

DEMONOLOGY STUDIES
#25C

SIX AREAS OF DEMON WORK

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

SIX AREAS OF DEMON WORK IN HUMAN EXPERIENCE

In this study we will learn the six areas of demon influence in human experience: 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 the POSSESSING work of demons. This is one of the most important studies in our series because it reveals to Christians the great need for studies in demonology.

Today when you speak of demonology or a study of demons, Christians begin to think in terms of some weird far out realm of possession or casting out. They do not realize that demons are going to be fighting and striving against them daily in the first 4 areas of demon work in human experience by deceiving, tempting, vexing, and depressing.

When they think only in terms of possession or casting out devils, because they are not POSSESSED or OPPRESSED, because they do not feel any particular calling to the ministry of casting out devils or have not grown spiritually enough to where they can be used in this ministry, they feel the studies in demonology have no application to them whatsoever. Therefore, they are not concerned and through lack of knowledge concerning the demoniac kingdom and how to resist it, they are laying themselves open to being deceived in the first 4 areas of demon work in human experience.

For this reason, Scriptural studies in demonology are in these last days a MUST for every Christian. When one understands and is taught that there are six areas of demon work in human experience and that the first 4 are areas in which we have to fight demons daily as Christians, then they will become more concerned. So let us study each one.

DECEIVING WORK OF DEMONS

First we have the deceiving work of demon spirits or the "doctrine of devils." Certainly anyone who reads the Scripture knows that the Bible teaches that there are doctrines of devils. Paul speaks of men in the last days giving heed to seducing spirits and the doctrines or teaching of devils (I Tim. 4:1). The word "doctrine" means "teaching." This is the deceiving work of demons, whereby demon spirits project into the mind of men false doctrines, false teaching about God and about His plan.

They deceive men by giving them beautiful revelations which appear to be from God, which appear to be great light, thus fulfilling the scripture which says, "for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." (11 Cor. 11:14)

This is the reason for all the division that is in the Church of Jesus Christ today. There are two spirits which give revelation. One is the Holy Spirit who is seeking to lead people through giving them revelations unto His plan and purpose for their life and for the Body of Christ, for the elect of God. The other is demon spirits who can transform themselves into "ministers of light" which come to you making you think they are angels of light, the Spirit of God talking to you giving great revelation. Their purpose is to lead men away from God's plan and purpose for their lives.

In our world today we have many people and organizations which claim the name "Christian" which are being deceived by doctrines of devils such as the Christian Scientist, Unity, and many others (I do not hesitate to name them, I do it in love). I have a great burden for them, but I point out everywhere the areas in which they are deceived.

These groups have the laws of life and spirit which Jesus taught concerning the work of even the Holy Spirit. They are using these revelations to produce healings and even miracles among the people who follow them. Yet, all the time they deny any need for the ATONING BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST.

In their teaching, "It is not nice to connect blood with religion and with Christianity." They flatly deny that

salvation is alone through faith and in the atoning blood of Jesus. They have stepped over that revelation. They have set it aside. They have said, "We do not need it. We can take the teachings of the law and the revelation of the truth of God, and we can practice them. We can come to perfection this way. We can come to our salvation." They are deceived with "doctrines of devils."

Dear friend, the first truth that the Holy Spirit is going to show the person who is dead in trespasses and sins is that Christ died for his sins, that Jesus shed his atoning blood to pay for their sins.

God has a nature which is love, that is true, but we must not forget the Holiness of God's nature which demands atonement for sins. This is the first truth the Holy Spirit will show anybody. When we accept this truth by faith and accept Jesus' atoning blood to pay for our sins, THEN the Holy Spirit will indwell us and lead us into further truths and higher revelations which lead to healings and so forth.

