

DEMONOLOGY
Message 9
Scripture: Job 1:1-7

INTRO: Let me just briefly review what we have covered thus far. In the first message we introduced this subject and said that we are in a war. The war is between God and Satan and involves the good angels and demons. The battlefield is the mind of man. This battle is going on in every human being. Both God and Satan want the mind, which the Bible calls the heart.

Then we looked at three views of what demons are and concluded that they are fallen angels. Then we looked at the meaning of the terms, Satan, Devil and demon. The word Satan means an adversary, or opponent. The fallen angel Lucifer, is God's adversary or opponent, and thus the adversary and opponent of all godly people. The meaning of devil is 'to throw over', or 'divide', or 'set at variance, accuse, bring charges, slander' etc... The word 'demon' basically means 'to distribute fortunes'. I think it may be that Satan promised the angels in heaven to distribute his fortunes with them when he had exalted himself to godhood.

Then we looked at the task of demons. It is to destroy. Their effort is to destroy everything holy and good and godly and just and righteous etc... Demons love sin. They want to conquer by sin. And I said the chief tools of demons is the world and the flesh. He is so subtle and sly that Christians all over are involved in worldliness and fleshliness and do not realize it. So, quite often it is said that we battle the world, the flesh and the devil. That is true, but it is the devil that uses the world and the flesh, the sinful fallen nature of man for his ends.

Then, for the next 5 messages we looked at a history of demonism. We covered the OT; the NT; the Church Age; the tribulation; the millennium; the short season, and the true new age. When we were done, so was the devil. He will be finally and ultimately cast into hell where he will not torment anyone, but he will be tormented above all others. He will receive the ultimate just end of his sinfulness, and Christians will live happily ever after, and this is no fairy tale.

This morning I want to deal with two more subjects, and then we will get into the more practical matters. We will

deal first with the abode of demons. Where are they? Where do they dwell? Then we want to look at the subject of exorcisms. This will then prepare us to begin with the subject of demon possession in the next message.

IV. THE ABODE OF DEMONS

A. Bound Demons

As I can find, there are demons that are bound, and demons that are free. We will consider first bound demons. Turn with me to 2 Peter 2:4 (and then Jude 6). Who are these angels, and why are they in hell? Let me first comment on the word translated 'hell'. The word for 'hell' in 2:4 is *tartarus*. It occurs only here in the NT. Barnes writes of this word, "The word here used occurs nowhere else in the New Testament, though it is common in the classical writers. It is a verb formed from (Greek) (*Tartarus*,) which in Greek mythology was the lower part, or abyss of hades, where the shades of the wicked were supposed to be imprisoned and tormented, and answered to the Jewish word Gehennah." Well, the Jewish word Gehenna refers to the place we call hell. You will remember that the demons that Jesus cast out of the man called Legion asked Him not to send them to the *abussos*, the deep. This is the place they resisted as much as they could. I might add that some, like Vine's Dictionary say that *tartarus* is not hell but a special place for certain very wicked angels. I think it answers to the Hebrew word 'Gehenna', which is hell as we think of it.

In the context there are false teachers. It would appear from the rest of the chapter that they had been Christians. Such verses as verse 20 indicate this. And Peter is warning that these false teachers will be judged because their judgment has not been idle and their destruction does not slumber, verse 3. Then Peter gives this warning about false teachers; if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, then these false teachers need not think they will get away with such things.

Albert Barnes comments like this: "The apostle now proceeds to the proof of the proposition that these persons would be punished. It is to be remembered that

they had been, or were even then, professing Christians, though they had really, if not in form, apostatized from the faith, (#2Pe 2:20-22;) and a part of the proofs, therefore, are derived from the cases of those who had apostatized from the service of God. He appeals, therefore, to the case of the angels that had revolted. Neither their former rank, their dignity, nor their holiness, saved them from being thrust down to hell; and if God punished them so severely, then false teachers could not hope to escape."

Now why was a certain class of angels cast down to hell while others are still free? Some believe that these are the angels that cohabited with women in Genesis 6 and that God punished this sin by casting them into hell for it. I do not personally believe that angels can cohabit with women and do not subscribe to that view. I do not know what sins these angels committed that they were cast into hell before the rest. But in the context the Lord likens false teachers to such a high class of sin and that their judgment will be very severe, if not premature. All of that to say that some angels are already bound in hell.

Now go to Revelation 9 (read 1-2). It may be that these demons who are released from the pit are those in 1 Peter that God had previously cast into hell. Or it may be that those demons who are cast out of people during the Church age and were sent to the pit, will later be loosed to wreak havoc on deserving people once more.

So it appears that God, for some special reason, cast some angels into hell prematurely. When a demon is cast out of a person and commanded to go to hell or the pit, this is where they must go. But demons that are in hell are bound. They do not have access to heaven or to man on earth. It appears that Peter and Jude speak of these demons.

