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Christians And Unclean Spirits

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Can a Christian have a Devil (unclean spirit)? Absolutely Yes!

Why this question is so important:

This is perhaps the single most important question that is asked concerning deliverance. The Bible is filled with Scriptures on unclean spirits being cast out. Are they called Demons? That's not in the Authorized King James Bible, but "unclean spirits" and "devils" are, and that's how we refer to them. There are not many churches in today's world that have a deliverance ministry, however if you understood the extent of damage that unclean spirits and devils can do to a life, or to a relationship, you would be a lot more serious about getting advice and knowledge on the subject and looking at yourself, dare I say it...

If Christians could not have unclean spirits, then what is the point in driving them out, if all we had to do was get the person saved and their unclean spirits would leave on their own? That would leave us casting unclean spirits out of people who refuse to accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour! It is my experience that those who claim that Christians cannot have unclean spirits are not even casting them out of non-believers.

If the problem, such as a person having a spirit of infirmity causing disease in their body, is not dealt with because they are a Christian and it is thought that "Christians cannot have unclean spirits" then the

Mark 5:2-9

"And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an ***unclean spirit,*** *Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.*

But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, *And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him,* ***Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.*** *And he asked him,* ***What is thy name?*** *And he answered, saying,* ***My name is Legion: for we are many****. "*

Jesus told the religious Jews in Matthew 12:43-45:

problem has to be caused by something else, and the real issue that needs to be dealt with is completely overlooked! This is why such a belief among Christians is deadly... literally! Numerous healings that God wants to manifest do not happen because the spirits behind those particularity infirmities are being completely overlooked.

— From www.greatbiblestudy.com

"When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself 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. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation."

Deliverance is truly for Christians and not for non-believers. Matthew 12:43-45 is very clear that it can do more harm than good if the person does not repent from their sin, and ask Jesus Christ to fill them with the Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus Christ says to every man and woman on this earth; **"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20)**. The Bible tells of many times when Jesus rebuked and cast out unclean spirits from those in torment. Jesus did this for those He knew who would become His followers with belief in Him. Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega who knows the beginning from the end. Jesus *declared:* ***"I and my Father are one" (John 10:30)*.**

Luke 8:1-3

"And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance."

Mark 1:23-25

"And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him."

Some think that Christians cannot have unclean spirits dwelling in them, but this is not true. Yes, we must be born again (explained in John Chapter 3) but we also need to have our bodies cleaned out through the process of deliverance which involves identifying doorways and the related sins, and asking for forgiveness of those sins. When Satan's legal rights are removed, including forgiveness for all parties involved, we then are in a position to command the unclean spirits to leave. And cutting off the "ungodly soul ties" created through any act of fornication must also be done prior to deliverance.

The Right of Access

When a person is born of the Holy Spirit into the family of God their spirit is united with God's Holy Spirit; "But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit" (1 Corinthians 6:17). They belong to God. This is not about salvation; this is about house cleaning. The bodies of those who have been baptized into Jesus Christ are now the temples of the Holy Ghost. And just as Jesus cleaned out the temple in Jerusalem twice; in the beginning and at the end of His three and a half year ministry, so our bodies, our temples, must be cleaned out from all unwelcome intruders who came in through any sin, fornication, or occult practices we may have carried-out in our lives prior to being born of God.

In addition, devils can enter a child when they are in the womb. For example, if the mother does not want the child, the spirit of Rejection can enter the baby. The devil does not care that it is not the baby's fault; Satan will always prey upon the weak. God has given the parents the spiritual authority over their children, so the Good News is that in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ parents can take authority over all unclean spirits which may be in their children, and cast them out. This is explained in the excellent book; "Pigs in the Parlor" by Frank and Ida Mae Hammond. The book is currently available as a pdf download online, and can be purchased from online booksellers.

If our parents have been involved in occult practices, (i.e. Freemasonry, witchcraft, seances etc.), or other sins such as adultery, drunkenness, theft, etc. this will also bring curses upon us to the fourth generation. We need to pray to the Lord to break off all "generational curses" from us. In order to do this we must forgive our parents from the heart and ask the Lord Jesus Christ to break off all the curses they have put upon us. And in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ we can command all unclean spirits to depart. And they will have to go.