When one skips over the revelation concerning the atoning blood of Jesus and goes to the higher revelations, they have received them from a spirit alright, but it is not the Holy Spirit. It is demon spirits who seek to take other truths and plant them in the mind of men in order to lead them away from the foundational truth which will alone produce man's salvation, faith in the atoning blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

There are those in our world today whose doctrines are insidiously creeping into the Christian church and into many Christians that have been baptized in the Spirit. These doctrines concern reincarnation and final restitution of all things, that all people ultimately will be saved are strictly "doctrines from devils," the deceiving work of demons.

I would point out to you that the organizations which propagate and who are the source of doctrines such as reincarnation, etc. are the Orientalists of the East, the Christian Scientists, the Unity people of our country and of the world, all who flatly deny the need for the atoning blood of Jesus. So it is not very hard to see what spirit these

doctrines come from. How tragic it is that many of the Christians from the historical churches who have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit have been immediately come to by deceiving spirits and had these doctrines (reincarnation, final restitution of all things, etc.) implanted in their minds, I find this everywhere I go.

We would like to pin point this also. There is one thing you will not find these people doing and that is casting out devils. This is because the spirits which inspired them are not going to lead them to fight against the demoniac kingdom.

Their teaching concerning this is, "It is better not to talk about demons and those things which are not nice but only talk about beauty, love, Jesus, etc." Let this truth be implanted deeply into your hearts, dear Christians. Jesus said in Mark 16:17, "And these signs shall follow them that believe." The VERY FIRST SIGN that he said would follow is, "In my name shall they cast out devils." Those who are believing and preaching Jesus' Gospel in these last days, you will find them casting out devils, speaking in new tongues, and all the other signs which were spoken by Jesus, "And these signs SHALL follow" those who believe HIS GOSPEL.

The reason these other organizations which deny the atoning blood and teach these beautiful revelations, teach that it is better not to talk about demons, is because that is exactly what Satan wants. He wants his demoniac kingdom to remain in darkness so that the people are not educated concerning it.

So we see the deceiving work of demons every Christian is subject to daily. He needs to recognize it, know how to fight against it, and how to overcome it. The deceiving work of demons does not always come in the area of false doctrines in the deceitful way they plant fear into men's minds deceiving their minds concerning God, etc.

In many areas they project deceiving ideas into the minds of individuals, spirits of fear, projecting all kinds of fearful

thoughts into their minds, all kinds of worry, thoughts of all that might happen, all kinds of worry thoughts of all that might happen to them in the future, and all for one purpose. Dear friend, as we go through these six areas of demon work, note in each one the purpose is to wear out and weaken the mind and the will of the individual over a period of time, destroying their faith, their strength, their spiritual strength so that they can ultimately enter in and indwell. This is the deceiving work of demon spirits.

*TEMPTING WORK OF DEMONS *

Secondly, we have the tempting work of demons whereby demon spirits project into our minds, sometimes even beautiful mental pictures of how nice it would be to do this or that. They cause us to forget that the "this or that" we are getting a mental picture of is against the Word of God. They tempt us continually with "this thought," "this idea," "this mental picture" always seeking to tempt us into sin. They want to tempt us into the worldly things to keep us so involved in sin and in the worldly things that we would be separated from the Spirit of God and subjected more to their influence in our lives. This way we would be robbed of faith and power with God which brings life.

To the business man, they tempt by projecting beautiful mental pictures of how he can make this step in his business or that step. Often they are tempted to follow this mental picture, and it is the wrong way for them to go. When they are not seeking the leadership of the Spirit of God, they wind up having their business hurt, sometimes destroyed and then they are broken, weakened, mentally discouraged and made weaker so that the demons can wear them down a little more working towards indwelling.

Mental pictures projected into the minds of the business men show how easy it would be to do something even though it is dishonest and sometimes even against the law. They tempt them to follow so that they can lead them into a

position whereby they will be hurt mentally, spiritually and perhaps even prosecuted by the law.

