



Are Demons Influencing Your Life?

<u>2 Corinthians 11:14</u>: (NASB) No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

Ours is a day of openness, availability and communication - sort of. We can stay in touch with friends and family on a moment by moment basis, follow news as it happens and even tap into the spirit world pretty much at will. Wait a minute...what? Tapping into the spirit world - is that something good or could it be horribly evil, even though it might look good? Stay with us as we look into a dimension beyond our own to find out what is really happening out there...

Where do demons come from?

All angels and demons originate from God... This statement left by itself sounds bad! Let's look into how things got to where they are: Ezekiel 28:13-17: (RVIC) (These verses are prophetically spoken to the King of Tyre, personifying Lucifer.) ¹³Thou wast in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering..... ¹⁴Thou wast the anointed cherub that covereth: and I set thee, so that thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁵Thou wast perfect (complete) in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till unrighteousness was found in thee. ¹⁶By the abundance of thy traffic they filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore have I cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God; and I have destroyed thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷Thy heart was lifted up because of thy beauty; thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I have cast thee to the ground;...

Satan was an anointed cherub, positioned on somewhat of a permanent basis to protect (cover) mankind. He was originally a magnificent, powerful and beautiful "morning star." This was the first negative spiritual impact we are told of in all of God's creation.

Exposed, Evil Demonic Spirits, Fox sisters (1848) (This is a reading of a sworn statement by Margaret Fox in 1848, Hydesville, NY, about a "haunted house.")

• I then asked, is this a human being that answers my questions so correctly? There was no rap. I asked, is it a spirit? If it is, make two raps. Two sounds were given as soon as the request was made. I then said, if it was an injured spirit, make two raps. I asked, were you injured in this house? I ascertained by the same method that it was a man, age 31 years that he had been murdered in this house and his remains were buried in the cellar.

Satan influenced other "sons of God" towards rebellion: Genesis 6:1-5: Notice, it says the sons of God (not "angels" or "cherubim") were dabbling in the lives of mankind of their own accord (desires) and were not messengers of God. Angels perform only God's bidding only. These beings do not. They acted against not only the will of God but also the design of God. They mixed spirit with flesh and bore a hybrid race that did not belong. This action brought the permeation of evil throughout humankind - an evil founded in not only disobedience, but also in defiance of the God ordained order of creation, bringing their dismissal.

Why are demons involved with humanity?

Satan's fall: (Actually it was more like a jump!) Issaiah 14:12-14: Instead of protecting the garden of Eden, he ended up corrupting it! This arrogance created a spiritual sub-culture of power and dominion over the lesser creation! Satan's original responsibility was to cover/protect the garden - he would now twist that position of protector to one of a dictatorial ruler. God would not allow such sin to go unanswered but, as usual with many of God's answers, the final outcome is not in place for a long time, though there is an immediate consequence in place. This is similar in process to the sentence given to Adam: dying thou shalt die. God did not take the earth away from Satan immediately. This time period would allow a lesson to be learned for all eternity of the exceedingly sinfulness of sin.

Pilot from season 1, Bewitched (Television show 1964-1972)

• Once upon a time, there was a typical American girl who happened to bump into a typical, redblooded American boy. And she bumped into him and bumped into him! So they decided they better sit down and talk this over before they had an accident. They became good friends. They found they had a lot of interests in common. And when the boy found the girl attractive, desirable, irresistible, he did what any red-blooded American boy would do...he asked her to marry him. Except, it so happens that this girl is a witch!



Why is this clip important? It was a very wholesome introduction to witchcraft into our daily lives. It was demonic but something to be laughed at. It was widely accepted by taking witchcraft and making it "normal" in the American society. It has gotten much worse since then!

Satan and his followers are imprisoned as a consequence to their betrayal. But what does this "imprisonment" look like? 2 Peter 2:4: (KJV) For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell (tartaroo), and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

The word "Tartaroo" is used only once in the New Testament. This word very closely resembles "tartarus," a word used in Grecian mythology as the name for a dark abyss or prison. But tartaroo seems to refer more to an act than to a place. The fall of the angels who sinned was from honor and dignity, into dishonor and condemnation, and the thought seems to be: "God spared not the angels who sinned, but degraded them." Chains of darkness implies they are limited in movement.

Jude 1:6-7: Not torture, but restraint. Notice the "angels" are kept (reserved) for judgment not disposed of or yet punished... (See CQ Rewind Full Edition Bonus Material for notes on "vengeance of eternal fire.")