Everything in the spirit realm is about legality; the right of access. If we have sinned, we open doors for the devil to come in. And if our parents sin, they open doors for the devil to come into them, and into the children which are born to them. And so our sins, as well as those of our ancestors have opened doors for unclean spirits to dwell within our bodies, since the sin has given them a "legal right" to access our bodies; our temples. And so we must repent of all sin, known and unknown, in the case of ourselves and our ancestors.

Regarding sins of our ancestors, or of those we have committed but may have forgotten two of King David's prayers are very helpful;

Psalm 19: 12&13

"Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression."

Psalm 139: 23&24

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

After we repent sincerely from the heart, deliverance from evil spirits occurs where we command all unwelcome inhabitants of our temples to leave in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Not "Yeshua" or

any other alleged "Hebrew" names which are deceptions of the enemy. The New Testament was written by the Holy Spirit in the Greek language, in any case. And since that time the Holy Spirit has inspired the King James Bible as His perfect Word in English. For information on this please see our Article; "Why We are King James Only." The LORD God loves us enough to preserve His Word from generation to generation, and He has given us much evidence that the King James Bible is His perfect Word in English. And the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ is the only Name in which those who follow Him are given the authority to cast out unclean spirits and devils:

Mark 16:23-25

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils."

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."*

And so we do well to search our hearts and ask the Lord to show us anything we have done in our lives which is a sin, and which would have been a doorway for devils and unclean spirits to enter our temple. When we truly repent and FORSAKE our sins, we remove the legal right of the enemy to our body; our temple. Let us consider some areas which give them legal ground which need to be repented of and absolutely forsaken, if the temple is to be cleansed.

IDENTIFYING AND CLOSING DOORWAYS:

OCCULT PRACTICES

Everything to do with sorcery, witchcraft, Satanism and the occult gives "legal right" to Satanic unclean spirits to enter our temples. This includes using Ouija boards, Tarot cards, going to a fortune teller or to a seance, palm reading and looking at Horoscopes, as well as playing any type of video game which has a Satanic or devilish theme. And all Satanic "music" opens doors to devils, particularly rock music and all "heavy metal" music, as well as movies and books which involve sorcery and witchcraft, including "Harry Potter." Things associated with "good luck charms" and any form of magic, wizardry and superstition are also Satanic. This also includes watching any film involving witchcraft and sorcery, especially Disney films and cartoons which feature sorcery and are a door for devils to enter children from a very young age. In addition, Disney cartoons have been shown to have subliminal sexual messages.

It is also important to destroy all artefacts connected with these things, preferably by burning and have them removed from your property.

NEW AGE, YOGA, MEDITATION AND EASTERN RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Meditation, yoga, and all forms of "New Age" and self-improvement "manifesting" and "affirmations" open doors to unclean spirits, as does hypnosis. This is also the case for all practices of Eastern religions such as Buddhism, Taoism, the worship of the "divine feminine" and Gaia, and all pagan and Druidic practices as well as Kabbalism and Gnosticism. It is also understood that Karate is also a doorway to devils which

take over the person's body without them realizing it (more information on Martial Arts below).

All these things are in Satan's realm and provide "right of access" for unclean spirits to enter the temple.

SECRET SOCIETIES AND MYSTERY RELIGIONS

Freemasonry, Theosophy, and all other "secret societies" are occult in nature, and open doorways to devils. These are referred to as "Mystery, Babylon the Great" in Revelation Chapters 17 & 18. Roman Catholicism is also a Mystery Babylon Religion, and those who come out of her also need to be delivered from the devils connected with this apostate false Christianity which is the antichrist power spoken of in 2 Thessalonians 2, as well as the little horn power in Daniel 7 that rules the last World Empire of Rome. We discuss this in our Article; "Rome Lives On" and "The Mud Floods Found in Scripture." The Roman Papacy is "Mystery, Babylon" who rides the 7-headed Roman beast in Revelation 13. This is important to understand because the Papacy has promoted itself as being able to cast out devils through their "exorcists" however this word is never found in the Bible, and asking a Roman Catholic priest to cast out devils is like asking Satan to cast out Satan (Matthew 12:25-29).

However, since Romanism pretends to be a Christian religion, many are deceived. But Scripture states that who sincerely want to know the Lord Jesus Christ are commanded to come out of her; "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities" (Revelation 18:4&5). For more information on the Roman Papacy being the antichrist we have offered a free course entitled; "Six Hundred Threescore and Six."