They are always fighting and striving against humanity in this manner. The demons take the average individual tempting them into sin, then they immediately come back upon the individual and put an extreme feeling of condemnation upon them so that they continually feel condemned for their sins, even though it may be a subconscious feeling. Therefore, the individual feels God cannot be pleased with them and they are separated from God. They cannot come to God and pray with faith because they feel under condemnation and are not acceptable to God. Therefore, they cannot get their prayers answered. They are continually separated from God in this manner.

The demons are tempting, tempting, tempting us daily. EVERY Christian will have demon spirits come against them daily in this manner. This is why Jesus said in the Lord's Prayer that we should pray daily for God to deliver us from the evil (one).

They are going to come against us daily, spirits of lust, lying spirits, spirits of envy, spirits of greed, all kinds of spirits who are especially trained in the art of projecting these luscious temptations into our minds. They tempt us away from the leadership of the Spirit of God.

VEXING WORK OF DEMONS

Thirdly, we have the vexing work of demons. These are spirits whose express purpose is to continually vex and aggravate the human being and especially the Christians.

In this category we have spirits of irritability which all of us have at one time experienced, the extreme irritability whereby it seems that everything anyone says or does around us just irritates us. Sometimes people are not even doing anything against us, but we have this extreme irritability which irritates us. Then we blare out at those around us hurting their feelings. Sometimes they answer back to us

sharply. Often these spirits keep one living in an atmosphere daily of unhappiness and misery.

This is a spiritual force projected against our minds and spirits by demon spirits which make us feel this way to keep us in an area of misery in our daily lives so that our minds, our wills, and our spirits will continually be worn down and weakened. The psychological warfare of Satan, dear friend (Satan is the greatest psychologist there is) wars against the human mind and against the human will continually with his spiritual force seeking always to wear down and break the human mind.

Several years ago, we were engaged in casting the demon spirits out of *Jane Miller in the city of New Orleans. She was a young woman so possessed she was trying to beat her head against the wall, threatening continually to kill her children, having seizures by which she was thrown on the floor in convulsion.

Because she had been under the care of the psychiatric clinic of Tulane University in New Orleans, after her healing her psychiatrists were so impressed with her healing that I was given the privilege of appearing before the Board of Psychiatry of Tulane University to explain to them how she was healed. I had the privilege of taking my Bible and teaching these psychiatrists from a great university what the Bible says about the reality of demon spirits and the influence that they can have on the human mind. Then I played a tape recording of the demon spirits actually talking through her as we cast them out for these psychiatrists. At the close of my presentation, I said to them, "The reason you psychiatrists can help a person is because you take a person who is oppressed by demons, you bring them into your office and you sit with them for hours letting them talk. You understand them, and you love them. You break through the crust of suspicion and fear that we human beings have of one another. You establish what you call empathy with that person, and then they confess to you. You draw out of them that thing in their past which the demon spirits have been

using to whip them and condemn them until they have broken down their minds. Every psychiatrist will tell you that 90% of the people they deal with, they wind up discovering that their minds are broken because of GUILT, extreme guilt over some incident in their past. You draw that thing out of them, and they confess it to you. You lay it out before them showing them that it is not the "bugaboo" that they thought it was. You convince them that IT IS NOT. The demons have lost their instrument. They can no longer whip that person's mind, and the person is helped." But I said, "You come to some people who are so possessed, their minds are so possessed by indwelling spirits that you cannot break through. The only person who can help that person is a Spirit-filled minister of Jesus Christ, who can command the demons to leave in the NAME OF JESUS, casting them out and freeing that person's mind so that one can then break through to them with reason and truth."

Not one of them opposed my statement. Lucifer and his demons are the greatest psychologists that there are. He is the institutor of Psychology. He carries on psychological warfare against the human mind with his spirits.

Brethren, I say unto you who are ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the secular psychiatrists have simply invaded our field. It is we who are called of God to deal with the demoniac kingdom that is breaking down the minds of humanity. We are called of God to deal with it in every area - the area of the deceit of demons, in the area of the temptation of demons, in the area of the vexation of demons and the casting out of demon spirits in the area of possession. It is our field, dear Christian brethren. God sent us forth unto it. Let us not turn aside the responsibility.

