on Sunday morning so that he might be fed on God's Word, get strong and be led on to God's plan for his life. But he planted that boat between him and the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Sunday found him out on the lake. At the point where he did so, he had walked out into darkness away from the leadership and light of the Spirit of God.

Now with some people, as the Spirit speaks to them and reveals what they have done, they will be wise enough and strong enough to be back in church next Sunday morning and try out the boat from then on during the week. This man does not do this. He might come back the next Sunday morning, but the following Sunday he listens to the lie of the devil, "Well, I have to work hard during the week and this is the only time I have." Instead of letting the Spirit lead him to the most important thing in his life ... being fed from God's holy Word in the House of God, he plants that boat between him and the Holy Spirit again, and he is back out on the lake Sunday. And, he is back in darkness again.

The next Sunday he has become weaker, and he is out on the lake again, and again and again and again. He has walked out into darkness. Pretty soon he stops coming to church altogether. Why? Because he has walked out from the light and the leadership of the Holy Spirit into darkness, and he has begun to sink into depravity.

When you see that person six months later in his home, the devil has slyly led him under his dominion and guidance causing friction between him and his wife. You will hear that person burst forth with a stream of curse words which he had long ago laid aside when he came to Christ. You see him a year or two later, you'd find him at the corner bar room drinking beer again from which he long since turned again from when he turned to Christ. Why? He walked down into

darkness, and he is sinking into depravity, and he is going down, down, down into degeneration and depravity in his mind and in his spirit.

If we could think in terms of hundreds and thousands of years for this person, that the once holy angels have had to sink into darkness and depravity, that person went down the road he was going, he too would wind up an evil demoniac being.

This is what happened to Lucifer and the once holy angels which rebelled against God's plan for their existence and sought to take greater authority over the rest of God's creation, leaving their first estate walking out into darkness away from the light and the leadership of God. They have sunk into the very depths of depravity and degeneration and have become the most evil beings of all God's universe so that the Bible calls or describes them as evil, unclean spirits. If you want a view of the nature that these once holy angels have attained, the evil nature to which they have attained, that they have sunken into and see just how evil they are, study the two symbols or figures that the Bible uses for Lucifer and his demons.

One symbol is the serpent, the other is the lion. The Bible uses the symbol of the serpent for the devil and the lion for the devil and his demons. "The devil as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." (I Peter 5:8)

First, we will consider the serpent. The serpent is the most deadly being of all God's creation. When he bites you in the leg, he leaves only two little pin points, fang holes, which do not seem very large or very important. But, in doing so he injects into your system and blood stream a poison which permeates every portion of our being, and we begin to die.

Secondly, if we want to see the tremendously depraved nature that demon spirits have, we study the second symbol, the lion. Now a lion goes through the forest, and he is always seeking something to kill, not particularly because he is hungry, but because he lusts to kill. He hungers to kill. It

is his very nature to kill. Therefore, his inner being is continually crying out to be killing something.

The only way he can get any satisfaction from the cravings of his inner being is either to be killing something or seeking something to kill. It is his very nature to do this. That is why the Bible uses the symbol of a lion as it has a nature that cries out to kill.

We have read in the paper often of someone who has taken a young lion and raised him from a cub to an adult lion, to the maturity of the lion. Then suddenly an accident happened. The person cut himself or something, and the lion got the smell of blood and immediately his lustful nature took over. The lion pounced on the person, and if someone did not get to them, he would have killed him. This is because his true nature takes over. He has a nature which cries out to kill, which lusts to kill, which cannot be satisfied or find peace except that he be thinking of something to hurt or be hurting or destroying,

This is the true picture given to us scripturally, beloved, of the evil nature of the beings that we have to do with as Christians, that we have to fight against as Christians. That enemy is seeking to hurt us, to ultimately destroy us. They are a great invisible kingdom of principalities and powers which are seeking continually to hurt and to kill human beings. Why? Because that is the kind of beings they are. That is the nature that they have, a nature which just lusts and cries out to hurt and ultimately to destroy. This is a nature by which they can have no satisfaction for their inner cravings except that they be seeking or searching out someone to deceive, tempt, vex, oppress, depress and ultimately destroy.

This is what Jesus meant when He said in Matthew 12:43, "When the unclean spirit is gone out, of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none." This denotes a spirit who is forced to exist in the air with no body of either HUMAN or ANIMAL in which they can be

dwelling and doing that which is their nature to do. They are miserable.

Any being that cannot be doing that which is his nature to do is miserable. If it is your nature to love, and you cannot be loving, you are miserable. If it is your nature to laugh, and you cannot be laughing, you are miserable.

