

DEMONOLOGY STUDIES

#25

WE WRESTLE NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD

By Sam Fife



The Highest Purpose for Man

To be content with food and raiment,
the necessities of life

To be in a place free from the influence of
Babylon and free to exercise and grow in God

To find your place in the Kingdom of God
which is coming on the Earth

WE WRESTLE NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-12

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places.

This is a study on the subject of demonology in the scriptures. It is recommended that those who are reading take their Bibles and follow along with us as we study. For this is not merely the record of some testimonies of experiences with demon spirits. This is a scriptural study, a scriptural exposition of what the Bible has to say concerning the invisible demoniac kingdom against which all humanity, and particularly Christians, are daily wrestling that they might have life. Against the invisible kingdom that is seeking daily to rob all humanity of peace, joy, self happiness, and all those things which make up life.

We feel that there is a great necessity for such a study at this time for three reasons. First, because across the world, reports are coming in of the millions of people, and even God's people, and even God's ministers, who are breaking down under the influence that the demoniac kingdom is having upon their minds. Not so long ago, we were flown a thousand miles to cast demon spirits out of a minister who was hearing voices. When we laid our hands upon his head, and commanded the spirits to come out of him in Jesus' name, they took full possession of him, and began to speak through him and told me that I stank. Not so long ago, a report was published in one of our leading magazines of a mother who stepped off a plane at the great International Airport in Miami, Florida, leading her little girl around on a leash like a dog. The little girl was crawling around on all fours, barking and snapping at people like a dog. When my wife and I were traveling across the country recently, a

report came over the radio of a minister of a certain denomination who had just murdered his wife and his children. Continually people come to us, broken down, having taken shock treatments, victims of nervous breakdowns, and even those who preach the gospel are experiencing what many call nervous breakdowns. Surely it is not a thing that should be told in Gath, or published among the Philistines, that the ministers of the full gospel of Jesus Christ should be subject to nervous breakdowns. This is the first reason we feel a great necessity of education in this area of the scriptures, on the subject of demonology.

The second reason we feel that there is a need for teaching on this subject in the church of Jesus Christ, is because of the tremendous fear of this subject that we see in Christians everywhere, and even in ministries, when the subject of demons is mentioned.

The Lord Jesus Christ said in His commission, to His disciples, "Go and preach the gospel in all nations, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved and he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe." And then the first sign that He set before them was "they shall cast out devils." Surely when this is the word of the Master, something is wrong when we find Christians trembling in fear when you mention the subject of demons.

Not too many years ago, we were teaching a Bible study in a certain large city. The wife of a minister of a certain denomination was attending all our Bible studies and receiving tremendous blessings from the previous healing truths that we were teaching from the Word of God. We taught the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as we maintained the deeper truths of God's Word. But when, in the natural course of our studies of the scriptures, we came to the subject of demonology, and we taught one morning on that subject, that was the last time this minister's wife came to the Bible study. When we questioned some of her friends as to why she was absent, we were told that we frightened her almost to death, when we began to teach on the subject of demons.

In this hour, God is sending us across the country, and to many places, teaching a series of studies on the subject of demonology. But we find in many places, pastors are afraid to allow this subject to be taught in their churches. They are afraid that their people will be afraid, and all are bound by fear. Certainly this is again not something that should be published among the Philistines, the enemies of God, or told in Gath, that the servants, the armies of the living God, should be trembling before the name of demons. Certainly it is the other way around. The armies of hell should be trembling before those who bear the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The third reason we feel that there is a great need for teaching upon this subject is because we believe this is the area, the next area of warfare, into which Jesus is leading His Church - warfare in the Spirit. Eight years ago, God poured out His Spirit upon the Southern Baptist Church that we pastored. In three weeks time, I and all the members of the church, received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues and the other spiritual gifts. Then God led us over a period of months and years, through a pattern that we believe is going to be a pattern for the whole Church of Jesus Christ before the Master is finished.