This is the work of spirits of irritability. They exert this spiritual force which causes extreme irritation upon the nervous system which makes that person miserable. They make every body around them miserable, therefore, they are living continually in an area of misery which weakens their

mind and spirit so that ultimately they will break down under it.

You have seen why they break down in this manner. Husbands break down in this manner. Christians break down in this manner, and this is the reason - the vexing work of demon spirits. Oh, how we need to recognize it, to begin a warfare of education against it. Hallelujah! This does not work only in the area of spirits of irritability. We have spirits of criticism, all kinds of spirits which are continually aggravating and vexing people causing one to be extremely critical of another, therefore, separating friends, causing them to be vexed with one another. They are working, working, always working to weaken the mind and the will of the individual.

DEPRESSING WORK OF DEMONS

Very few people have not had a time of experiencing extreme depression. Often times there is nothing going wrong on the outside life, yet people feel extremely depressed, and they do not know why. This too, is a spiritual force which demon spirits exert against the mind and spirit and will of the individual to weaken them, to beat them down, to destroy their faith in a good God and in His ability to meet their every need.

When the outward situation of business, romances, a death, etc. are going bad, demon spirits use these things as instruments to cause heavier depression. Even when the outward situation is fine, often people are extremely depressed, and they do not know why they feel that way. These are demon spirits exerting a spiritual force against the mind, will, and spirit of that individual.

If you want to see just how powerful this force can get according to how many demons are working on one, go with me into the scriptures with Jesus as He is about to enter into the Garden of Gethsemane that night long ago with His disciples where He was arrested.

In John 14:30 we hear Him say unto His disciples, "Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me." In His Spirit He could feel Lucifer and his demons approaching to resist Him, to try to keep Him from fulfilling God's Word.

Then a little further on as He got closer to the garden, it is recorded in Matthew 26:38 that He said to His disciples, "My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me." His soul was "exceeding sorrowful." His whole being was pressed down. He was feeling extreme depression so much so that He felt like He was about to die, "even unto death," He said. What had happened? Lucifer and his demons had come against Him with a tremendous spiritual force of depression.

When He went into the Garden of Gethsemane, He fell on His face and He prayed, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it thy will be done." He was not praying as so many have thought for His Father to make another way for men to be saved so that He would not have to go to the cross. Before He ever left the "courts of Heaven," He left determined to go to the cross and do His Father's will. He said to His disciples continually, "The Son of Man must be crucified and buried and rise again the third day." He was not trembling in fear and trying to escape fulfilling His Father's will. He said, "Lo, I come, in the volume of the book it is written of me to do thy will, O God." He was praying for deliverance from Lucifer and his demon spirits which were so pressing Him down, trying to keep Him from fulfilling His Father's will that His soul was "exceeding sorrowful, even unto death."

They were pressing all kinds of thoughts against His mind. They were causing Him to hear, "Oh you just THINK you will rise from the dead on the third day. You just THINK this word you have heard from the Spirit of Your Father is true. You will not rise from the dead. You will just be dead. You had better leave here, and go back to Galilee and do your preaching."

When He prayed, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me . . ." He was praying for deliverance from the demon spirits that were so pressing Him down, so depressing Him that His soul was "exceeding sorrowful even unto death" in their effort to keep Him from doing His Father's will.

And when the Bible says, "And there appeared an angel unto him from Heaven, strengthening him" (Luke 22:43) does not mean that they came and patted Him on the back saying, "That is alright, Son, everything is going to be alright." It means that angelic spirits, that great host in God's army which fight the battle for the Sons of God came forth in answer to His prayer and drove off Lucifer and his demons. He was delivered from the depression, and then He rose up and came to His disciples and said, "Rise, let us be going." From that moment forth He never slowed down. He walked up Golgotha hill, and He laid Himself down on the cross for you and me. He fulfilled His Father's will.

