

THE DOCTRINE THAT CHRISTIANS CAN BE DEMON POSSESSED AND NEED EXORCISM IS NOT OF GOD.

1. It is a false teaching that denies vital New Testament truth.

Jesus warns us to beware of false prophets who are wolves in sheep's clothing, and instructs us to test the doctrine of all preachers and prophets by their fruits and by the Scriptures. Mt.7v15-29. Acts.17v10-12. Is.8v20. The fruits of this false exorcism are clearly seen. It attacks and denies our heavenly Father's protecting love and power. It limits and denies the cleansing, delivering and protecting power of Christ's precious blood. It denies the Holy Spirit's cleansing and regenerative energies at the new birth, and His protective love and power after that new birth. Titus.3v5. This is, indeed, evil fruit. This false exorcism actually gives place to the Devil in the name of deliverance; it denies the fact that the death of Christ has completely destroyed Satan's authority and power over Christians. Heb.2v14,15. Rev.12v9-11.

It is a striking fact that even though the heathen world was given over to gross immorality and occult practices and the other evil works of the flesh, only a small number were demon possessed, because of the protecting mercy and goodness of God, and His restraint on the powers of darkness. 2Thes.2v7. Lk.6v35

2. Christians who sinned and failed very badly did not become demon possessed.

The New Testament has not one case of a Christian being exorcised, and has no teaching that they should be exorcised, not even if they had failed or sinned very badly.

a. Peter' denial.

For hours Peter vehemently denied that he knew Jesus; he invoked the most terrible curses upon himself, and swore with the strongest and most sacred oaths, that he did not know Jesus. Lk.22v59. The present tense in Mt.26v74. shows the continuous nature of his denial. Our Lord warned Peter of this failure and assured him of His pardon and welcome after his repentance. There was no suggestion of Peter being demon possessed, or of him needing exorcism. Lk.22v31-34,60-62. God never allowed the curses that Peter put upon himself to come to pass. This shows how wrong a current false doctrine is, that Christians can curse themselves or others by careless talk. God's children cannot be cursed, Num.23v23., our past is buried with Christ in baptism, and we rise to walk in newness of life. Rom.6v4. The past and the sins of the fathers are cancelled when people love God. Deut.5v9,10. Ezek.18v1,2,19-21. Christ's precious blood has broken Satan's power over us, and has redeemed us from the curse of the Law, and every curse. Gal.3v13,14.

b. The Corinthians.

Paul never suggested that exorcism was necessary for the Corinthian Christians who were living such bad lives. 1Cor.5v1 to 6v20. Paul said that they needed to repent and to subdue the old nature and he commended them for it when they did so. 2Cor.7v7-13. Paul told them that the Lord had disciplined them by sickness and death for their bad living, so that they might not be condemned with the world. Paul encourages the Corinthians to follow the example of his own personal self-discipline of his body; he suggests self-discipline not exorcism. 1Cor.11v29-32. 9v24-27. The worst case of sin in the Corinthian Church was the case of the man who committed incest with his father's wife. Paul did not give a hint that this sinful man was possessed and needed exorcism: indeed, Paul makes it clear that Satan had no rights over the man until the Church handed him over to Satan for the destruction of his body. Even then Satan's activities were limited to physical sickness. Repentance caused mercy to be shown and judgement to be withdrawn from this sinful man, and he was welcomed back into the fellowship of the Church. 2Cor.2v6-11. 7v7-12. The cure for his sin was not exorcism, but discipline by spiritual power and exclusion from the Church fellowship. 1Cor.5v1-5. 2Cor.2v4-11. Jn.20v22,23. If no exorcism was needed for the Corinthian Christians, then no exorcism is needed for any Christian.

3. The confusion of works of the flesh with demon possession.

Paul writes about conflict with evil spirits that are OUTSIDE of Christians; but NEVER mentions exorcism of Christians. Yet these "exorcists" concentrate their efforts on Christians. Eph.6v10-20. They confuse the works of the flesh with demon possession and try to cast them out. Paul warns us that the flesh continually opposes the spirit and can't be cast out; he tells us that we can and must "crucify," "mortify," and "put off," these works of the flesh by walking in the Spirit. Gal.5v16-26. Col.3v5,8-14. Rom.8v1-4. 1Cor.9v24-27. Repentance and sanctification is the divine cure for the carnal appetites, not this exorcism, which brings despair and disillusionment. When "exorcism" of the sins of the flesh fails, as it surely must, for you cannot cast out the flesh; people lose hope and suffer severe spiritual damage. Many Christians, who have been supposedly "exorcised," have suffered such serious psychological problems, that they have needed medical help. This is a demonic parody of genuine New Testament exorcism.

4. This false exorcism is a total distortion of spiritual warfare and spiritual realities.

This false exorcism fails to discern and recognise Satanic energisings and fiery darts. Eph.2v1-3. 6v16. God's armour is a complete protection for the Christian. Eph.6v10-20. 2Cor.10v4,5. We have mighty spiritual weapons from God that fill demons with fear and terror. James.4v6,7. We can quench all Satan's fiery darts with the shield of faith. Paul clearly states in all his writings on spiritual warfare, that evil spirits can only attack Christians from outside their body and personality. Paul does not give the slightest suggestion that demons can possess a Christian; he states that the conflict is with Satan's fiery darts from outside, not from possession within. These,

and many other Scriptures, totally destroy the credibility of the doctrine that Christians can be possessed by demons. This false exorcism opens Christians to Satan's fiery darts; and hinders true spiritual warfare and revival.