Then Revelation 9:13-15 speaks of another group of bound demons (read). The word for angels is 'angelos', or messengers. These four messengers appear to be demons. Now, when they were bound there, we do not

know. But it seems God has some special work for these four demons in the future.

B. Free Demons

1. In heaven

But there are also myriads of demons that are free, that is they are not bound as those we saw earlier. And it may come as a surprise to you that some of them at least have access to heaven. So look at Job 1 (read 6-11). So Satan has access to heaven at this time.

Turn to 1 Kings 22. In an earlier message we read 1 Kings 22:19-23 (read). Here an evil spirit in heaven wants permission to go to be a lying spirit. So at least some demons have access to heaven.

The comforting thing about these passages is that we see that demons can only do what they are allowed by God to do. But we will see later that when people open the doors, God allows demons to enter people.

So there are demons that have access to heaven. Second, there are free demons that have access to earth and may dwell there. The devil, in Job was once walking up and down on earth and the next time he was in heaven. But let us look at some of the places on earth demons inhabit.

2. On earth

a) Those roaming about seeking whom they may devour

First, there are demons on earth, walking to and fro, seeking whom they may devour. So 1 Peter 5:8-9 says, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world." So Satan is here on earth, working through his demons.

In Ephesians 2:2 he is called the prince of the power of the air. Here again, he travels back and forth on earth through the air. As a matter of fact, the world, (not the earth), but the world; the sum total of lost mankind belongs to him. 1 John 5:19 says, "We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway* of the wicked one." When Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness he took Jesus to a high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and said he would give him all of those kingdoms and the glory of them if He would fall down and worship Satan.

And so, in the words of the title of one of Hal Lindsey's books, "Satan is alive and well on planet earth." So there are those spirits on earth who are roaming about, seeking entrance into humans or seeking their destruction.

b) Those inhabiting people

But from Scripture, we learn that there are demons who inhabit people. It appears that the most desired place for demons is to dwell in people. We have read in a earlier message of a number of spirits that inhabited man. I will speak in another message of demon possession. Demon possession is when a demon resides inside a person. There are people who are, what we call *demon possessed*. I will deal more with the phrase 'demon possessed' later.

c) Those inhabiting animals

Last, on occasion demons inhabit animals. It seems they want to inhabit a body. If they cannot inhabit a human, they then desire to inhabit an animal. We saw this from the demoniacs at Gadara, where the demons sought permission to enter a herd of swine. So it is evident that demons can enter animals from the account of the man called Legion who had many spirits and they sought permission to enter

the swine and the swine went wild. Animals that have demons within, like demon possessed people, die hard.

I think that sometimes when an animal goes, seemingly crazy, it may be demon possessed. Some years ago my wife and I visited some cousins in Saskatchewan. When we got home we got news that one of them had been killed by a bull. This bull went wild and chased him and he got to the fence and was on his way over when the bull hit him. It killed him but ended up pushing him over the fence. I have heard that when an animal like this smells blood it will literally tear that body to shreds. I have heard of other cases that seem to be understandable only as demon possessed animals.

IV. DEALING WITH DEMONS

A. Exorcism

So much then, for the abode of demons. We now come to this very important area of dealing with demons. In the next point I want to take a look at what we call 'demon possession'. But before we do that, let me deal with the problem of exorcism, and I view it as a problem. So go to Acts 19 (read verse 13). The Online Bible says that an exorcist is 'one who employs a formula of conjuration for expelling demons'. That is occultic. When Jesus or the apostles dealt with demons, it is never called an exorcism.

Now, exorcism has been practiced by many unsaved people groups. Catholics and Muslims, and demonized people claim to have exorcised demons. For example, Hinduism, which is loaded with demons, claims to exorcise demons. Wikipedia say, "Beliefs and practices pertaining to the practice of exorcism are prominently connected with Hindus." The article goes on to say how they practice exorcisms. They use mantras and incantations which are occultic.

Muslims claim to exorcise demons. Wikipedia says, "Islamic exorcisms consist of the treated person lying down, while a [sheikh](#) places a hand on a patient's head while reciting verses from the

Quran. The drinking of [holy water](#) (Zamzam Water from Zamzam Well) may also take place. Specific verses from the [Quran](#) are recited, which glorify God.. and invoke God's help. In some cases, the "ah-zan" (the call for daily prayers) is also read, as this has the effect of repelling non-angelic unseen beings or the [jinn](#)."