The demoniac nature is to hurt, deceive, tempt, depress, vex, oppress, afflict, and ultimately destroy. If they cannot have a body to indwell (either human or animal, preferably human) in which they can be doing this, they are miserable. If they cannot be indwelling a body through which they can be manifesting their nature, they are miserable.

We can illustrate this also with human experience. We human beings have a nature that loves the fresh air and sunshine, the flowers, the birds, the trees, and fellowship with one another, particularly we who have been born again. We love fellowship in the Lord with one another. Take any one of us and put us in a cell six feet high, two feet wide, with no windows or no doors. If we were kept locked up with no means of being able to manifest our nature, we would explode, we would become insane. We, too, would become demoniac.

This is the picture of a demon spirit, as Jesus said, that had been cast out of the body where he had been dwelling. He is forced to exist in the air with no means of satisfying its lustful evil nature which cries out to be hurting and deceiving. He is miserable. "He walketh through dry places, seeking rest, but findeth none."

We are going to study that statement of Jesus a little further in our study of demon oppression. This reveals to us the evil, depraved nature of the enemy that we war against as Christians in the Christian warfare.

When they are forced to exist in the air, they can get a little bit of satisfaction for their nature out of deceiving and tempting human beings which they can do from the outside of a person. But, this is very little satisfaction for their nature. They are yet miserable when this is all they can do.

Let us again illustrate this from our experience. We who are Christians, who are born again, get supreme satisfaction and joy for our Christian nature, when we can sit down and share with someone the truth about the Lord Jesus. When that person is absorbing every word, and we lead them to Christ, and then we can share with them the Precious truth concerning the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and kneel down with them and Pray, and see them filled with the Spirit of God, just lost in Him, this is supreme satisfaction for our nature. It is supreme joy. But, if we are talking to a Person trying to Present Christ and that person is looking in every direction other than at us and is not really hearing what we say, we go away and get just a little bit of satisfaction out of knowing that we have tried. Still there is the crying out in us to see that person saved and filled with the Spirit of God.

Even so, demon spirits that are forced to exist outside of anyone that they cannot be indwelling, they do their work of tempting and deceiving. But, unless they can so tempt and deceive a person that they can indwell that person, they are miserable as they are forced to remain on the outside.

They try to present their evil ideas to a person's mind. That Person might have his mind filled with the labors of the day as a busy person and not idle minded. He continually is thinking about his business and job paying no attention to the tempting voice of the demon spirits that seek to project their evil ideas into that person's mind or particularly if they are trying to tempt a Christian and he refuses to accept their evil ideas, they get a little satisfaction out of that. They go away feeling, well they have tried. Still their nature cries out within them to so succeed in their deceiving and tempting that person that they can indwell him and truly begin to manifest their evil nature through that person. Until they can do so, they long to be so tormenting that person that they can ultimately destroy them, therefore, fully satisfying the cravings of their inner nature.

I hope we have presented to you a real picture of the nature of the demon spirits who are resisting the coming in

of the kingdom of God. They are not only resisting it but are seeking to destroy all humanity because their very nature cries out to destroy.

Contrary to what we have been taught in the past, Lucifer and his demons are not doing what they are doing and resisting Christ and His wisdom simply because they are mad at God, and they want to get revenge. Neither are they seeking to overthrow God's kingdom here on earth just to overthrow God. They do what they do simply because they can do or be nothing else. Their nature forces them to do the evil things that they do, and to be what they are. They can do nothing else, because that is the nature in which they have degenerated.

If Lucifer could have taken authority over the rest of God's creation and usurp the place of Jesus and still remained the being that he was when God first created him as an archangel, he would have been very glad. He had nothing to do with becoming the degenerated, depraved spirit that he is now. This was not his desire. He did not know things were going to end up this way. He thought he would take authority over the rest of God's creation and still remain the same wise being he was then. He did not want to be a demon, a devil. Now he does what he does because he cannot help himself. He still seeks to take complete rulership over the rest of God's creation and fights the war to do so. But now it is not just in order to rule over them but that he might destroy them. His very nature now cries out that he destroy.

This carries a great truth for human beings. We pointed out that Lucifer would have liked to satisfy his desires which were against God's plan for him and still remain the wide capable being that he was as an archangel. He did not know that the way he was going would lead to what he is now. Those human beings who think that they can depart from the plan of God for their lives and play around with the world a little bit satisfying their aspirations and desires do not believe or know that it will lead to a downward road of darkness and

hell. If they did, they would not go that way. Like Lucifer who walked out of the leadership of God's Spirit, they begin to play in darkness and the road leads to depravity. As they go that way, they sink into greater and deeper depths of depravity until they have no strength to pull themselves out of it. Then only if they come to Jesus can they pull out.