5. God has ALWAYS protected His children, but Israel had forsaken God and lost His protection.

The reason why people in Israel had become demon possessed, like the demon possessed man in the synagogue in Mk1v23., was because a large part of Israel had forsaken God, and so our Lord called them, "the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Mt.10v6. Jesus said they were a wicked and adulterous generation, and were filled with the worst kind of evil ("poneros"). Mt.12v31-45. N.B. v34,39,45. Most of Israel were not born-again, even on an Old Testament basis. This is why both John Baptist and Christ preached the absolute necessity of repentance before remission of sins could take place. Mk.1v4,5,14,15. Mt.3v1-6. Lk.3v3-9. Rom.9v6. Israel's apostasy from God was the reason why some Israelites had become demon possessed; and Jesus warned the Jews that even worse satanically inspired calamities awaited the nation as a result of the rejection of His ministry. Mt.12v43-45.

Christ's broken-hearted weeping, in Lk.19v41-44., shows that Israel's future anguish and suffering was not His desire or His doing, but a result of Satan's malice. The nation had rejected the light that had been given to them through the Old Testament prophets and the Scriptures, and had filled up the measure of their fathers when they rejected Christ's ministry, and ascribed the wonderful works of the Holy Spirit through Him, to the Devil. Mt.11v20-24. 12v31,32. 23v13-39. Mk.3v28-30. Those who say that evil spirits can possess God's beloved children are also committing a very serious sin. It is a Satan-inspired attack on our security in Christ. Jesus tells us that He loves us as the Father loves Him, and the Father loves us as He loves Jesus. Jn.15v9. 17v23. In 1Pet.1v4,5., Peter uses "phrouroumenous," the present passive participle of "phroureo," "to guard," to assure us that God's beloved children are ALWAYS GUARDED by God's continuous protective presence and power. Demons tremble and flee from the protecting presence of God with a Christian. Jam.2v19. Resist Satan and his demons and they will FLEE from you. James.4v5-17. 2v19. You are the apple of God's eye; woe betide any demon who tries to attack you. Deut.32v10. Zech.2v8. Ps.17v8.

6. Why do some Christians act as if they are possessed, when they are not?

Because of the power of suggestion and submission to leadership. Christians submit to, and can be seriously dominated and injured by those who they regard as spiritual leaders, and because they look upon their leader's authority and discernment as derived from God, they obey and co-operate with them without question. They sacrifice their own beliefs, judgement and discernment with the words, "He is a man of God, he must be right." So they wriggle on the floor and vomit to order. When Christians submit like this, the power of suggestion is enormous, and the co-operation can be complete. They say, "If this man of God says I have a demon, I must have a demon, I must co-operate with him and get it out, I don't want anything evil in me." So when they are told to speak as if they are possessed, they speak out as if they are possessed, repeating the thoughts that demons, **which are OUTSIDE of them**, put into their minds. Paul warns us never to submit our judgement without question; he instructs us, in 1Thes.5v21., **"To scrutinise and test all things until you can approve them**, retaining only what is good." The uncaring and ruthless domination of Christian's minds and spirits by some exorcists, has mentally destroyed some Christians, and has caused them to be suicidal, and in need of psychiatric help.

Some Christians, who do not willingly cooperate with these exorcists, are spiritually mugged and overpowered by their forceful and aggressive approach. This is a very serious sin. David Duplessis told me that this practice of suggestion and false exorcism is a psychological trick, and that Christians who practiced this exorcism created more trouble than they could ever cure. The terrible truth is that these exorcists are training Christians to submit to demon influence.

These false exorcists ask Christians to speak out the thoughts that demons put into their minds, and when they do so, it is looked upon as a proof of demon possession. Evil spirits must rejoice in the havoc they cause when Christians give them authority to act in this way. Jesus had His mind filled with evil thoughts for 40 days by Satan in the wilderness, but JESUS WOULD NOT ACCEPT OR REPEAT THE LIES THAT SATAN PUT INTO HIS MIND, AND NEITHER SHOULD WE. Jesus fought Satan with God's Word, and so must we. WE SHOULD NOT ALLOW DEMONS TO PROGRAMME US WITH THEIR WORDS AND THOUGHTS; for if we speak out the words and thoughts of demons, then we are defiled by those demons. We must reject demonic thoughts and bring them captive to Christ. 2Cor.10v4,5.

N.B. This false exorcism causes Christians to act as mediums.

God forbids His children to act as mediums, yet this is exactly what this false exorcism does; it actually invites demons, which are OUTSIDE of Christians, to manifest their thoughts and blasphemies through Christians. Lev.19v31. 20v7,27. Deut.18v10-22. Is.8v18-20. When Christians are asked the question "What is your name?" They are expected, and being TRAINED, to give a demonic response. **THE RESULT IS DEFILEMENT BY DEMONS. NOT DELIVERANCE FROM DEMONS.**

CONCLUSION. We are a "new creation," and have been translated out of Satan's kingdom into the kingdom of God. 2Cor.5v17,18. Col.1v12-14. **We ALL have CHRIST IN US.** Col.1v27. **The Holy Spirit has come to abide with us FOR EVER.** Jn.14v16,17. **WE ARE GOD'S TEMPLE, GOD WILL NOT ALLOW DEMONS TO LIVE IN HIS TEMPLE.** 1Cor.6v19,20. 2Cor.6v16. Reject this false doctrine that you can be possessed by demons; for by it

Satan is seeking to damage and depress your souls. Mt.12v25,26. It is spiritually destructive, depressing, evil and unscriptural for Christians to sit in meetings, looking at each other to see what demons they have. What fellowship! This replaces God's sweet Christian fellowship, with demonically inspired pain and fear. Reject such evil theology. Esteem other Christians as better than yourself, and look for Christ's image in them, not demons. 2Cor.3v18. Phil.2v1-3.

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