

6 Binding and Casting Out Spirits

**AND THESE SIGNS WILL FOLLOW THOSE WHO BELIEVE:
IN MY NAME THEY WILL CAST OUT DEMONS;**

Mark 16:17

WHO IS GIVEN AUTHORITY AND POWER TO CAST OUT DEMONS?

The following two accounts reveal that some are given authority over demons and others are not.

**Now John answered Him, saying,
“Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons
in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us.”**

**But Jesus said, “Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My
name can soon afterward speak evil of Me. For he who is not against us is
on our side.”** M'k.9:38-40

**Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to
call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying,
“We adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.”**

**And the evil spirit answered and said, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know;
but who are you?” Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on
them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out
of that house naked and wounded.** Ac.19:13,15,16

The exorcists were not given authority because they had no intention in their heart of following in the way of Jesus Christ. They sought merely to use God's power for their own ends. They were not seeking God. But those in the first account, even though they were not yet believers, were given that power because there was hope for them. We see then, that the condition of the heart determines who receives the authority to cast out demons.

All those who believe are given authority over demons and the power to cast them out. They are not only authorized to cast out demons but, if they believe, they are required to cast them out. They must not only cast them out of others, but out of themselves.

**And these signs will follow those who believe:
In My name they will cast out demons;**

M'k.16:17

A believer is one who believes that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that God raised Him from the dead (Ro.10:9-13; Jo.3:16). Yet your belief is according to your faith and you receive according to your faith.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast him out?" So Jesus said to them,

"Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from her to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." M't.17:19,20

**Therefore I say to you,
Whatever things you ask when you pray,
Believe that you receive,
And you will have.**

M'k.11:24

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Ro. 10:17

BY WHAT AUTHORITY DO WE CAST OUT DEMONS?

Our authority to cast out demons is given to us by Jesus, and it comes to us through His name.

**Then the seventy returned with joy, saying,
"Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."**

**And He said to them,
“I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.**

**Behold, I give you the authority
To trample on serpents and scorpions,
And over all the power of the enemy,
And nothing shall by any means hurt you.”**

Lu.10:17-19

Serpents and scorpions stand for demon spirits. The vision of Satan falling from heaven is symbolic of his defeat by Jesus Christ through the cross.

**For this purpose the Son of God was manifested,
That He might destroy the works of the devil.**

1Jo.3:8

Satan has already been defeated in heaven. We may have this victory over the enemy while yet on earth, through our belief and faith, in our heart, in Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior.

**And what is the exceeding greatness
Of His power toward us who believe,**

**according to the working of His mighty power
which He worked in Christ
when He raised Him from the dead
and seated Him at His right hand
in the heavenly places,**

**far above all principality
and power and might and dominion,
and every name that is named,
not only in this age
but also in that which is to come.**

Eph.1:19-21

Those “who believe” are given full authority over the spiritual enemy, Satan, and every demon. In this next verse, Jesus attests to that power and instructs us in how to exercise it.

**And the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven,**

**and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.**

M't.16:18,19

To take authority over a spirit we “bind” it in the name of Jesus. To “bind” means to tie, to restrict, to restrain, to

legally obligate. Thus a demon inhabitant of the spiritual world (heaven) is bound and obligated by the word of God proceeding from our physical mouth. Its activity in the spiritual dimension is thereby restrained. And what is restrained in the spiritual is restrained in the physical. If we command the spirit to loosen us, it is bound and constrained to be loosened from us. If we command it to come out of us, it must come out.

If we do not believe in demons, or do not believe we have a demon when we speak for it to come out, then do not expect the demon to be bound. For by faith in knowing and believing that we truly have that spirit, and calling for him to come out, he is obligated to do so by the word of God, in Jesus' name. Many so-called Christians today, because they profess to knowing of Jesus, scoff at demons being in people. Therefore, they do not have the power of God by the Spirit, in Jesus' name, to cause the spirits to come out. These demons are clever enough to know when you are a believer and have authority and when they do not. Often these spirits will manifest when they depart, but a showing is not necessary. The person set free will know they are free.

