DELIVERANCE

 GETTING RID OF SATANIC STRONGHOLDS IN YOUR LIFE

Question: Can Christians be inhabited by demons? Answer: A big yes! Christians can be inhabited by demons, and many Christians know little about it. Yet the results are visible,torment, nightmares, suicidal thoughts, Christian committing crime and adultery, the list is endless. How can God loving people commit such things? Generally this is done with the assistance of demons. For us to understand deliverance we have to go back to the manual, that is God’s word.

# Understanding Spiritual History

Exodus 20:5 Thou ***shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;*** (KJV)

The scriptures here point out that God visits the iniquity of the fathers unto the fourth generation, what that means is that if your grandfather was involved in wizardry, magic or simply an alcoholic or anything against Gods word. Demons that lived in him are simply transferred down to your father who then transfers them to you after they pass on! Scary, you might say. But it is not scary if your father or grandfather passes you his million dollar fortune! The Law of inheritance works on both sides good or bad, let’s look at the following verse:

**Exodus 20:6** And ***shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.***

So clearly we can see that the blessings are passed on for a longer period than the curse: a thousand years. What this means in a very basic way is that if your Grandmother was a praying woman, the blessings upon her life are passed on to the daughter, which in this case would be your mother and eventually to you. But it doesn’t stop there. It passes on to your children and children’s children up to a thousand generation! That’s what Scripture says.

So then how do I get to that point of freedom you may ask? For one to be free you first have to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, when you do that you are automatically set free from the power of darkness into light. You become a citizen of heaven; there is rejoicing in heaven over your soul. That’s a very great thing but many people stop there: at salvation. Like the children of Israel they were delivered from Egypt, that’s salvation. But they needed to get Egypt out of them! Now that is deliverance!

What is deliverance you might ask? It is simply casting out demons out of people’s lives.

Jesus gave believers the power to cast them out. Mark 16:17 ***And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;***

Casting out demons is the children’s bread! In other words casting out demons is not really the big issue here. It is keeping us free from demons that many believers struggle with.

You see, demons like to inhabit in bodies, because they are disembodied spirits, they can live in animal bodies but they like living in human bodies because they can do more damage. So as we read in the first verse, demons have a legal right to abide in a believers life when the believer is in sin.

Even If the believer has confessed his or her sins only, demons still have legal ground though the sins of the believer’s forefathers. Let’s look at it from a demons perspective:

If a demon has lived for generations in a family through alcoholism for example, his only way of keeping himself there is by making sure that the family keeps on sinning and he is guaranteed to stay for four more generations. That is why many cities, towns and countries are plagued by one common problem for generations. Examples include suicides, murder, rapes, abortion etc. All these can be traced back to the first instance this sin was committed. That gave legal ground for the demonic to come and make a home there. So then how do we get rid of them? Well, as I said before getting the demons out of your life is half the fight, keeping the demons out for good is what deliverance is mostly about. Demons will wait until the fourth generation and just make the person commit more sins to keep them in that place for the next four generations and so forth.

So, to be completely free from demonic affliction and possession, you have to first of all confess the sins of your forefathers. That means you have to enquire from family members about who where your great grandparents, what did they do and what was their lives like. That will give you clues about how their lifestyles were and what exactly they lived like in light of God’s word. Whatever you get from such, note them down and proceed with your grandparents, your parents, your uncles, aunts nephews nieces etc and try to note down, what are the common sins that all seem to struggle with. Do all struggle with anger for example? Do many of them have children out of wedlock, do many divorce, is there a history of miscarriages, abortions, are there people convicted of crimes in your family, what about failure, unemployment, poverty, failure in education, business etc. As you note them down you will start seeing these things reflect in your life. Now you know there is a connection, and these are the strongholds in your life. So you have to take action now, and create a new story for yourself, your family and your children’s children’s children. Let’s look at the next step from the verses below.

***James 5:13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.***

***James 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:***

***James 5:15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.***

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

The scriptures according to James teach us that if any is sick he/she should seek help from the Elders of the church and they will pray over the sick person anointing him or her with oil. James emphasizes on verse 16 of the above verse that we should confess our sins one to another and pray for another, so that we may be healed. I cannot stress enough the importance of confession. We mostly confess our sins to God, which is primary. But the directive here is to confess to one another, thus when we confess to one another it simply breaks the power of darkness over us! In other words when we confess to one another we expose Satan’s work and make him powerless in the area we struggle with, obviously you need to confess to someone you trust who is a true believer. Satan likes secrets, and that is why when it comes to deliverance, confessing our sins is very important. You actually start feeling free when you confess them out to someone else because it is no longer a secret, it has been exposed and the enemy loses his grip when light shines on darkness. So in your quest for deliverance, write out your family history and yours too, confess them out God, renounce them and confess to one other as the scriptures direct us to do, and then comes the next Step: cleaning the house!

# Cast Out!

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

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

When the spiritual history has been checked and researched, we then come to the important part of casting out the demons. You then ask where we get the power to cast them out. The above scriptures explain it all: the bible says we have been given the power and authority through Jesus to cast out devils .So Jesus gives you the power to cast them out. Authority to enforce the demons to come out, that is the power given to us by the Lord. Sometimes those demons have been there for so long they refuse to go out, don’t despair; in such cases just go to the maker through prayer and fasting, that way you will have victory over those demons.