DRUGS AND OTHER SINS

Another gateway for unclean spirits is the use of mind-altering drugs and marijuana. Drunkenness is also a gateway for unclean spirits, as well as sins such as gambling, theft, murder, pride, arrogancy, cruelty etc. All of these things are in Satan's realm, and not in God's kingdom, and so the person will put themselves into the hands of Satan, even if they don't believe he exists. Covetousness, pride and arrogancy are also sins where devils can come in, as well as cursing and lying.

The Bible tells us that no liars shall be found in heaven: "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whore-mongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Revelation 21:18).

And perhaps the most prevalent doorway for unclean spirits in today's Western world is fornication. Fornication is any sexual conduct outside of marriage. Scripture tells us that marriage is ordained by God as the holy and acceptable place for sex between a man and a woman only (Genesis 2:21-25). When a person commits an act of fornication including all acts of abomination listed in Scripture they have broken God's law, and they put themselves into the domain of Satan (Leviticus 18:22-30, Romans 1:18-32). Therefore they have given Satan the legal right to infest them with unclean spirits. In addition to this they have opened themselves up to receiving the unclean spirits which are also in the person(s) with whom they have committed fornication. They have created "ungodly soul ties" by fornication which must also be broken, in order to be set free from all such unclean spirits. We plan to have a course on the cutting of ungodly Soul Ties.

Fornication is also the only sin which is said to be damaging to a person's health (1 Corinthians 6:18). However there are also spirits of infirmity mentioned in Scripture.

Aggressive martial arts may open the door to unclean spirits such as anger, hatred, vengeance, murder etc. Evasive martial arts designed to dispel aggression may be OK, depending upon the condition of your heart. But any ritual meditation where the mind is emptied is an open door for unclean spirits to enter.

Essentially, any sin committed by a person which is persisted in gives "legal right" for devils to enter their body, which is their temple.

And so in order to have our temples cleaned out we must repent of anything we have ever done that is connected to Satan's kingdom. To repent means to ask God's forgiveness for our sins, and to ask the Lord Jesus Christ to wash us clean from these things, and to deliver us from all evil spirits. We also need to resolve in our hearts to NEVER do these things again. Otherwise we are not sincere in our repentance. God is not mocked.

And if a Christian "backslides" and falls into sin again, they will become infested again with unclean spirits, and must go through this process again. Jesus warned that those who have deliverance and do not fill their house with the Holy Spirit and the fruits of the Spirit may become infested with seven times worse spirits, as a result (Luke 11:24-26). So we do well to get cleaned out, walk with the Lord in the power of the Holy Spirit and stay delivered.

CONCLUSION

Any involvement in any occult practice provides a doorway for unclean spirits to enter into the body and start their work to bring a person to eternal damnation in hell, if they do not repent and believe the Gospel, and permanently forsake everything that is a part of Satan's kingdom. But the Good News is that;

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

DEVILS THAT ENTER THE BABY IN THE WOMB

However devils can also be a result of the actions of our parents, rather than ourselves. Because devils can and do enter a baby who is their mother's womb, if provided the opportunity. For example, if a baby is not wanted by the mother, unclean spirits of Rejection can enter the baby. And if the mother suffers trauma or shock while pregnant, devils of shock and trauma can also enter the baby in the womb. People may be surprised to learn that even young children can also have devils, including rebellion, fear, stubbornness, etc. In the case of children, it is the parents who have the authority to cast out devils in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The book; "Pigs in the Parlor" by Frank and Ida Mae Hammond gives many examples where devils are cast out of adults and children, and also provides helpful information on the casting out of devils as well as self-deliverance. It is currently available from online suppliers, and the free pdf can be downloaded from www.archive.org

Our Article "Deliverance and Repentance" also provides practical suggestions for self-deliverance, and casting out devils from others.

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HAS GIVEN HIS FOLLOWERS AUTHORITY OVER ALL UNCLEAN SPIRITS

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every

creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils" (Mark 16:15-17a).

We are all sinners: **"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 6:23**

But the Good News is that we can be born again into God's family, washed clean by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ (John's Gospel Chapter 3).

The Devil knows that he is going to burn in hell for eternity,
and he wants to bring as many people with him as he can.

If a Christian has unclean spirits in them they are still saved, and they don't lose salvation, but they do have unnecessary torment and even illnesses if they are not fully delivered. Also, they will be more inclined to commit sinful acts or thoughts as they have to fight the subtle evil influences of Satan's unseen workers.