BY WHAT POWER DO WE CAST OUT DEMONS?

God supplies the power to cast out demons.

**But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God,
Surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.**

M't.12:28

As this verse shows, we cast out demons by the "Spirit of God". But "God is the Word," as it says in Jo.1:1. Therefore, we may re-read this verse to say, "We cast out demons by the Spirit of the Word." Thus our power over the enemy is obtained by speaking the Word of God anointed by the Spirit of God. This is why it is written:

**For though we walk in the flesh,
we do not war according to the flesh.**

**For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal
but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,
casting down arguments and every high thing
that exalts itself against the knowledge of God,**

**Bringing every thought into captivity
To the obedience of Christ...**

2Co.10:3-5

Satan is defeated by the name of Jesus (the Word) because of the authority Jesus has as stated in Jo.1:1, "The Word was God!". God is the supreme power! Thus the Word is the supreme power! Through His Word, God "delivers us from evil." Therefore reading and knowing the Word is necessary for deliverance.

**And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit,
which is the word of God;** Eph.6:17

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

All the Scriptures in this chapter may be used as weapons of spiritual warfare, and many more are available in the Scriptures. There is an appropriate Scripture for every situation you encounter. When confronted by the enemy within, you may claim this Scripture and stand on the authority of God. God's authority cannot be superseded or defeated.

**You are of God, little children,
And have overcome them,
Because He (the Word) who is in you
Is greater than he who is in the world (Satan).** 1Jo.4:4

You must know the word and believe the word to overcome all things. When the enemy comes, you must speak the word by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**When the enemy comes in like a flood,
The Spirit of the LORD
Will lift up a standard against him.** Isa.59:19

Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Jas.4:7

You must speak the word aloud to defeat the enemy. Jesus said:

**The words that I speak to you are spirit,
And they are life.** Jo.6:63

**But since we have the same spirit of faith,
according to what is written,
"I believed and therefore I spoke," (Ps.116:10)
We also believe and therefore speak,** 2Co.4:13

In Jesus' words is the Spirit of Christ. He was given authority over "every name that is named." When we speak His words by

that same Spirit, then we have that same authority. But every word in the Scripture is the Spirit of Christ! Therefore, by confessing the word, we are delivered from the enemy, because the spoken word is Spirit and has authority over every other spirit. By this power comes life. Thus, Jesus' words are life.

**For with the heart one believes to righteousness,
And with the mouth confession is made to salvation.** Ro. 10:10

Jesus is the Word (Jo.1:14,1Jo.5:7). Therefore, confession of the word is made unto salvation with the mouth. Speaking the word aloud is a work of faith, and this is belief in Jesus Christ, because faith without works is dead. (Jas.2:26;3:41).

**But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way,
“Do not say in your heart,
“Who will ascend into heaven?”
(that is, to bring Christ down from above)**

**But what does it say?
“The word is near you,
even in your mouth and in your heart.”
(that is, the word of faith which we preach):** Ro.10:6,8

It is saying very clearly that Christ is there when we speak Him in faith. Herein is revealed a great key to your deliverance. Without it you will not have power over the enemy. With it, you have all power over the spiritual enemy. (M't.16:17,18)

**So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
It shall not return to Me void,
But it shall accomplish what I please,
And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.** Is.55:11

When Jesus was tempted by Satan, He quoted him Scripture.

But He answered and said (to Satan) “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”
M't.4:4

The Spirit of Christ is one with the Spirit of truth. Thus, “you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free” from demons, iniquities, spirits, bondage, etc. The Living Word is the scriptural basis of deliverance. In it comes all power over the enemy. By its power and authority the spirit is cast out. To appropriate it we must read it, believe it, follow it, speak it, and live it.