First, in three weeks' time we all received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and He established us in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit truth. We had already been established in the salvation truth. Then for the next six weeks the gifts of the Spirit began to come forth in our assembly and to operate. The gift of tongues, the gift of interpretation, the gift of prophecy, and the other gifts of the Spirit, and we were established in the operation of the gifts of the Spirit. Then God began to unveil for me all those precious healing truths in the Word of God that I had simply passed over before as a Baptist minister, relegating them to another day. He began to make them leap out at me from the scriptures and I received healing from my stomach ulcers. My deacon got his deaf ear healed. The people in my church began to

receive their healings. Pretty soon the news began to get around, and people began to come from all over the city, and a healing line was established. And within the next eight months, many people were healed, and we were established in the healing truth. The salvation truth, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit truth, the gifts of the Spirit and then the healing truth.

Then God led us into the next area of warfare. He spoke to me in a dream one night. He told me that He was going to lead my people and me into a search for knowledge of the devil and his kingdom. That we might come against them to destroy them.

I had gone to God and I asked God to speak to me, to confirm to me that He wanted me to lead my people out into spiritual warfare. That night He spoke to me in a dream, and in the dream, I and all the people in my church, were traveling through fields and woods. In the dream we were all little children seemingly about nine years old. Suddenly we came to a great open space in the fields. There, stretched out in that open space, was a great big long serpent about 20 feet long. He looked like he was dead, and all the children said, "He is dead."

But then one of the men in my church, who was a child in the dream reached down behind his head and picked him up, and when he did, this great serpent came to life, and began to wriggle and squirm. The man of my church dropped him and he slithered off. Then I and all the children sat down upon the ground and made a covenant together to search and seek out this serpent, and find him and destroy him. It was not very hard to interpret this dream. In the scripture, according to Jesus' words, the field is the world, children are always the children of God. We all know that the serpent is the devil. The reason he looked like he was dead in the dream was because 95% of Christianity live like they think the devil is dead or asleep, or not real. But God is saying that, when we begin to come against him, we would find that he is very real, and very alive. We all sat down in the dream

and made a covenant together, to search and seek out this serpent until we found him and destroy him. God was saying that He was calling us to a search for knowledge of the demoniac kingdom, that we might be used to do what the Bible says Jesus came to do, to destroy the works of the devil. For the next three years, God led us in the scriptures, in a search for revelation concerning this subject more than any other. When He had trained us, and prepared us over the three year period, He began to send us many people, who were depressed, vexed, oppressed, and some possessed, to be delivered from demon oppression and demon possession.

We believe that the pattern that God set in our church is a pattern which Jesus is bringing forth in His whole church throughout the world. First, establishment in the salvation truth, then the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, then the operation of the gifts of the Spirit, and the divine healing truth. Then we believe that warfare in the Spirit is the ultimate area in which Jesus is leading His Church. That we might be prepared to move as the Body of Christ against the demoniac kingdom, topple Satan off his throne, purge him out of the earth, and bring the Lord Jesus Christ back.

Up until the time that we come to this area of warfare in the Spirit, we are simply warring against Satan on the fleshy plane. We are warring in the flesh. When we are preaching sermons, witnessing to people, teaching truth to people, we are only warring against the manifestation of demon spirits. We are only dealing with people, with flesh, giving them truths to offset the lies and the false doctrine and the error that the demon spirits have planted in their hearts. But this will never fulfill the ultimate purpose of God. For we are only picking the branches off the tree. As we pray for the sick, and physical healing comes forth, again we are only dealing with the manifestations of demon work, and again we are dealing with people in the physical realm, we are dealing with the flesh. We believe it is only when Jesus leads us into the knowledge of the demoniac kingdom that we can begin to war against the spirits themselves, who are

causing all the trouble, to war effectively against them, that we will then begin to cut the tree out by its roots, to overcome Satan completely and to prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have no condemnation in our hearts for the fact that Christians are afraid of this subject, afraid of demon spirits, afraid to have this subject taught in their churches, afraid to talk about it. It is understandable that they are afraid, for people always fear what they do not understand. But if we of the 20th century learned anything, we have learned that education overcomes fear. And we believe that education in this area, in the subject of demonology of the scriptures, until we come to the point where we know the enemy that we are fighting and we know how to fight them, will overcome fear, and victory will come into being.