Many people of the world have gone the way of Lucifer and his demons. When they walked out into darkness and depravity long ago, out of the light of God, out of His leadership and were reserved in chains of darkness, they went further and further into that darkness. Do not think that the Spirit of God did not try to call them back when they started on their downward road. God loves His creation. Do not imagine that the Spirit of God did not try to woo Lucifer back to Him. But he had walked into darkness and continued to walk into darkness and sink into depravity until the day came when they passed the point of no return. When they became so hardened that God knew they would never turn back to Him, He had to let them go. Passing the point of no return, they became doomed to darkness and depravity, lost forever. The only end that God could provide for them was that time in the judgment day they would be separated unto their hell, there to exist separated from God and His heavens.

This is what happens to the people lost of this world. They have turned away from light and leadership of the precious Spirit of God. They seek to plan and fulfill their own lives instead of seeking God's plan for their lives. They have walked out into darkness. The Spirit of God would woo them back, but they keep going into the world and into darkness. The day comes when they pass the point of no return. Their mind and their spirit becomes so hardened that even when they hear the precious voice of Jesus and the Gospel of Jesus, they have no strength to turn back. They are doomed to eternally go down into darkness and depravity, continuing further in that depraved doomed state.

This is their hell where they will exist forever when all things have come to an end.

So we have learned the source and origin of demon spirits, where they came from and why they are with us. Once holy angels, they have fallen into deep depravity sinking into that degeneration for thousands of years to the evil depraved beings that have the nature which simply cries out to destroy.

In the closing portion of this study, we would like to reveal to you a picture of the scope and the size of this demoniac kingdom. To do this, we again study the symbol that God's Word uses for the demoniac kingdom, the serpent family.

These symbols which God uses in scripture are perfect symbols which when we study them, they reveal to us much truth.

In Romans 1:20 we read, "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead." This tells us that God in His wisdom at creation made things (visible) symbols of invisible or spiritual truths about God and His creation. This is why the Bible uses water as the symbol for the Holy Spirit, and the serpent as the symbol for the Satanic kingdom, and seed as the symbol for the Word of God. He did this not because He just decided to use these things as symbols but because the Spirit knew that God had made visible things symbols of invisible spiritual truths. When we know this truth and our spiritual eyes are opened, we can see symbols all around us which proclaim to us spiritual truths.

Sometime ago when I was in Arizona, I saw trees hanging on the mountain side stunted and gnarled. The leaves were brown, and the trees were barely struggling to remain alive because they had very little water. This proclaims to me the truth that human beings who have not the water of God's Spirit pouring through them will lead stunted, gnarled dry lives barely able to remain alive because they have very little of the water of God's Spirit.

The mountains that I saw in Arizona that are in the earth are symbols of the mountains that man had to climb over in order to get back to his perfect union with God which he had before the beginning of the fall. The valleys are symbols of the valleys that he must go through. We can go on and on.

Each one of these symbols that God has planted in creation are perfect. When we study the symbols, we can learn a lot of truth about the invisible reality that the symbols portray.

When we study the serpent family, we can learn much truth about the scope and the width of the demoniac kingdom. In the serpent family, there are the large serpents and small serpents. There are very deadly powerful serpents that can kill, and there are tiny small serpents that have no power to hurt or kill, but can only aggravate, frighten, or cause fear.

In the serpent family, there is the very powerful boa constrictor that can kill. There also is the deadly poisonous rattlesnake. Even so, in Satan's kingdom, there are giants, powerful spirits, that are much stronger than other spirits and have power to lead on to destruction.

In the serpent family, there are small green snakes which are not poisonous or deadly, and have no power to hurt at all, but can frighten one tremendously. Even so, in Satan's kingdom, there are spirits that are not real powerful, but are spirits of fear that can continually inject lies into a person's mind which causes fear. We can even consider the little worms which are part of the serpent family in the earth which eat the vegetables, which aggravate and which vex humanity.

They are types of the weaker spirits in Satan's kingdom which are not powerful but can be aggravating, vexing, irritating the human race, wearing down the individual's mind working ultimately towards being able to so wear down the mind that they can enter into that person and indwell that person. Then they can begin to work from the inside of that

person to ultimately oppress, possess, and destroy that person.

This brings us to the next study that we have to consider in our series. This is the six areas of demon influence and demon work in human experience.

SIX AREAS OF DEMON WORK IN HUMAN EXPERIENCE

In this study we will learn the six areas of demon influence in human experience: the DECEIVING work of demons, the TEMPTING work of demons, the VEXING work of demons, the DEPRESSING work of demons, the OPPRESSING work of demons, and the POSSESSING work of demons. This is one of the most important studies in our series because it reveals to Christians the great need for studies in demonology.