***Mark 9:28 And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?***

***Mark 9:29 And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.***

Demons respond to power, and fasting produces power, thus if the demons are stubborn to go out of your life, go on a fast, they will go! If you can’t fast seek the help of someone whom you know is a person filled with the power of the Holy Ghost who prays and fasts, to help you cast out those demons out of your life. As you cast the demons out, the evidence becomes real to you and you start feeling lighter, or some start coughing out those evil spirits or vomiting shaking etc. The manifestations are different, but they sure come out and finally you are free at last!

# Live free

So now that you are free, how do you keep yourself free? There has to be a lifestyle change, and that means you must have a u-turn in your life regarding the things of God. If you used to go to the rum shop (liquor store) daily, you need to change and start attending church regularly. If you used to watch a lot of unpleasant movies with sinful scenes, you need substitute that with the more reading of the word and prayer. If you listen to worldly music you now stop, and start listening instead to wholesome gospel music and feeding yourself with spiritual material that builds you up. So if your friends are pulling you into darkness you have to start making new friends who believe in Jesus, who will build you up and not break you down. So you start living a life that is consistent with your new life. That is how you keep your life free from demons. The verses below are self explanatory. If you keep the doors by which the enemy came in open, the demons come back in and the person becomes worse than before, he is eight times worse. That is the state of the believer when lets the enemy take over again. Have a look at the verses below:

Luke 11:24 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.

Luke 11:25 And when he cometh, he findeth *it* swept and garnished.

Luke 11:26 Then goeth he, and taketh *to him* seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. (KJV)

# Attacks from The out side

If the enemy cannot manage to get back in to the house (your life), he still won’t give up that easily and that is where many Christians lack the knowledge, the enemy will still attack you but it will be from the “outside”, that means he will put external desires you once had in the past so that you can fall back to sin, he will put back the nicotine urge in you for you to smoke, or put back the urge for you have pre-marital sex or commit adultery, or steal for that matter. But you have to relax, those are not desires from inside you, they are desires from outside your body. So you simply have to resist these temptations until you win! That is the real part of deliverance we as believers need to win. If you can win that part of your life you are guaranteed to live a life of freedom for the next years in your life. You may ask: how do I keep from falling into the enemy’s trick. You have to follow the advice from the apostle James below:

***James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.***  Notice that the emphasis is on submitting to God first, you submit to the Lord by obeying him, and the enemy will flee from you. So if you keep yourself submitted you are guaranteed to be victorious.

# Be filled with the Holy Spirit

There is one very important thing you need to do after Salvation. And it is the missing ingredient in many Christian lives. If as a believer you don’t have him, you are sure to be living a defeated Christian life, God wants you to live a victorious Christian life and continually living in the joy of the Lord. This then is the second most important thing you need to do when you become saved. The baptism of the Holy Spirit. You need to be baptized with the Holy Spirit to be able to listen clearly to the voice of God, to hear what the Lord is saying in your life. The Holy Spirit is the one who created the world in union with Jesus and the father, he is the one who inspired the prophets and inspired the writers of the Bible, the Holy Spirit made the apostles go to unknown territories and preach the gospel to thousands and thousands of people all over the world, the whole Spirit makes you bold and fearless to preach the Gospel, pray for the sick and cast out demons! Jesus died rose again and left the earth, but He didn’t leave us orphans, He left us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not a dove although he can manifest himself as such; He is not a wind although he can manifest himself as such. He is Lord he is father he is a friend and a comforter that is here to protect us guide us and deliver us, the Holy Spirit is very Strong, he is God himself, just like Jesus is God and the Father is God He is a person! The third person of the trinity. When we are baptized with the Holy Spirit we are usually filled with the evidence of speaking in Tongues as the first believers experienced. (Acts 2:1-4)

***Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.***

***Acts 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.***

***Acts 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.***

***Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.***

There are many verses which talk about the Holy Spirit, but this verse is the foundation of the Holy Spirits entry on the earth, the Holy Spirit made very timid believers into mighty men of power! And that is what you need, seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit, ask God to baptize you with the Holy Spirit so that you can live the life that is created for you. God wants you living a fruitful life and that is only possible with the help of the Holy Spirit. Here are a few more Scriptures which show the importance of being filled with the Holy Spirit and Speaking in Tongues:

***Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.***

***Jude 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,***

# Invest in your faith

So now that you have been set free, and delivered, you are living in union with Christ and your life has found a new meaning. What now? You May ask. May I be the first one to congratulate you on the fact that you just stepped out form darkness into light and God is now your father. That is a great thing! You probably were already saved, even for a long time, but now your foundation has been consolidated. You have entered into the fullness of Christ’s blessings. You are soaring as an eagle. Perhaps you could be the first in your family to have been saved, delivered, set free and filled with the Holy Spirit.

I can only encourage you now to keep soaring; God has many more great things planned for you. Keep shining your light to the world and be a blessing and an example to the world and those around you. So now you can keep moving in the power of the Holy Spirit. Let your home be a place where the Holy Spirit dwells, keep the fire alive in your life. Invest in the word of God; keep a sweet fellowship with the Holy Spirit. You have just set a standard for yourself your household and more generations to come. Your children and grand children will inherit the blessings bestowed upon you. Due to your obedience to the Lord your children’s lives will not be complicated as yours was, and you are sure that their lives are going to reflect Gods love and favor. Many Generations from now if Jesus tarries they will refer you as the Granny or Grandfather who served the Lord. So keep your eyes invested in the future, for it sure is bright. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and may your life continue to radiate his love to the world.

Keeping living your life to the fullest and may his blessing and mercy Continue to be with you in closing, we keep our thoughts on Psalms 23. God richly bless you.

**Psa 23:1 A Psalm of David. The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**Psa 23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**Psa 23:3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**Psa 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

**Psa 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Psa 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**