

OPPRESSION, OBSESSION, POSSESSION

I. ORIGIN OF DEMONS

- A. Fallen spirits
- B. Seek embodiment
 - 1. Can be more effective in physical world
 - 2. Asked to go into swine
- C. Operate in Spirit world as oppression

II. CAN A CHRISTIAN BE DEMON POSSESSED?

- A. A nominal Christian can be
- B. A born-again, Spirit-filled believer can not
 - 1. Mt. 12:25 - Kingdom divided against itself cannot stand
 - 2. Mt. 6:24 - cannot serve two masters at one time
 - 3. Jas. 3:11 - Bitter and sweet water can not flow from same fountain
- C. When born again, a new creature
 - 1. New creature does not have devil in him
 - 2. Have divine nature
 - 3. Old things passed away, including demons

III. WHAT ABOUT CHRISTIANS SEEMINGLY CONTROLLED BY ANOTHER SPIRIT?

- A. Torment and fear
- B. Christians who have manifested evil spirits
 - 1. Pinecrest Retreat - preacher who said Christian couldn't have demon
 - 2. Dyersburg - deliverances of spirit-filled people
- C. It is possible that Christians can be possessed in body and mind
- D. Born again experience does not mean new mind and body
- E. Jesus dealt with spirits in healing
 - 1. Deafness and dumbness - Mt. 9:32-33
 - 2. Dumb spirit - Luke 11:14
 - 3. Blind spirit - Mt. 12:22
 - 4. Spirit of infirmity - Luke 13:11-16
 - a. Cannot be detected or treated by doctors
 - b. Not necessarily incurable disease
 - 5. Epilepsy or convulsions - Mk. 9:20 - "*And they brought him unto him; and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.*"

IV. UNDERSTANDING POSSESSION, OPPRESSION, AND OBSESSION

- A. Possession - To inhabit, to occupy, to control, to hold as a property, to dominate, to rule by extraneous forces
 - 1. Demon possessed person under total and complete jurisdiction of devil

- a. No mind of his own
 - b. Satan master of all that person's thinking and action
 - c. No spirit to reach God
 - d. Very few have reached this stage
- B. Oppression - Outside pressure to crush, to smother, to overpower, or overwhelm, to harass, ravish
- 1. Oppression of Body
 - a. Acts 10:38 - Sickness is Satanic oppression
 - b. Devil can actually enter body through oppression
 - c. Jesus dealt with spirits in healing
 - d. I keep my body under subjection
 - (1) Subject to spirit man
 - (2) Inward man rules
 - e. Possession of body manifest in works of the flesh
 - 2. Oppression of the Soul
 - a. If mind is not renewed with Word of God, mind (soul) can side in with body against the spirit
 - b. Oppression of mind and emotions are pressures, warfare, fiery darts
 - c. Only way devil can get into you is through mind
 - (1) Mind is door to spirit
 - (2) Greatest weapon of Satan is suggestion
- C. Obsession - To besiege, to haunt as of evil spirits, to be fixed on a single idea to an unreasonable degree
- 1. Work of Satan begins with oppression or thought
 - 2. We become obsessed with thought of Satan
 - 3. Obsession can drive you and dominate your every move
 - 4. Obsession is an evil spirit deceiving a person and impelling him to unreasonable action
 - 5. Persistent and inescapable preoccupation with an idea or emotion--often with no relationship with reality
 - 6. At this stage, need help of another

V. NEED FOR DELIVERANCE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

- A. God's people need liberty
- B. Overcoming faith to live victorious lives
- C. Give no place to the devil
- D. Authority in the name of Jesus

Next week: The Seven Steps to Demon Possession

Depression as a Step toward Possession

How a Person Yields to Demon Possession

Discerning Demon Possession

How to Be Delivered from Each Stage of Bondage