We should also like to say, in beginning this study, that when we speak of teaching on this subject of demonology, we are not just thinking in weird, far out terms of casting out, as so many people think, but our main burden is for education on this subject. When God's people are properly educated on this subject of demonology there will be much less need for casting out than there is now. Preventative medicine is still far better than surgery. It is still far better to take preventative medicine, so that one does not get so sick that surgery must be performed, than it is to go on in ignorance and darkness until God's people become so oppressed and possessed, that there must be the surgical operation of casting out demons.

What many people don't know is that there are six areas of demon work in human experience. There is the deceiving work of demons, the tempting work of demons, the vexing work of demons, the depressing work of demons, the oppressing work of demons and demon possession. Many of God's people must fight the battle against demon spirits in at least the first three areas, and often the first four areas of human experience with demons, every day. And our burden is to so educate God's people in this subject, that they can

fight the battle, and win the victory every day so that we may not think in terms of casting out. Many of God's people feel no burden to prepare themselves in this area, or to study this subject, or to seek truth from God on this subject, simply because they think the only area in which we deal with demons is in the far out realm of casting out.

Therefore, since they themselves are not oppressed, or possessed, they feel no burden and no need to seek the knowledge of God's Word upon this subject. But not only are we called that we are going to be ministers and believers of the full gospel of Jesus Christ, and to know what God's Word says on this subject, but we are called to prepare ourselves, regardless of whether we are oppressed, or possessed, to be able to meet the need of those who are.

I was teaching a series of studies on demonology in a certain city, not so long ago. A young man graphically made this truth real to my heart when, after the study, he came to me and said, "Sam, I think I see the picture. Since Jesus said, 'these signs shall follow them that believe my gospel. They shall cast out devils,' if we don't conquer in this realm also, we cannot conscientiously call ourselves ministers of the full gospel of Jesus Christ." I said to this young man, "You are so right. In my preaching on this subject I go a little further. Jesus did not say, these signs MIGHT follow them that believe. He did not say these signs POSSIBLY WILL follow them that believe my gospel. They shall cast out devils, speak in new tongues, taking authority over every deadly thing, even serpents and poisons, lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." Brethren, if these signs are not following our lives and in our ministries, then something is wrong with our believing.

With this as a good solid revelation of the reason for the necessity of teaching on the subject of demonology, we go into the scripture, and we begin to dig out the great wealth of information that God has for us. Of course, the foundation for the beginning of a study on the subject of demonology is found in our scripture text that we read at the beginning,

Ephesians 6:12, where we are enjoined by God to be strong IN THE LORD, and in the power of His might. We will be coming back to that subject at the close of the study. It is the reason the Bible tells us that we should be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, which is the foundation for the study in demonology. The reason is found in verse 12 of Ephesians chapter 6, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world. Against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places." The King James version says "high places," but your later translation, which gives the better Greek, say "heavenly places." Here the Bible tells us our wrestling, our warfare, as human beings, and especially as Christians, in order that we may have life, is not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers. If you will take your Webster's dictionary and look up the word principality, you will find a 'pality' is a kingdom and a principality is a kingdom ruled over by a prince. Therefore what the Bible is telling us here, is that the enemy that we wrestle against as Christians, is a kingdom, an efficiently organized kingdom, a world-wide kingdom, a kingdom that is ruled over by a prince, whose name is Lucifer. And since the Bible tells us that this kingdom is not a flesh and blood enemy, there is only one other thing that it can be, it is a kingdom of evil demon spirits, demoniac spirits. This is the enemy that we wrestle against, an efficiently organized, invisible, world-wide kingdom of evil demon spirit personalities, whose express purpose for existing is to keep you and me from having life. The fact that Satan has a kingdom is made very clear to us in the gospels. One day Jesus was casting devils, demons, out of a person who was demon possessed, and the Pharisees accused Him of casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub. Jesus said, "If Satan cast out Satan how shall his kingdom stand?" Our warfare is not against people, it is not against a flesh and blood enemy, it is against this invisible kingdom of evil, demoniac, spirit-personalities who are seeking continually to destroy us.