Today when you speak of demonology or a study of demons, Christians begin to think in terms of some weird far out realm of possession or casting out. They do not realize that demons are going to be fighting and striving against them daily in the first 4 areas of demon work in human experience by deceiving, tempting, vexing, and depressing.

When they think only in terms of possession or casting out devils, because they are not POSSESSED or OPPRESSED, because they do not feel any particular calling to the ministry of casting out devils or have not grown spiritually enough to where they can be used in this ministry, they feel the studies in demonology have no application to them whatsoever. Therefore, they are not concerned and through lack of knowledge concerning the demoniac kingdom and how to resist it, they are laying themselves open to being deceived in the first 4 areas of demon work in human experience.

For this reason, Scriptural studies in demonology are in these last days a MUST for every Christian. When one understands and is taught that there are six areas of demon work in human experience and that the first 4 are areas in which we have to fight demons daily as Christians, then they will become more concerned. So let us study each one.

DECEIVING WORK OF DEMONS

First we have the deceiving work of demon spirits or the "doctrine of devils." Certainly anyone who reads the Scripture knows that the Bible teaches that there are doctrines of devils. Paul speaks of men in the last days giving heed to seducing spirits and the doctrines or teaching of devils (I Tim. 4:1). The word "doctrine" means "teaching." This is the deceiving work of demons, whereby demon spirits project into the mind of men false doctrines, false teaching about God and about His plan.

They deceive men by giving them beautiful revelations which appear to be from God, which appear to be great light, thus fulfilling the scripture which says, "for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." (11 Cor. 11:14)

This is the reason for all the division that is in the Church of Jesus Christ today. There are two spirits which give revelation. One is the Holy Spirit who is seeking to lead people through giving them revelations unto His plan and purpose for their life and for the Body of Christ, for the elect of God. The other is demon spirits who can transform themselves into "ministers of light" which come to you making you think they are angels of light, the Spirit of God talking to you giving great revelation. Their purpose is to lead men away from God's plan and purpose for their lives.

In our world today we have many people and organizations which claim the name "Christian" which are being deceived by doctrines of devils such as the Christian Scientist, Unity, and many others (I do not hesitate to name them, I do it in love). I have a great burden for them, but I point out everywhere the areas in which they are deceived.

These groups have the laws of life and spirit which Jesus taught concerning the work of even the Holy Spirit. They are using these revelations to produce healings and even miracles among the people who follow them. Yet, all the time they deny any need for the ATONING BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST.

In their teaching, "It is not nice to connect blood with religion and with Christianity." They flatly deny that

salvation is alone through faith and in the atoning blood of Jesus. They have stepped over that revelation. They have set it aside. They have said, "We do not need it. We can take the teachings of the law and the revelation of the truth of God, and we can practice them. We can come to perfection this way. We can come to our salvation." They are deceived with "doctrines of devils."

Dear friend, the first truth that the Holy Spirit is going to show the person who is dead in trespasses and sins is that Christ died for his sins, that Jesus shed his atoning blood to pay for their sins.

God has a nature which is love, that is true, but we must not forget the Holiness of God's nature which demands atonement for sins. This is the first truth the Holy Spirit will show anybody. When we accept this truth by faith and accept Jesus' atoning blood to pay for our sins, THEN the Holy Spirit will indwell us and lead us into further truths and higher revelations which lead to healings and so forth.

When one skips over the revelation concerning the atoning blood of Jesus and goes to the higher revelations, they have received them from a spirit alright, but it is not the Holy Spirit. It is demon spirits who seek to take other truths and plant them in the mind of men in order to lead them away from the foundational truth which will alone produce man's salvation, faith in the atoning blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

There are those in our world today whose doctrines are insidiously creeping into the Christian church and into many Christians that have been baptized in the Spirit. These doctrines concern reincarnation and final restitution of all things, that all people ultimately will be saved are strictly "doctrines from devils," the deceiving work of demons.

I would point out to you that the organizations which propagate and who are the source of doctrines such as reincarnation, etc. are the Orientalists of the East, the Christian Scientists, the Unity people of our country and of the world, all who flatly deny the need for the atoning blood of Jesus. So it is not very hard to see what spirit these

doctrines come from. How tragic it is that many of the Christians from the historical churches who have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit have been immediately come to by deceiving spirits and had these doctrines (reincarnation, final restitution of all things, etc.) implanted in their minds, I find this everywhere I go.

We would like to pin point this also. There is one thing you will not find these people doing and that is casting out devils. This is because the spirits which inspired them are not going to lead them to fight against the demoniac kingdom.

