

# **Spiritual Warfare**

Session Three: Satan & Demons

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March 29, 2020

## **OPENING:**

**The decisive victory was won at the cross**

**We have been delivered, but we still battle**

## **REVIEW:**

**Spiritual Warfare in the Gospels**

**Spiritual Warfare in The Church - Acts**

## **SATAN:**

**Satan is the archenemy of the church**

**Satan is not “a god”**

**Satan’s opposition is seldom direct**

**Satan is a defeated foe**

**We have no innate strength to fight this battle**

**The Binding of Satan**

**Satan's Schemes:**

**Standing Against Satan's Schemes:**

**APPLICATION**

- A. Know our enemy - Yes
- B. Know our Savior and Lord - Absolutely

Why did Jesus silence the demons in the gospels?

- A. Mark 1:23-26
- B. What they stated was true?
- C. Not wanting the testimony of liars.

Demons

- A. Created by God – Col. 1:16
- B. In the O.T.
  - a. *They sacrificed to demons that were no gods, to gods they had never known, to new gods that had come recently, whom your fathers had never dreaded.* (Deuteronomy 32:17) They are closely associated with idolatry in the O.T. implying that demons were behind idolatrous worship.
  - b. Goat heads connected to the devil come from this idolatry – Lev. 17:7
  - c. Sent by God - *Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the LORD tormented him.* (1 Samuel 16:14) They are not autonomous from God.
  - d. Psalm 82:1 – Jews see angels as a divine council. Demons' fall described in v.7 – called "gods" – their fall is also described in Isa. 24:21-23
  - e. 1 Kings 22:19-23 – God puts a "lying spirit" in the mouths of false prophets.
  - f. Jewish literature gave great focus to naming demons, even in the N.T. period (i.e. Raux, Barsfael, Artosael, Belbel). The apostle Paul does not identify any demonic being by name apart from Satan being called Belial in 2 Cor. 6:15
- C. In the N.T.
  - a. Demon = 63 times in the N.T. – 54 of these are in the gospels
  - b. Spirits (unclean spirits) = 21 times – half of them in Mark – 8 of the rest in the gospels
  - c. The term 'devils' is inaccurate – *diabolos* is never used of demons, but only of the Devil, Satan.
  - d. Demonic activity is again related to idolatry in the N.T. - [19] *What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? [20] No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. [21] You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.* (1 Corinthians 10:19-21)
- D. Characteristics of Demons
  - a. Virtually everything that is true of angels is true of demons – the only difference is that demons are evil, serving Satan vs. serving God
  - b. It is reasonable to say they have names
  - c. They can speak and communicate with humans
  - d. They are intelligent beings

- e. They formulate ideas, beliefs, false doctrines, etc – not like the droids in Star Wars that are all tied together and programmed
- f. They have emotions
- g. They vary in degrees of strength
- h. They can appear in various forms – like angels they can probably visit us without our knowing (Heb. 13:1-2)
- i. They can minister to and strengthen humans
- j. They can move swiftly, but are not spatially bound – i.e. Legion (6,000 in one man)
- k. They can afflict people physically – not like ghosts that we walk through without knowing
- l. In one of three places (perhaps only two) – active on earth, in the abyss, confined permanently

The Casting Down – Binding of Satan:

*And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven." (Luke 10:18 ESV)*

Turning someone over to Satan – 1 Timothy 1:20