The Bible tells us also, in Ephesians 6:12, that this principality, these powers, are the rulers of the darkness of this world. The rulers of the darkness of THIS world. These earthly organizations, and these human beings who are causing all the evil and the misery and the suffering in this world, are not ultimates of themselves. They are only the puppets on the string. The word "darkness," as it is used here in the scripture, represents all the evil which is going on. All the sufferings, all the strife, all the warfare, all the trial, all the tribulation, all the trouble that is going on in the world, is wrapped up in this term darkness. The earthly organizations and the human beings who are involved in all this strife and trouble are not ultimates in themselves. They are only the slaves. They are only the puppets on the string. Lucifer and his demoniac kingdom who are ruling and guiding the minds of the human beings and the earthly organizations that are causing all the darkness, are the true rulers over the darkness in this world.

The communists who are sweeping the earth with their godless ideologies, and with their determination to destroy every one who names the name of God in the earth, are not ultimates in themselves. They are only puppets on a string. Karl Marx did not dig the doctrines by which they live, that he wrote in his books, out of his own mind. They were given to him by revelation from the demoniac spirits. And the demoniac spirits who gave Karl Marx the set pattern of doctrines which is sending communism across the world, are the same demoniac spirits who are inspiring every communist to dedicate, and even give his life, to taking over rulership of the world.

This is another trick of Satan. This is only another one of Lucifer's attempts to rule the world by ruling through the minds of men, and systems and nations. I had this proof graphically driven home to my heart a couple of years ago, when a book mysteriously came to me. Somebody sent it to me. I do not buy any books hardly, except the Bible, but

sometimes when God wants me to see something He sends one my way. This book was called, "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich." It was a record of Hitler's attempt to conquer the world and set up his world empire, and all the misery and suffering he caused in the world. In the biography, Hitler confessed that he got all his political philosophy, upon which he was going to build his world empire, and all his ideas out of a book. This book was written by a man who himself confessed that the way he wrote the book was that he was riding along on a train one day, and some unseen power took hold of his mind. He got off the train and went and rented a hotel room and he was there in that hotel room eight days.

During the eight days, this unseen power poured into his mind, and he wrote in the book all the political philosophies upon which they were going to build his world empire. It is not very hard to see where these revelations came from. They came from the same demoniac kingdom that the Bible speaks of here in Ephesians 6:12, when it says, "Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in heavenly places."

Oh that God would burn this truth into the hearts of Christians! That our enemy is not flesh and blood, but an invisible kingdom of demoniac spirits. If Christians ever learn this truth, then no longer would we look at people, and what they do. But we would look back behind people and see the demoniac spirits which are tempting, and deceiving, and motivating them, and guiding them around like puppets on a string. Then we would no longer be angry with the people. Then we would no longer fight and strive against the people, but we would look back behind the people and see the enemy which was causing all the trouble. Then we would no longer see in the flesh, but see in the Spirit. We would see the demon spirits which were causing all the trouble in the first place, and instead of striving against one

another, instead of striving against the person, we would wrap our spiritual arms around the person in love and fall on our knees and take our stand and pray for the person. Instead of striving against the person, we would fight with them against the demon spirits who are binding them and causing them to do what they do, and be what they are. When God's people., and when Christ's Church, learn this great truth no longer will we have the great tearing gashes and splits in our churches. No longer will Christians be separated and divided. No longer will they be striving one against the other, but they will be moving in the Spirit. They will be walking in the Spirit. They will no longer see in the flesh, neither will they any longer see flesh, but they will see in the Spirit. And they will look always back behind the visible and see the invisible. As the Apostle Paul said, they will look not upon the seen things but upon the unseen things, for the seen things are temporal, but the unseen things are eternal. They will look back behind the brethren who are erring and see the spirits which are deceiving them. They will wrap their spiritual arms around the brethren and begin to believe God for them against the enemy that they might be delivered.