Their teaching concerning this is, "It is better not to talk about demons and those things which are not nice but only talk about beauty, love, Jesus, etc." Let this truth be implanted deeply into your hearts, dear Christians. Jesus said in Mark 16:17, "And these signs shall follow them that believe." The VERY FIRST SIGN that he said would follow is, "In my name shall they cast out devils." Those who are believing and preaching Jesus' Gospel in these last days, you will find them casting out devils, speaking in new tongues, and all the other signs which were spoken by Jesus, "And these signs SHALL follow" those who believe HIS GOSPEL.

The reason these other organizations which deny the atoning blood and teach these beautiful revelations, teach that it is better not to talk about demons, is because that is exactly what Satan wants. He wants his demoniac kingdom to remain in darkness so that the people are not educated concerning it.

So we see the deceiving work of demons every Christian is subject to daily. He needs to recognize it, know how to fight against it, and how to overcome it. The deceiving work of demons does not always come in the area of false doctrines in the deceitful way they plant fear into men's minds deceiving their minds concerning God, etc.

In many areas they project deceiving ideas into the minds of individuals, spirits of fear, projecting all kinds of fearful

thoughts into their minds, all kinds of worry, thoughts of all that might happen, all kinds of worry thoughts of all that might happen to them in the future, and all for one purpose. Dear friend, as we go through these six areas of demon work, note in each one the purpose is to wear out and weaken the mind and the will of the individual over a period of time, destroying their faith, their strength, their spiritual strength so that they can ultimately enter in and indwell. This is the deceiving work of demon spirits.

*TEMPTING WORK OF DEMONS *

Secondly, we have the tempting work of demons whereby demon spirits project into our minds, sometimes even beautiful mental pictures of how nice it would be to do this or that. They cause us to forget that the this or that" we are getting a mental picture of is against the Word of God. They tempt us continually with "this thought," "this idea," "this mental picture" always seeking to tempt us into sin. They want to tempt us into the worldly things to keep us so involved in sin and in the worldly things that we would be separated from the Spirit of God and subjected more to their influence in our lives. This way we would be robbed of faith and power with God which brings life.

To the business man, they tempt by projecting beautiful mental pictures of how he can make this step in his business or that step. Often they are tempted to follow this mental picture, and it is the wrong way for them to go. When they are not seeking the leadership of the Spirit of God, they wind up having their business hurt, sometimes destroyed and then they are broken, weakened, mentally discouraged and made weaker so that the demons can wear them down a little more working towards indwelling.

Mental pictures projected into the minds of the business men show how easy it would be to do something even though it is dishonest and sometimes even against the law. They tempt them to follow so that they can lead them into a

position whereby they will be hurt mentally, spiritually and perhaps even prosecuted by the law.

They are always fighting and striving against humanity in this manner. The demons take the average individual tempting them into sin, then they immediately come back upon the individual and put an extreme feeling of condemnation upon them so that they continually feel condemned for their sins, even though it may be a subconscious feeling. Therefore, the individual feels God cannot be pleased with them and they are separated from God. They cannot come to God and pray with faith because they feel under condemnation and are not acceptable to God. Therefore, they cannot get their prayers answered. They are continually separated from God in this manner.

The demons are tempting, tempting, tempting us daily. **EVERY** Christian will have demon spirits come against them daily in this manner. This is why Jesus said in the Lord's Prayer that we should pray daily for God to deliver us from the evil (one).

They are going to come against us daily, spirits of lust, lying spirits, spirits of envy, spirits of greed, all kinds of spirits who are especially trained in the art of projecting these luscious temptations into our minds. They tempt us away from the leadership of the Spirit of God.

VEXING WORK OF DEMONS

Thirdly, we have the vexing work of demons. These are spirits whose express purpose is to continually vex and aggravate the human being and especially the Christians.

In this category we have spirits of irritability which all of us have at one time experienced, the extreme irritability whereby it seems that everything anyone says or does around us just irritates us. Sometimes people are not even doing anything against us, but we have this extreme irritability which irritates us. Then we blare out at those around us hurting their feelings. Sometimes they answer back to us

sharply. Often these spirits keep one living in an atmosphere daily of unhappiness and misery.

This is a spiritual force projected against our minds and spirits by demon spirits which make us feel this way to keep us in an area of misery in our daily lives so that our minds, our wills, and our spirits will continually be worn down and weakened. The psychological warfare of Satan, dear friend (Satan is the greatest psychologist there is) wars against the human mind and against the human will continually with his spiritual force seeking always to wear down and break the human mind.