The Encyclopedia of Demons and Demonology says, "Muhammad also exorcized djinn by cursing them three times: "I seek refuge in Allah from you! I curse you by Allah's perfect curse!" The same CURSE is used against infidels. Muhammad exorcized djinn from others by beating the possessed and by ordering the djinn out. A man took his grandson, who became insane through a possessing djinn, to see Muhammad. The Prophet beat the boy's back while saying, "Get out enemy of Allah! Enemy of Allah get out!" The djinn left and the boy was healed. In another case, a boy suffering with fits was taken to Muhammad. The Prophet blew into his mouth three times and said, "In the name of Allah, I am the slave of Allah, get out enemy of Allah." The boy was healed." (Rosemary Ellen Guiley. The Encyclopedia of Demons and Demonology (Kindle Location 266-2270). Kindle Edition.)

Judaism, as I have mentioned earlier claims to exorcise demons. Alfred Eedersheim, in his tremendous work, "The Life And Times Of Jesus Christ" writes of many of these Jewish practices of magic and dealing with demons by incantations. And when he is done he says, 'It has been a weary and unpleasant task to record such abject superstitions, mostly the outcome of the contact with Parsee and other heathen elements'" (775-776).

But Hal Lindsey gives a good warning. He writes, "...we should recall exorcism's pagan origins. Magic formulas and rituals to expel evil spirits have been practiced for centuries. Many of the methods were painful to the one possessed and involved in beating, pinching, burning, and other types of physical abuse. Unger tells us of a shrine in India which is well known among Hindus and Muslims as a place where demons are exorcised. He writes, "Violence and the infliction of pain are common, but when the demon that is to be driving out is particularly obstinate, cotton wicks soaked in oil are lighted and stuffed

up the nostrils of the possessed. The cruelty of professional exorcists is beyond human understanding" (162).

Lindsey then writes, "When we read and hear of the methods of casting out demons used by unbelievers, we understand that it is possible under the power of Satan to cast out demons, if it furthers his teachings and purpose" (162). Now that raises a major question for me. Listen to Matthew 12:22-30, "Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw. And all the multitudes were amazed and said, 'Could this be the Son of David?' Now when the Pharisees heard *it* they said, 'This *fellow* does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.' But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad."

Lindsey said, "When we read and hear of the methods of casting out demons used by unbelievers, we understand that it is possible under the power of Satan to cast out demons, if it furthers his teachings and purpose." But from what Jesus said, if Satan casts out Satan his kingdom cannot stand, or continue. It would implode; self destruct. So, what do we make of these claims of unbelievers exorcising demons?

I mentioned earlier that the online Bible says of an exorcist, and I quote, "is one who employs a formula of conjuration for expelling demons." That is using occult methods. So, what really happens? Well, I express my own view here. We know that the devil is

both a deceiver and a habitual liar. I propose that the devil works in harmony with these exorcists. The exorcist does not cast out demons, he exorcises them. These demons are not sent to the abyss, but rather, I think the exorcised demons are most likely simply reassigned by a demon in higher authority to another person. Through such exorcisms the devil keeps hold of the demonized person, makes the exorcist think he has great power, draws those who witness such exorcisms into his snare, and likely simply reassigns such demons to another person. In other words, these demons are not cast out by the exorcist, but are called out by a demon positioned over the one being exorcised. Possibly, they are then offered a more desirable person to indwell.

So, imagine a Muslim Immam, or a Hindu priest or a Catholic priest exorcising a demon that has tormented some person and the followers of these religions are awed at the power of their leaders. Satan has now won more ground by removing one of his own from one person and sending him to another. But he is not divided against himself, he is multiplying his followers!

I think there is a Scripture that answers what the Lord Jesus thought of those who exorcised demons in his name. He said in Matthew 7:21-23, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" Now these people claimed they cast out demons, but could it be that they were practicing exorcisms? Is that why Jesus said they were practicing lawlessness? I think that may well be the case. Surely exorcisms by incantations, even if it is the name of Jesus, is a work of iniquity.

Turn now to Deuteronomy 13 (read 1-5). When it speaks of a sign or a wonder, it speaks of that which appears miraculous, but it is magic. When the NT speaks of miracles, the word is a *sign*. Now in this passage God allowed that the sign or wonder spoken by

the false prophet to come to pass and He explains why He allowed it in verse 3 (read). I believe that is precisely what happens with exorcists. God allows demons to be exorcised by non-believers to test the true believer. And the devil uses such opportunities to ensnare his own in even deeper ways.

CONCL: So, in conclusion, where do demons dwell? Well, some who are bound have been cast down to hell, and some are bound in a special location. The free demons may be in heaven, while others are on earth. And those who are on earth may be going about through the air seeking whom they may devour. Others have found habitation in either a human body or an animal body.

But what about the claim of cults or the occult that they exorcise demons? I have come to the conclusion that this is a ploy of Satan through which he gains even more to his side. During an exorcism, he may call out a demon or demons and give them another person to reside in, possibly a more desirable one. Through such exorcisms, those who are in that religion are bound ever more deeply in their false religion, while others may even be won to that religion through such a show of power over demons.

From here, Lord willing, we will consider demon possession.