It happens in our churches today. If the demon spirits begin to divide the members of a church, they will bring up a question in which there is a difference of opinion, then they will begin to pour into one of the faction's minds many lies about the other side. And they will pour into the other side's mind lies about that side. Pretty soon all have listened to so many false ideas and lies from demons about what the other person is thinking, or what the other person is saying, or about what the other person is doing. Until pretty soon both sides are so aggravated with one another that they do not have any desire whatsoever to pray for one another at all. They only want to strive in the flesh and fight against one another. And, instead of moving in the Spirit, and in the Spirit claim the other side's deliverance, and moving in the Spirit and in spiritual warfare, and in prayer getting the

spirits out of the other side, they right away want to get the other side out of the church. Pretty soon there is a great tearing split and gash. And the enemy stands back laughing in glee, while the testimony of Jesus Christ is dishonored, and the devil continues to bring confusion in the earth and in the Body of Christ.

Oh! Beloved, but when we begin to see in the Spirit, when we begin to see this invisible kingdom when we begin to look back behind the flesh and see the spirit beings which are causing all the trouble, then when the enemy creeps in, and begins to seek to cause division, whoever has the clearest vision from God will immediately see, not the person that is striving against them, but the demon spirits which are motivating the person. They will not fight against the person, but wrap their spiritual arms around that person, and fall on their knees, and in the Spirit claim that person's deliverance, and redeem their brother.

I am here to tell you, beloved, that this thing works. I remember a time, some seven years ago, when God had poured out His Spirit upon the Southern Baptist Church that I pastored, and every member of the church, except one, had received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We had moved into the manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit in our church. God was moving us forward in a tremendous walk in our church. God was moving us forward in a tremendous walk in the Spirit. A healing line was formed and people were coming from all over and many people were being healed. Then one of my finest men in my church, who was a Training Union Director (at that time we still had a Training Union). This man, who had also received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, suddenly began to manifest a strange feeling toward me. He began to bicker with me concerning every move that I sought to make in the assembly. When I stood in his presence, I could tell he was irritated with me. When he came to the service, though he would take my hand and say, "Hello, Brother Sam," and sometimes smile, still in the Spirit I could feel a great enmity, and I did not really understand it. I

loved this man and up until that time he had loved me, and we had worked very closely together in the work of the Lord. But this division, this enmity, grew and grew, and grew. I did not know as much as I do at this time, and it was breaking my heart, for I loved this man, for he was a good man.

Finally I went to him, after one service, and I said, "Brother," - I called him by his name - I said, "Please tell me what is this thing which is working on you? Have I done something to offend you? Have I done something that you think is wrong?" This man broke down and began to cry, and he said, "Brother Sam, I do not really know. Sometimes I think I must be losing my mind. When I am around you, and I used to love to be around you, but now when I am around you, I can't stand you, I feel like I hate you. Even during the day, when I am at work, I find myself thinking thoughts of anger toward you, but when I come to the assembly I can't work with you. I feel bitter toward you. I don't know, I have no reason."

This is of course before God spoke to us and said He was going to lead us in a study of demonology. And I did not really know that it was demon spirits and I was not wise enough in the things of the spirit to deal with it. So I said, "Dear brother, I pray that God will help you to overcome this," and we prayed together. But I did not really know what to do about it. And the thing got worse and worse, and the man began to feel bitter towards all the rest of the assembly. Finally the day came when he stood up before the assembly and told us that God was speaking to him to leave the assembly and go to another church. We of course all knew that it was not God that was speaking to him, but there was nothing that we could say. And this man left. He denied his Baptism of the Holy Spirit. He went back into a nominal church, went back into a fleshy walk that God had led him out of when he came into the Baptism of the Spirit. The last I heard of him, he was not going to church at all. He was not serving God at all. I did not know, or understand at

this time, how demon spirits could do this. This is an example of how they can divide. I understand now that these demon Spirits wanted to turn this dear brother back from the mighty walk in the Spirit that God was leading us to, and particularly from me. They simply separated us as brethren in Christ.