Several years ago, we were engaged in casting the demon spirits out of *Jane Miller in the city of New Orleans. She was a young woman so possessed she was trying to beat her head against the wall, threatening continually to kill her children, having seizures by which she was thrown on the floor in convulsion.

Because she had been under the care of the psychiatric clinic of Tulane University in New Orleans, after her healing her psychiatrists were so impressed with her healing that I was given the privilege of appearing before the Board of Psychiatry of Tulane University to explain to them how she was healed. I had the privilege of taking my Bible and teaching these psychiatrists from a great university what the Bible says about the reality of demon spirits and the influence that they can have on the human mind. Then I played a tape recording of the demon spirits actually talking through her as we cast them out for these psychiatrists. At the close of my presentation, I said to them, "The reason you psychiatrists can help a person is because you take a person who is oppressed by demons, you bring them into your office and you sit with them for hours letting them talk. You understand them, and you love them. You break through the crust of suspicion and fear that we human beings have of one another. You establish what you call empathy with that person, and then they confess to you. You draw out of them that thing in their past which the demon spirits have been

using to whip them and condemn them until they have broken down their minds. Every psychiatrist will tell you that 90% of the people they deal with, they wind up discovering that their minds are broken because of GUILT, extreme guilt over some incident in their past. You draw that thing out of them, and they confess it to you. You lay it out before them showing them that it is not the "bugaboo" that they thought it was. You convince them that IT IS NOT. The demons have lost their instrument. They can no longer whip that person's mind, and the person is helped." But I said, "You come to some people who are so possessed, their minds are so possessed by indwelling spirits that you cannot break through. The only person who can help that person is a Spirit-filled minister of Jesus Christ, who can command the demons to leave in the NAME OF JESUS, casting them out and freeing that person's mind so that one can then break through to them with reason and truth."

Not one of them opposed my statement. Lucifer and his demons are the greatest psychologists that there are. He is the institutor of Psychology. He carries on psychological warfare against the human mind with his spirits.

Brethren, I say unto you who are ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the secular psychiatrists have simply invaded our field. It is we who are called of God to deal with the demoniac kingdom that is breaking down the minds of humanity. We are called of God to deal with it in every area - the area of the deceit of demons, in the area of the temptation of demons, in the area of the vexation of demons and the casting out of demon spirits in the area of possession. It is our field, dear Christian brethren. God sent us forth unto it. Let us not turn aside the responsibility.

This is the work of spirits of irritability. They exert this spiritual force which causes extreme irritation upon the nervous system which makes that person miserable. They make every body around them miserable, therefore, they are living continually in an area of misery which weakens their

mind and spirit so that ultimately they will break down under it.

You have seen why they break down in this manner. Husbands break down in this manner. Christians break down in this manner, and this is the reason - the vexing work of demon spirits. Oh, how we need to recognize it, to begin a warfare of education against it. Hallelujah! This does not work only in the area of spirits of irritability. We have spirits of criticism, all kinds of spirits which are continually aggravating and vexing people causing one to be extremely critical of another, therefore, separating friends, causing them to be vexed with one another. They are working, working, always working to weaken the mind and the will of the individual.

DEPRESSING WORK OF DEMONS

Very few people have not had a time of experiencing extreme depression. Often times there is nothing going wrong on the outside life, yet people feel extremely depressed, and they do not know why. This too, is a spiritual force which demon spirits exert against the mind and spirit and will of the individual to weaken them, to beat them down, to destroy their faith in a good God and in His ability to meet their every need.

When the outward situation of business, romances, a death, etc. are going bad, demon spirits use these things as instruments to cause heavier depression. Even when the outward situation is fine, often people are extremely depressed, and they do not know why they feel that way. These are demon spirits exerting a spiritual force against the mind, will, and spirit of that individual.

If you want to see just how powerful this force can get according to how many demons are working on one, go with me into the scriptures with Jesus as He is about to enter into the Garden of Gethsemane that night long ago with His disciples where He was arrested.

In John 14:30 we hear Him say unto His disciples, "Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me." In His Spirit He could feel Lucifer and his demons approaching to resist Him, to try to keep Him from fulfilling God's Word.

Then a little further on as He got closer to the garden, it is recorded in Matthew 26:38 that He said to His disciples, "My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me." His soul was "exceeding sorrowful." His whole being was pressed down. He was feeling extreme depression so much so that He felt like He was about to die, "even unto death," He said. What had happened? Lucifer and his demons had come against Him with a tremendous spiritual force of depression.