Consider the man who could not speak nor see because he had an unclean spirit which hindered his speech:

Matthew 12:22
"Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw."

Another example of a physical manifestation of an unclean spirit is the woman who was bound with a spirit of infirmity;

Luke 13:10-16
"And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?"

The Apostle Paul said that there was evil in him; in his sinful, corrupted flesh:

Romans 7:17-21

"Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me."

How did Paul have evil in him, but was filled with the Holy Spirit? Because Paul, like us, was composed of three parts; spirit, soul and physical body. Your spirit is united with the Holy Spirit if you are born again by the Holy Spirit into the body of Christ. Your soul is your mind, will and emotions. However the body has been corrupted since the time Adam and Eve fell through sin. And we all have inherited their sinful nature. And so Paul reveals that in his body, which he calls his flesh, "Dwelleth no good thing." And in the above Scripture Paul makes it clear that he desires to do good, however this is a battle because of his sinful flesh. And the only solution is to be crucified with Lord Jesus Christ:

Galatians 2:20

" I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

And so Paul has told us that he died daily (1 Corinthians 15:31). This is the process of sanctification which is necessary for every Christian. We all need to "die daily" to the flesh and take up our cross to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. And we must put on the whole armour of God described in Ephesians 6:10:18. When we are clad with God's armour we can resist the devil, and he will flee from us (James 4:7).

But if we "walk in the flesh" we will not be pleasing to God, and we will sin. And it is through the deeds of the flesh that we can be affected and infiltrated by evil spirits. And since we are "creatures of habit" a person can develop either good or bad habits over time based upon what they allow to influence them. Thus unclean spirits can dwell within a person's physical body, as well as influencing their soul; thus their mind, will and emotions. As we walk with the Lord and undergo the process of sanctification we can break old habits which we formed through the years, and replace them with new godly habits which are pleasing to God. This will also assist in our own process of self deliverance from evil spirits.

The Bible makes a clear distinction between soul and spirit:

Hebrews 4:12

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

1 Thessalonians 5:23

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"

Your spirit is born again and made new when you accepted Jesus, but your mind, will, and emotions were not born again. We have to be "transformed by the renewing of our mind" (Romans 12:2). This is the process of sanctification in a believer's life. We must die to "the old man" and be renewed in the Holy Spirit.

It is obvious that all the baggage does not leave a believer's soul the moment they are born again… but our spirits are made new and old things have passed away – that is because it is speaking of your spirit which is born again by the Holy Spirit:

2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Matthew 8:16-17

"When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

Here Jesus demonstrates the benefits of the New Covenant between God and His people. He drove out unclean spirits and healed the sick. Now let me ask you this: Was Christ's payment for our physical healing (by His stripes we are healed) for non-believers or believers? Believers of course! Then I believe this passage makes it very clear that deliverance (involving casting out devils) and our physical healing is a benefit meant for the believer!

Nowadays, the word "possessed" implies ownership, such as our possessions, but in the NT Greek, we find an entirely different meaning. The phrase possessed with a devil translates back to the Greek word **daimonizomai**, which means to have a devil or to be vexed (meaning tormented) by one.

Devils (unclean spirits) do not own people, there is no scriptural evidence of such a thing – not even with regard to a non-believer! Only the LORD God owns all souls. He tells us;

Ezekiel 18:4

"Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die."

If you look up the accounts in the Bible of devil (unclean spirit) possession, we find people who either have unclean spirits or are being tormented by them. This can manifest in both the physical body or the soul (a person's mind, will, and emotions). Some say "the deliverance ministry ended with Jesus' ministry" This is not true, and we don't have to read far into our Bibles to find this out. After Jesus rose again, He appeared to His disciples and gave them the great commission:

Mark 16:15-17

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall

they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; "They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

The Book of Acts also shows us that the early church was active in the ministry of deliverance. Sadly however there are few churches in our time that do this. However, in our Hall of Fame Article we mention Win Worley's church in the USA which carries out deliverance, and also recommend the book; "Pigs in the Parlor" by Frank and Ida Mae Hammond which is currently available online to purchase or as a pdf download. Our Article "Repentance and Deliverance" also provides information on this vitally important but usually overlooked area of Christianity which is essential if we are to walk pleasing to the Lord Jesus Christ in these Last Days before His return.

If you know a good ministry that offers deliverance please tell us about them.