Now I will give you another illustration, a recent one. One which turned out to the glory and the victory of God instead of to Satan's glory. No more than a year ago in the assembly that we have now, a Spirit-filled assembly walking in God's Divine Order, and walking in God's truth, in one of the finest men, one of our right arms in that assembly, suddenly I began to feel the spirits working. Suddenly I began to feel that the oneness, the blessed fellowship that we had had in Christ, was broken. Oh, on the surface all things looked the same. When he would come to the service, he would shake my hand and smile and say, "Hello, Brother Sam." But in the Spirit I could feel this thing that was wrong. I did not know what it was that the demons had planted in his mind, that I had done wrong, or that I was wrong, or that I had done something to him. I never did find out, but the thing got worse and worse. Finally it came to me, through the 'grapevine,' that this brother was considering leaving our assembly. My heart was burdened and my heart was broken, but I have learned something over the years since the other experience, I did not go to him, even to ask him what was wrong. I went into my bedroom and got on my knees and I prayed, "Father in the name of Jesus I loose my brother from these spirits which are binding him, and seeking to separate us and tear him loose from thine assembly." I rose up from that prayer, and it was only two days until we had our next meeting. But at our very next meeting, this my brother came up to me. As he approached me, I felt the old oneness of Spirit that had been there before. He came up to me and said, "Brother Sam, I notice that you have a bad tire on your car." And he said, "Here is \$15.00. I want you to go and buy a new tire for your automobile." I felt the old love. I felt the

old union. I felt the old oneness. My dear brother is one of the elders in our assembly that does much of the preaching when God sends us away for long periods of time, he is one of the right arms in our assembly at this hour, and never has the enemy been able to separate us again.

It works beloved, seeing in the Spirit, and not in the flesh, walking in the Spirit and not in the flesh. It does not only work with individuals, it works collectively. By way of illustration, I must share with you another experience.

There was a time, a year and a half or so ago, when a group of people from the assembly that I was ministering in, called me about eleven o'clock one night. They said, "Brother Sam, would you come over to our house, we would like to talk to you," I said, "Yes, I'll be there." When I got over there, there were some six or seven of them gathered together and they had had a prayer meeting. They said, "Brother Sam, we called you to talk with you because we feel that you are running ahead of the Lord." I had felt that God was leading us to establish a mission work downtown in the city where our assembly was. A work out of which we could operate to hold street meetings, win men to Christ on the street and bring them in to the mission work and try to take them further in God. Since we were burdened to work with the Spanish people of our city, we were setting up the mission to seek to reach them.

Not long after God put the burden in my heart, God sent a young Spanish minister, a Spanish-speaking minister, to our midst, and I felt led of God to establish him as assistant pastor over this mission work. He didn't fully receive all the truths that we ministered in Christ. But he did love the Lord and he was filled with the power of God. He was a powerful preacher of God's word, in the area of truth, the salvation truth, that he ministered. So I had felt led of God, that God sent him, to put him over this work. But the brothers insisted to call me into conference that night, and said, "Brother Sam, we feel that you are running ahead of the Lord in putting this brother over the work of the mission. We don't feel that it is

not God's will that we establish the mission, but this brother has not received all the message that we preach. He disagrees in some of the different truths that we preach, and we feel that you are running ahead of the Lord."

Well, there was a time when something would have risen up in me against these beloved people. Something of pride, something of egotism, and I probably would have been rather upset with them if they dared to infer that I was running ahead of God. I would probably have quickly inferred to them, I was the leader, that if God spoke to anyone, he would speak through me. But this was before the growth of God had come, before wisdom and knowledge in the understanding that demons can trick the best of God's servants in running ahead of the Lord.

So for that reason I felt no rebellion in my heart against these good people at all. They were good brethren. They loved the Lord, they loved me. They sincerely believed that they had the leadership of God and that it was their duty to check me from possibly running ahead of the Lord in something. So I said to them in the same 'love with which they spoke to me, "Dear brethren, I appreciate your feeling and it might be that it is God that wants to use you to check me that I don't get ahead of the Lord in something." But I said, "Would you give me your reason why you feel that I am running ahead of the Lord."