When He went into the Garden of Gethsemane, He fell on His face and He prayed, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it thy will be done." He was not praying as so many have thought for His Father to make another way for men to be saved so that He would not have to go to the cross. Before He ever left the "courts of Heaven," He left determined to go to the cross and do His Father's will. He said to His disciples continually, "The Son of Man must be crucified and buried and rise again the third day." He was not trembling in fear and trying to escape fulfilling His Father's will. He said, "Lo, I come, in the volume of the book it is written of me to do thy will, O God." He was praying for deliverance from Lucifer and his demon spirits which were so pressing Him down, trying to keep Him from fulfilling His Father's will that His soul was "exceeding sorrowful, even unto death."

They were pressing all kinds of thoughts against His mind. They were causing Him to hear, "Oh you just THINK you will rise from the dead on the third day. You just THINK this word you have heard from the Spirit of Your Father is true. You will not rise from the dead. You will just be dead. You had better leave here, and go back to Galilee and do your preaching."

When He prayed, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me . . ." He was praying for deliverance from the demon spirits that were so pressing Him down, so depressing Him that His soul was "exceeding sorrowful even unto death" in their effort to keep Him from doing His Father's will.

And when the Bible says, "And there appeared an angel unto him from Heaven, strengthening him" (Luke 22:43) does not mean that they came and patted Him on the back saying, "That is alright, Son, everything is going to be alright." It means that angelic spirits, that great host in God's army which fight the battle for the Sons of God came forth in answer to His prayer and drove off Lucifer and his demons. He was delivered from the depression, and then He rose up and came to His disciples and said, "Rise, let us be going." From that moment forth He never slowed down. He walked up Golgotha hill, and He laid Himself down on the cross for you and me. He fulfilled His Father's will.

Let me share a great truth with you from this experience of Jesus. If you study this experience presented to us in the scripture, you will find Jesus had to pray THREE TIMES three different periods before He received deliverance from Lucifer and his demons that were coming against Him.

We find the first time as He went into the garden, and He fell on His face and said, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me." Then He rose up after a period of prayer. He came back to His disciples and spoke with them. He said, "What, could ye not watch with me one hour?" but He was not delivered. So, He went back and fell on His face again and He prayed the same prayer, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me..... The Bible says He rose and came and talked with His disciples more and yet He was not delivered. Then He went back the third time, fell on His face again and prayed so tremendously determined that the sweat came forth from Him like blood. The victory was given. God delivered Him, and then He went forth. (Matt. 26:36-46 and Luke 22:44)

Many people think that every prayer that Jesus ever prayed, He received the answer immediately. This is not scripturally true. The Scriptures do not bear it out, particularly when He was fighting demons. The great truth that you could learn here is that if Jesus had to pray THREE TIMES for deliverance from demon oppression or depression before He got it, then you and I should certainly be encouraged not to give up just because we do not receive deliverance immediately, particularly when we are fighting demon spirits. Like Jesus, we should stay in the battle until the deliverance comes no matter how long it takes according to how strong a force of demons that are resisting us. It may take the same kind of determined effort over a period of time as it did with Jesus.

The tragedy is through lack of knowledge, lack of teaching, and lack of understanding and faith when the demons come against so many people, they do not resist until delivered as the Bible tells us to do. "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7. They simply yield to the force. They 'accept the fact' that there is nothing they can do about it. They simply go around being depressed and worn down and beat down until perhaps something happens in their lives which takes their mind off it keeping them busy. The demons cannot get to them any more. Nay! "He that is in you is greater than he that is in the world. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

So we think that we have given a clear picture of the depressing work of demons by which they are continually seeking to weaken our minds and our wills. If you yield to it as they try over and over again in a period of time in your life, you will be weakened. They are always seeking to weaken us to lead to the fifth stage of demon work.

OPPRESSING WORK OF DEMONS

It is at this stage that demons have always entered in and become indwelling. In the first stage, the deceiving work of

demons is where they lead us away from the leadership and communion with the Spirit of God who alone can keep us strong in faith and continually minister truth to our minds so that our minds and wills and faith can remain strong. This leads to the second stage of their work, the temptation work of demons by which they can tempt us into all kinds of things which further separate us from the Spirit of God. This leads to the third stage of their work, the vexing work of demons by which we can be overcome by all kinds of vexing spirits and kept in an atmosphere of misery which weakens our minds and spirits and wills more. The fourth stage of demon work, the depressing work of demons, weaken us more and more.

This leads to the fifth stage of demon work, the oppressing work of demons, demon oppression. At this point the demons have so depressed the person, so weakened their mind and spirit that they have entered in and are indwelling. You have what are called "nervous breakdowns" by the learned people of our day which is nothing more than the fifth stage of demon work brought on by the other four stages.