Satan was cast down from heaven to earth. His followers were cast down with him to darkness and restraint, in the context of earth. We notice that when willfulness is involved, God often lets that willfulness play out its course for us to learn lessons.

These evil beings still wield great power - the difference being that their power can no longer access Godly righteousness, it can only draw from satanic influence.



Exposed, Evil Demonic Spirits, Fox Sisters (1848)

This account was given by Mrs. Margaret Fox in Hydesville, New York, concerning events that transpired on March 31 of 1848 and describes the beginning of what many believe to be the birth of modern spiritism, the communication with spirits of the dead or beings from the other side of reality. While Mrs. Fox recorded the account, her daughters Cate and Margaretta were considered the real mediums of this encounter. The sisters claimed to have contacted a disembodied spirit they called Mr. Splitfoot.

Ephesians 6:10-12: This armor is given to us for protection. Satan and his followers are left to their own way, to influence the world they were once meant to protect, just as mankind was left to our own way to exercise our dominion over the world we were originally to care for! God allows rebelliousness, but only to a certain point. Right now we are in the middle of a rebellious stage. These beings are much more powerful than we are and can influence men's hearts. We see the fruits of their work all around us. It is never positive, upbuilding or for the good of mankind. How does Satan's influence work into our lives? Small step by small step by small step. Satan gives us the ability to accept things that are dark and evil as normal and nice. We learn to accept demonic influence into our everyday life without questioning it.

Even though these spiritual beings were degraded from their positions of great light, it does not mean that they could not do harm - on the contrary, they would be able to influence and hurt we know this because they themselves said so - "by their fruits ye shall know them."

These next two sets of scriptures give us a sense of how demon possession works: Luke 4:33-36: The man is possessed/manipulated by an unclean spirit or influence, that of a demon.

- The "demon" comes out of him Jesus commanded the demon to come out <1537> from and it literally fled from him (second word out in verse 36 <575>: off, away from)
- The demons are apparently aware of their future destruction.
- Jesus had the power to cast them out.

We need to be aware that demonic influence is surrounding us. This is Satan's world. God has not yet removed his authority. We need to be extremely careful and avoid demonic things in all cases!



Next, an example of how demons possess: <u>Luke 8:26-31</u>: The man with the demons met Jesus and cried out to Jesus - perhaps showing how he wanted to be free, but was powerless to do so.

- The possessed man falls down before Jesus, showing Jesus was above the power of the demon.
- *Torment me not* do not put me to the test of judgment. The word for torment is the "testing stone" used in marketplaces.
- Jesus asks for a name and the demon complies.
- The demons *entreated* Jesus they asked for mercy, knowing they were being cast out.
- Jesus had the power to withstand a legion of demons and cast them out.
- The demons knew of their future destruction, the abyss.

Demons are present in our world and influence our world. They can wreak havoc in the lives of anyone who will allow them to. Our mental positioning either opens the door to their influence or closes that door. We have a choice and need to keep our lives clean of demonic influence!

How does demon possession work?

Matthew 17:18 DEMONS ENTER:

Entered: Strongs #1525 eisercomai eiserchomai ice-er'-khom-ahee

1) to go out or come in: to enter 2) metaph. 2a) of entrance into any condition, state of things, society, employment 2a1) to arise, come into existence, begin to be, 2a2) of men, to come before the public 2a3) to come into life 2b) of thoughts that come into the mind

Luke 22:3-4: (NRSV) ³Then Satan entered <1525> into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; ⁴he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. We do not believe that Judas was "possessed," rather he had sold himself over to evil. We should stay close to righteousness through the word of God. Be on the alert! Two examples of entering <1525> that are not physical but mental: Matthew 26:41: Watch and pray, that ye enter <1525> not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. Hebrews 4:1: Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering <1525> into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. So, the entering/possession of a demon can be along the same lines as above - not a physical entering into a body, but a spiritual manipulation of a mind and a body. Who would they want to enter? Those who would not give them trouble!

DEMONS POSSESS/CONTROL: Satan disguises himself as an angel of light, but he is the father of lies.

Is there *any* Scripture that even hints at dead people becoming ghosts? No. We do not believe that ghosts are disembodied spirits of human beings. God did not "forget" to reveal this to us.