And they gave me their reasons. And I said, "Well, I can certainly see that you feel that you have heard from God. Now may I give you my reasons why I feel God wants us to do this and establish this brother over the mission work?" And I shared with them some things that God had spoken to me that He hadn't spoken to them. This gave them understanding of my reasons why I felt led of God to do this. It gave them a much clearer picture than they had before. Then when we had both shared, in love, our reasons why we felt that we had God's leading in moving the way we did, then I said to them, "Dear brethren, let's all put this matter in the hands of the Lord now, and go home and pray that God

will show us which one is being deceived, and I know God will," and they agreed. We joined our hands together and had prayer. I went home. Because I sincerely felt that I had God's leading and I felt that a deceiving spirit was trying to separate my brethren from me, and to hinder us moving out into something God was leading us into, once again, I knelt beside my bed, and in the Spirit I prayed, "Father, loose my brethren from these demon spirits which are separating, which are dividing. In the name of Jesus, I receive it." I arose from my bed. That was on Friday night when I prayed that prayer, and we have services on Saturday night in our assembly. The next night, Saturday night, as we gathered together to begin our service, before the service started, everyone of them came to me, individually, one by one, and said, "Brother Sam, God has spoken to me today, we feel this is the leading of the Lord to move forward in this way, and we are ready to stand behind you 100%." Tears came down my cheeks and I rejoiced in the knowledge that was demonstrated once again, that instead of fighting against our brethren, we can see back behind them and see the spirits that are deceiving them, and in loving faith we can speak the word of faith and loose them from the spirits that are binding them.

Not so long ago, we had it graphically illustrated to us, how demon spirits would take one human being and deceive them and use them to get other human beings, other Christians, so aggravated, and so mad, and sometimes so furious with them, that the other Christians have no power. They get out of the Spirit and they have no power whatsoever to deliver the person the demons are using to aggravate them.

We had this truth driven home to us to the highest degree many months ago, when we were in a battle to deliver my own sister from demon possession, from what the world would call complete insanity. She had gone completely insane, and she had become a babbling idiot. So much so, that we had to lock her in the room, and keep her there for a

long time while we were casting the demons out of her. During that period, when we were casting the demons out of her, and bringing her deliverance, we were taught experientially like few have ever been taught, how demons use one person to get another person angry, and out of the spirit, so that they have no power to gain that person's deliverance.

During that period, often, when we would hope and pray that my sister would manifest a little normality, and give us a little hope that we were gaining victory, we would let her out of the locked room and take her to the table to eat, and take hope that we could at least have her to sit at the table and eat half way normally. The demon spirits would let her walk quietly to the table and sit down. My mother, in whose home she was staying, would put all the food on the table. Then she would deliberately sweep all the food off the table, and break the dishes and tumble the food in a mess on the floor and then stand and laugh and laugh at us, looking at our faces as if to say, "Now what are you going to do about it?"

Pretty soon God showed us that this was the demon spirits trying to get us so furious with her, that we would get out of the Spirit and have no power to deliver her. When we finally saw that we could not bring her to the table to eat, we would take a banana into her locked room and give it to her, so trying to get something down her in the way of food. Quietly and calmly the demon spirits would allow her to peel the banana. Then they would cause her to just squash and squeeze it in her hand, until it was nothing but a thick paste and then mush it all in her hair, and then stand and laugh at us again, as if to say, "What are you going to do about it?"

Our grace was tested to the nth degree. But God told us that these demon spirits were only trying to work in her to make us furious with her so that we would get out of the Spirit and have no power to deliver her. God graciously showed us the devil's chief trick, and we stayed in the Spirit. We claimed the victory at Calvary until every last demon spirit was cast out of her, and now she is delivered through

the power that is in the name of Jesus, and living a normal life and manifesting a Christian testimony. This is how the principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, the evil invisible demoniac spirits use people, particularly Christians in a church, to keep a church so stirred up and so divided, that nobody has the power to defeat the devil and his kingdom. This is why there is no healing, why there is no power. This is the way that the demoniac kingdom operates.