Let me share a great truth with you from this experience of Jesus. If you study this experience presented to us in the scripture, you will find Jesus had to pray **THREE TIMES** three different periods before He received deliverance from Lucifer and his demons that were coming against Him.

We find the first time as He went into the garden, and He fell on His face and said, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me." Then He rose up after a period of prayer. He came back to His disciples and spoke with them. He said, "What, could ye not watch with me one hour?" but He was not delivered. So, He went back and fell on His face again and He prayed the same prayer, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me..... The Bible says He rose and came and talked with His disciples more and yet He was not delivered. Then He went back the third time, fell on His face again and prayed so tremendously determined that the sweat came forth from Him like blood. The victory was given. God delivered Him, and then He went forth. (Matt. 26:36-46 and Luke 22:44)

Many people think that every prayer that Jesus ever prayed, He received the answer immediately. This is not scripturally true. The Scriptures do not bear it out, particularly when He was fighting demons. The great truth that you could learn here is that if Jesus had to pray THREE TIMES for deliverance from demon oppression or depression before He got it, then you and I should certainly be encouraged not to give up just because we do not receive deliverance immediately, particularly when we are fighting demon spirits. Like Jesus, we should stay in the battle until the deliverance comes no matter how long it takes according to how strong a force of demons that are resisting us. It may take the same kind of determined effort over a period of time as it did with Jesus.

The tragedy is through lack of knowledge, lack of teaching, and lack of understanding and faith when the demons come against so many people, they do not resist until delivered as the Bible tells us to do. "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7. They simply yield to the force. They 'accept the fact' that there is nothing they can do about it. They simply go around being depressed and worn down and beat down until perhaps something happens in their lives which takes their mind off it keeping them busy. The demons cannot get to them any more. Nay! "He that is in you is greater than he that is in the world. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

So we think that we have given a clear picture of the depressing work of demons by which they are continually seeking to weaken our minds and our wills. If you yield to it as they try over and over again in a period of time in your life, you will be weakened. They are always seeking to weaken us to lead to the fifth stage of demon work.

OPPRESSING WORK OF DEMONS

It is at this stage that demons have always entered in and become indwelling. In the first stage, the deceiving work of

demons is where they lead us away from the leadership and communion with the Spirit of God who alone can keep us strong in faith and continually minister truth to our minds so that our minds and wills and faith can remain strong. This leads to the second stage of their work, the temptation work of demons by which they can tempt us into all kinds of things which further separate us from the Spirit of God. This leads to the third stage of their work, the vexing work of demons by which we can be overcome by all kinds of vexing spirits and kept in an atmosphere of misery which weakens our minds and spirits and wills more. The fourth stage of demon work, the depressing work of demons, weakens us more and more.

This leads to the fifth stage of demon work, the oppressing work of demons, demon oppression. At this point the demons have so depressed the person, so weakened their mind and spirit that they have entered in and are indwelling. You have what are called "nervous breakdowns" by the learned people of our day which is nothing more than the fifth stage of demon work brought on by the other four stages.

At this point people have mental breakdowns under the power of indwelling spirits that have entered in by this time. There are times when the communion between their minds and their nervous system is broken. Their own mind and will are so subjugated that the indwelling spirits actually, for periods of time, are able to overcome that person's mind and will, manifesting all sorts of crazy things through them. This is where a person breaks down to the point where he is not his own for periods of time but not continually for this is demon possession. Oppression, nervous breakdowns, or mental sickness is where a person is often not his own and not in control of himself. This is demon oppression whereby they have all sorts of strange experiences.