At the site of the Fox cottage, a monument was erected that said: "The birthplace of modern spiritualism. Upon this site stood the Hydesville Cottage, home of the Fox Sisters, through whose mediumship communication with the spirit world was established. March 31, 1848." The monument went on to say, "There is no death, there are no dead. Placed here December 5, 1927."

This monument repeats Satan's original lie! God said: Genesis 2:17 Satan said: Genesis 3:4 God declared: Romans 6:23 We were warned: 2 Corinthians 11:14: So, if Satan can pose as an angel of light, he and his followers can certainly pose as "ghosts!" Demons seem to have a fixation on possessing and taking away our free will: Matthew 12:43-45: Satan and his demons are looking for places to plant and flourish their influence. We want to close our minds to these things. We can choose godliness instead.

Hang around after exiting, Ghosts' Past Lives, iamjefferyallen.com

• When you do finally decide "it's my time, and I go through this Exit Door - I die" - your spirit leaves your body. You tend to spend a few weeks or a few months (it's different for each individual) around the body and kind of near the people you were close to in this life. And this is the time where people will feel you. If you have loved ones that died, you know they kind of hang out for a little while. You may feel they are talking to you or that you can sense their



presence. You may even smell a familiar smell that was with them, and you kind of know that they are there. At some point you notice they have moved on - they are not here anymore. And that's because it's true. The spirits, after you die, hang out a little bit and kind of point things out, work with your loved ones, finish any energy, and after you leave your body you have a bigger perspective on what's happening.

If this person is claiming to communicate with the dead, this is a dark and evil spirit connection. These demonic spirits have been around mankind. They know history. They know every person and their experiences. As gullible human beings, we can be convinced easily. There is a much larger power at work here. It is the classic battle of good and evil, and evil will do anything to override good - even disguise itself as good to get your trust. Once again, ghosts are not disembodied spirits of human beings. If there is a spiritual connection or communication with a ghost, it is a dark, evil spiritual influence masquerading as a lost loved one. Avoid this at all costs - they are trying to gain your trust and have you become vulnerable. Matthew 4:24: Demonic power is not satisfied unless it is able to control. DEMONS ARE ONLY CAPABLE OF EVIL: Jude 1:6 2 Peter 2:4 1 Peter 3:19-20: The fact that these demons are restrained in chains of darkness and their power and influence is under constant guard indicates that they have absolutely no power for good, for they are locked out of the source of all good. James 1:17



Observations about the objective of demonic possession: To control, manipulate, to seize and drive that which it possesses, solely for its own purposes, never for the benefit of the one possessed, and only capable of producing evil results. Evil begets evil.

The good news is that we have a better understanding of demon possession. The bad news is that demons do NOT have to possess to have evil influence!!! To get to the demon-free zone:

1. Know that this is a battle MUCH bigger than you or I can fight: Ephesians 6:12

- 2. Know that they *know*! James 2:19: God created these beings who turned evil after they were given the ability to choose. They did not forget their origins, however, and they know they are fighting a battle.
- 3. Set your mind to firm and final resistance: 1 Peter 5:8-9: (NKJV) Have your Christian faith support you. We have been essentially brainwashed by Satan and his minions to accept spiritual wickedness, as if this is how life is supposed to be. Beware the subtlety of sin and darkness!
- 4. Arm yourself: Ephesians 6:13-18: (NKJV) ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Don't be vulnerable) ¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, (What do you trust? The Scriptures.) having put on the breastplate of righteousness, (Always be seeking to do right in a godly fashion, not just what feels right.) ¹⁵and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; (This must be what our lives are about. Our minds are set on where our feet are going.) ¹⁶above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. (Notice you can pick up or put down faith.) ¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, (This protects our mind.) and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; (We offensively fight with the word of God.) ¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. (We work together to arm ourselves.)
- 5. Claim the promises of protection: Psalms 91:3-5
- <u>6. Remember how the story ends</u>: Satan is to be bound during the 1,000 years of Christ's reign: Revelation 20:1-3: ... and he is then destroyed!

Revelation 20:10: What will our position be when we are faced with demonic influences that permeate the world around us? You have a choice! Our fear can create courage in the greatness of the Creator of the Universe willing to grant us protection through Christ and the Holy Word of God. We can stand against these evil things and resist with faith. God has this all in His hands. Evil can prevail for a time, but not forever. Be aware of it and get away from it!

Are demons influencing your life?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!