In closing we go back to verse 10, in this study, to the word of the Spirit of God, and the Word of God. "Brethren, be strong **IN THE LORD**, and in the power of His might." Be strong in the Lord, not in your own talents, not in your educational degrees, not in any of these things, your worldly prestige or position, but in the Lord, in the Spirit. At this point a message in tongues came forth and this is the interpretation - "Therefore the Lord thy God would say unto thee, my people, walk no longer in the flesh but walk in My Spirit. See no longer in the flesh, but see in My Spirit. Think no longer in the flesh, but think in My Spirit. Then shalt thou have victory over the enemy of thy soul."

Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Dear friend, the devil does not care how many natural talents you have. The devil does not care how many degrees of education you have, even if it be theological education. The devil does not care what your position is in your church or in your denomination. The only thing that is ever going to make him tremble in fear is when you can speak the word of faith **IN THE SPIRIT** and **BELIEVE IN THE SPIRIT**. Through the power that is in the name of Jesus, every knee must bow at your word when you command in that name. When you can get down on your knees and war in the Spirit against the invisible enemy, which is seeking to destroy us, and to keep us from having life. When you can kneel there believing hour after hour, even in extreme cases, as my sister was, that because you are kneeling there believing though you may not be saying a word, Hallelujah!, that in the

spiritual heavenlies the word is going forth, and the host of the Lord, over which Michael and Gabriel command, that host that Jesus was speaking of when He said, "He that will confess me before men, I will confess before my angels," will begin to move against the demon spirits in the invisible, that are possessing that person or oppressing that person and move them out, then will Satan's kingdom begin to tremble before the Body of Christ.

I could close this study with many testimonies of the delivering power that is in the name of Jesus when we war in the Spirit. I feel to just give you one. Not so long ago I was in the city of Amarillo, Texas, holding a meeting and a mother came to me with tears in her eyes and asked me to pray for her teenage daughter, 14 years old. She told me her daughter's problem. She could not keep her at home nights. She refused to obey her mother. Every night she walked out of the house and stayed out with the boys until eleven, twelve, one o'clock at night. When her mother would ask her to stay home, she would simply curse her mother out, and walk out any way. Continually kept her ear tuned to the rock and roll music trash on her transistor radio, continually sitting before the television. As her mother told me her story, I realized that 14 year old girl was filled with spirits of lust. I told her mother, "I will wait on God as to see how I should move, but to begin bringing the girl to my meeting." And she did for the next three nights. Then one night, the Spirit of God spoke to me and said it was the time. I called this little girl into the pastor's study after the meeting, and I said, "Becky, if you don't get on your knees and pray through and get deliverance from these spirits which are oppressing you, they are going to possess your soul, and drag you down to hell." I thought to shock her and frighten her into seeking God, but her eyes rolled back into her head and she sneered at me and she said, "I don't care if I go to hell." And I saw that this little girl was so bound by these demon spirits right on the verge of possession, that she did not have the strength to help herself.

So I called the pastor in and some godly women and men saints that I had there with me, who worked with me in deliverance, in the pastor's study, and we laid our hands on her head, and we began to command the demons to come out of this child. They took possession of her and she began to scream and cry and fight us and stick her tongue out at us. They made her put her finger in her mouth and bite it, as if she was going to bite it off, they were so excited. After 45 minutes commanding in the name of Jesus, the last spirit came out and her hands shot up in the air and she cried, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus." Three nights later in a meeting she got stammering lips, three nights after that she received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and now I have a letter in my files that she wrote me a few weeks ago, in which she said, "Brother Fife, I don't understand how I used to curse my mother and be so mean to her, for now I love her with all my heart." That little girl is now filled with the Spirit, and walking in God and a tremendous testimony for the Lord.

Therefore may God make real to your heart the foundational fact that we are not wrestling against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world in the Heavenly Places. - In Jesus Name - Amen.

This is one of four Studies on the study of demonology. May we make you aware that we have available on tape the actual deliverance of Jane Miller, from demon spirits. This tape is most helpful with these studies as it conveys the very reality of the demoniac kingdom, on this ACTUAL LIVE recording.