

“Deliver Us from Evil” (What is Deliverance Ministry?)
February 24, 2019

Mark 1:39- [summary of Jesus’ ministry]— “So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.”

Acts 10:38- “Jesus...went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with Him.”

Mark 16:17- “These signs will follow those who believe” (1st thing mentioned): “In My name they shall cast out demons.”

CORE: Deliverance is to be a normal part of our ministry!

Yet, it is often avoided, ignored, or seen as a fringe ministry by the church

To see deliverance restored, we must remove these obstacles:

- **Ignorance** (misunderstanding, confusion)—“Satan takes advantage” when we are “ignorant of his schemes”
- **Fear** (Portrayals of superior demonic power—weak Christians)
- The **stigma** (Seen as **shameful**; or “**very evil**” if I need deliverance)
- **Western culture** tends to be **anti-supernatural** in its worldview. Hence, we emphasize psychological solutions in isolation to spiritual ministry of deliverance.

To see it restored:

- We **must talk about it openly** and **minister it openly** (i.e., compassionate for people; not a backroom dramatic, traumatic experience)
- Should be accompanied with **pastoral care & discipleship**
- **Share testimonies** of deliverances
- **Equip every believer** to minister deliverance (not reserved for a professional exorcist)
- Deliverance from evil spirits is **much more relevant** in our churches than we may think! (i.e., eating disorders, torment, PTSD, addictions, etc. tormenting their souls.)

The term “demon-possessed”: *daimonizomai*— “to be influenced by a demon” *Ochleo*— (term used to describe the activity of evil spirits) “to torment or trouble”

“Possessed”—speaks of “absolute control” NOTE: Not best rendering of “*daimonizomai*”.

A few insights from Jesus into the oppressive activity of demons: Matthew 12:43-45

- **Demons work together in groups**
- **Some are more wicked than others**
- **They seek a body to dwell in (without one they are homeless & restless), gaining access through a neglected “open door”**

Three dynamics of DELIVERANCE MINISTRY:

1. **Discerning the presence of demons**
 - **Demonic manifestation (Mark 1:21-26- “Man cried out, ‘Let us alone!’”)**
 - **Discerning of spirits (1 Cor. 12:10) “having our senses trained” (Hebrews 5:14)**
 - **Natural discernment (Mark 9:20-22) Jesus asked the question: “How long has this (torment) been happening to him?”**
 - **Physical manifestations (change of voice, countenance, uncontrollable physical movement, inexplicable pain) NOTE: Not every adverse issue is a demonic issue!**
 - **Presence of a “curse” (oppressive hindrances)—(inability to move forward in life, constant frustration, patterns of inexplicable sickness/accidents, constant financial lack, cycles of relational breakdowns, unseen spiritual barriers to God)**
2. **Closing the doors (repentance, forgiving people, renouncing evil activity)**
 - **Sin/willful disobedience (“Do not give place to the devil.” Eph. 4:26-27)**
 - **Traumatic experiences (Isaiah 61:1- “Prisoners (for crimes they committed) and captives (victims, seized in vulnerable moments)”)**
 - **Believing lies (John 10:10- “rob, steal (remove without our awareness) and destroy (to knowingly forfeit by believing deception).”**
 - **Entertaining & fueling unholy thoughts (Fear-inducing or lust-provoking entertainment or toxic friendships) Not guarding what we allow into our hearts.**
 - **Unforgiveness**
 - **Occult involvement**
 - **Ungodly soul-ties**
3. **Casting it out—commanding the spirit to leave!**

Derek Prince- “God doesn’t deliver you from your ‘friends.’ He delivers you from your enemies.”

“Submit to God; resist the devil.” (James 4:7) You must want to submit to God—and want to be freed from demons.

- **Submitted to God—exercising His authority: “Paul turned and said to the spirit, ‘I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.’” Acts 16:18)**
- **Have compassion for the person**
- **Don’t give undue attention to the demon**

Further reading: Jake Kail, *Keys for Deliverance; Can a Christian Have a Demon?* Global Awakening Training Manual; Charles Kraft, *Defeating Dark Angels; I Give You Authority; Deep Wounds, Deep Healing*