One young woman in Dallas, Texas whom we cast the demons out of sometime ago would wake up in the middle of the night screaming, "Something is choking me." She also

got up and ran out of a church service screaming, "Spiders are biting me on my arm." Demon oppression is brought on through demons working on a person in the first 4 stages of demon activity until they have broken that person down and brought them under their power,

POSSESSING WORK OF DEMONS

The sixth stage of demon work is demon possession whereby so many spirits have been able to indwell a person to so weaken their mind and spirit that they are able to subjugate completely that person's mind, will and spirit taking complete possession over that person's whole body, their whole personality so that person is no longer able to rule over their own vessel but the demon spirits are in complete possession. They are able to manifest "their nature" then through that body instead of the true personality and nature of the person whose body it is. Continually they are able to do this.

They manifest their own evil nature through that person causing that person to do insane things like the man Legion who lived in the grave yard as recorded in the 5th chapter of Mark in which Jesus cast out the demons. They caused him to run naked in the grave yard. He refused to wear clothing. He was continually cutting himself with stones. This is the lustful nature of the demon spirits which take extreme pleasure out of tormenting and torturing to satisfying their nature, satisfying the cravings of their inner being by this man mutilating his flesh and hurting himself, causing him to scream out in weird voices. We will study demon possession further by tape only - *The Jane Miller Story.

This is the definition of demon possession - when demon spirits have become so many indwelling a person and so powerful as they were in Jane Miller causing her to beat her head against the wall and have convulsions, that this person is no longer their own. They have taken complete possession

of that whole personality, and we have what is called in our world “insanity” or a “mental breakdown.”

Now the great purpose of this study is to say to all people first, if they would fight the battle, if they understood and were conscious of the reality of the invisible kingdom which is seeking to destroy them, if they through the leadership and power of the Spirit of God would fight the battle against demon spirits daily on the first 4 levels of demon work in human experience and won victories on those first 4 levels continually, there would never be any such thing as the last two stages of oppression and possession or “nervous breakdown” or “mental breakdowns” or “insanity.” There would never be any such things in our world. Now particularly we speak to Christians who are breaking down all over the world. We warn before hand, “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” If there was proper education in the church concerning the demoniac kingdom, and if Christians were taught, and would walk in the Spirit and fight the battle daily against the first four stages of demon work in human experience: the deceiving work in demons, the tempting work of demons, the vexing work of demons, and the depressing work of demons then again there would never be any realm of oppression or possession of any need for casting out devils. Indeed we say there would never be any mental breakdowns, nervous breakdowns or insanity in our world.

A few years ago after Jane Miller was delivered, I said to her personal psychiatrist at Tulane University, “Doctor, out of all the patients that you have dealt with as psychiatrist, how many would you say demonstrates the same symptoms as Jane Miller?” He said, “I’d say at least 75%.” I said, “I asked that question because I believe at least 90% of all the mental sickness and mental breakdowns in our world today are caused by demon spirits.” He said, “Sam, I believe it too.”

With this statement coming from one of the leading psychiatrist of one of our leading universities in our world,

certainly we see the need for Christians to be taught concerning the reality of the demoniac kingdom, how to recognize their work, their manifestations, their symptoms and above all how to resist them and defeat them.

In pressing home to every Christian, yea, every human being, this is a DAILY BATTLE which must be FOUGHT DAILY in the Spirit. Lucifer and his demons are going to be coming against YOU in one of these areas of their warfare in human experience. One lady in Lubbock, Texas said sometime ago when she heard that in a certain church I was teaching a study on demons, “Demons, how in the world could you teach a two-week study on demons?” This dear Lady understood very little of the reality of the enemy who is seeking to destroy us of the vast amount of knowledge that is presented to us in Scripture concerning their kingdom and of the great need for she herself to be educated in this area so that she might live the victorious life daily taking victory over the work of demons spirits in her life. She was not daily taking victory. She was being deceived by demons at that time. She had a deep fear of the mentioning of the word “demons” Therefore, she was being pressed by spirits of fear. She above all needed education in this area as do all.

Oh God! Teach us by Thy Spirit, day by day the reality of the organized enemy which is seeking to destroy us, and teach us the great need to walk in the Spirit, be led by the Spirit to daily take victory over the work of demons in these six areas of our lives. In Jesus’ name we ask this.