At this point people have mental breakdowns under the power of indwelling spirits that have entered in by this time. There are times when the communion between their minds and their nervous system is broken. Their own mind and will are so subjugated that the indwelling spirits actually, for periods of time, are able to overcome that person's mind and will, manifesting all sorts of crazy things through them. This is where a person breaks down to the point where he is not his own for periods of time but not continually for this is demon possession. Oppression, nervous breakdowns, or mental sickness is where a person is often not his own and not in control of himself. This is demon oppression whereby they have all sorts of strange experiences.

One young woman in Dallas, Texas whom we cast the demons out of sometime ago would wake up in the middle of the night screaming, "Something is choking me." She also

got up and ran out of a church service screaming, "Spiders are biting me on my arm." Demon oppression is brought on through demons working on a person in the first 4 stages of demon activity until they have broken that person down and brought them under their power,

POSSESSING WORK OF DEMONS

The sixth stage of demon work is demon possession whereby so many spirits have been able to indwell a person to so weaken their mind and spirit that they are able to subjugate completely that person's mind, will and spirit taking complete possession over that person's whole body, their whole personality so that person is no longer able to rule over their own vessel but the demon spirits are in complete possession. They are able to manifest "their nature" then through that body instead of the true personality and nature of the person whose body it is. Continually they are able to do this.

They manifest their own evil nature through that person causing that person to do insane things like the man Legion who lived in the grave yard as recorded in the 5th chapter of Mark in which Jesus cast out the demons. They caused him to run naked in the grave yard. He refused to wear clothing. He was continually cutting himself with stones. This is the lustful nature of the demon spirits which take extreme pleasure out of tormenting and torturing to satisfying their nature, satisfying the cravings of their inner being by this man mutilating his flesh and hurting himself, causing him to scream out in weird voices. We will study demon possession further by tape only - *The Jane Miller Story.

This is the definition of demon possession - when demon spirits have become so many indwelling a person and so powerful as they were in Jane Miller causing her to beat her head against the wall and have convulsions, that this person is no longer their own. They have taken complete possession

of that whole personality, and we have what is called in our world “insanity” or a “mental breakdown.”

Now the great purpose of this study is to say to all people first, if they would fight the battle, if they understood and were conscious of the reality of the invisible kingdom which is seeking to destroy them, if they through the leadership and power of the Spirit of God would fight the battle against demon spirits daily on the first 4 levels of demon work in human experience and won victories on those first 4 levels continually, there would never be any such thing as the last two stages of oppression and possession or “nervous breakdown” or “mental breakdowns” or “insanity.” There would never be any such things in our world. Now particularly we speak to Christians who are breaking down all over the world. We warn before hand, “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” If there was proper education in the church concerning the demoniac kingdom, and if Christians were taught, and would walk in the Spirit and fight the battle daily against the first four stages of demon work in human experience: the deceiving work in demons, the tempting work of demons, the vexing work of demons, and the depressing work of demons then again there would never be any realm of oppression or possession of any need for casting out devils. Indeed we say there would never be any mental breakdowns, nervous breakdowns or insanity in our world.

A few years ago after Jane Miller was delivered, I said to her personal psychiatrist at Tulane University, “Doctor, out of all the patients that you have dealt with as psychiatrist, how many would you say demonstrates the same symptoms as Jane Miller?” He said, “I’d say at least 75%.” I said, “I asked that question because I believe at least 90% of all the mental sickness and mental breakdowns in our world today are caused by demon spirits.” He said, “Sam, I believe it too.”

With this statement coming from one of the leading psychiatrist of one of our leading universities in our world,

certainly we see the need for Christians to be taught concerning the reality of the demoniac kingdom, how to recognize their work, their manifestations, their symptoms and above all how to resist them and defeat them.

In pressing home to every Christian, yea, every human being, this is a DAILY BATTLE which must be FOUGHT DAILY in the Spirit. Lucifer and his demons are going to be coming against YOU in one of these areas of their warfare in human experience. One lady in Lubbock, Texas said sometime ago when she heard that in a certain church I was teaching a study on demons, "Demons, how in the world could you teach a two-week study on demons?" This dear Lady understood very little of the reality of the enemy who is seeking to destroy us of the vast amount of knowledge that is presented to us in Scripture concerning their kingdom and of the great need for she herself to be educated in this area so that she might live the victorious life daily taking victory over the work of demons spirits in her life. She was not daily taking victory. She was being deceived by demons at that time. She had a deep fear of the mentioning of the word "demons" Therefore, she was being pressed by spirits of fear. She above all needed education in this area as do all.

Oh God! Teach us by Thy Spirit, day by day the reality of the organized enemy which is seeking to destroy us, and teach us the great need to walk in the Spirit, be led by the Spirit to daily take victory over the work of demons in these six areas of our lives. In Jesus' name we ask this.