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DISCERNING THE EXTENT OF DEMONIZATION & RESOLVING IT BIBLICALLY

First of all ask God for wisdom in revealing anything & /or anyone being used by Satan to influence, oppress or possess these people, their lives, & their home. Do not go alone, have other godly prayer warriors present with you. Make sure you have prepared yourself to stand against evil and resist the devil (Mt. 7:3-5; Js. 4:6-10). Make sure to put on the whole armor of God (Christ) (Eph. 6:10-20; Rom. 13:14). Continue by asking the following questions:

1. WHAT IS GOING ON? Objects moving around, levitating or being thrown around, unexplained lights, shadowy figures, footsteps, poltergeists (spirits), apparitions (ghosts), cold spots, smells, voices (audible or in one's own head), feelings, sensations (Job 4:15) extreme negative emotions, bizarre behavior, suicidal or homicidal thoughts or attempts, nightmares, overwhelming fear, guilt or confusion, spiritual visitations, addictive behaviors, abuse of any kind, things shaking, unexplained thumps, bumps, or noises... any other strange paranormal activity.. Do not suggest these things, let the person honestly define & explain what they've actually experienced (avoid the power of suggestion).

2. ARE THERE OTHER WITNESSES (2 or 3 others) that can substantiate these happenings? Or is this just an "overactive imagination", a ploy for attention, embellishment after the fact, trying to impress others, sensationalization, making up stories or making more out of something than is really there? In any case take it all seriously, don't minimize or rule out anything, but get the facts (Prov.18:13) in order to make an accurate assessment.

3, ARE THERE OTHER POSSIBLE ANSWERS TO WHAT'S HAPPENING? Are there any other reasonable, plausible, scientific, logical or practical explanations for these occurrences? (house settling, weather, wind, practical jokes, loose wiring, sleep loss, tree branches or bushes scraping the house; animal, insect or pet activity, (mice are known to carry off things) chemical imbalance, drug interaction, intentional or unintentional...)

4. WHY IS THIS HAPPENING? HAVE THEY OR ANYONE IN THE HOME or related to this family or location (past or present) been involved in any occultic practices paranormal or supernatural activities? What is the causation? Ask everyone! Get the family history. Here's where you may need to suggest things, after they initially give their answer, you may need to dig deeper and ask about their involvement in such things as Ouija boards, tarot cards, astrology, the zodiac, horoscopes, fortune telling, spirit guides, palmistry (palm reading), psychic readings, hypnotism, séances, witchcraft, sorcery, voodoo, Santeria (the U.S. version of voodoo), paganism, white or black magic, drugs, hallucinations, alcohol abuse, self mutilation, trances, Satanism (worship, drinking blood, sacrifices, ritual abuse...), sexual abuse, divination, psychometry (having contact with objects belonging to someone & divining information about them) clairvoyance, esp. (extra sensory perception) psychic healing, mind control, mental telepathy, mind reading, precognition (premonitions/ predictions), numerology, tea leaves, idols, pornography, crystal reading, Ekankar (soul travel, astral projection/travel), out of the body experience), necromancy (contacting the dead), spiritism, channeling (allowing a "spirit" to speak through you. Also "mediumism,"), blood pacts, making covenants/contracts with the devil(s), WICCA (goddess, earth, nature worship),

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UFO's/ufology, psychokinetic (the direct influence of mind over matter without any known physical energy or instrumentation) telekinesis (levitation – moving/bending objects with your “mind” – actually demonic activity disguised) enchantments, charms, casting spells, incantations, potions, automatic writing, conjuring, superstitions, secret initiations, ceremonies or vows; T.M. (transcendental meditation), religious beliefs of yoga or martial arts, animal or any other sacrifices or rituals – to worship gods, determine the future or seek power or control over people and/or things, owning books, music, death/black metal, videos, DVD's, movies, internet storage, games (bloody mary, fantasy roll playing games which clearly introduce people to these things, amulets, pictures, jewelry, symbols... that promote sexuality, sin, false cults, religions, mysticism, New Age, Halloween (many obvious connections which are not innocent but are routed in Druidism/witchcraft, occultic practices, parapsychology, supernatural phenomenon & any & all of the above list (which is still not complete). Even unrepentant sin & “rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft” (1 Sam. 15:23) opening up the door for Satan and puts a person willingly under his influence by their choices to turn from God and His truth to some other entities (doctrine of demons 1 Tim.4:1).

5. WHAT ALL EXACTLY HAVE THEY BEEN INVOLVED IN? Who, what, when, where, how, why did they do it? How long? Others involved? How did they get started? Because at these points of entry confession & repentance must be made in order to cancel & regain the ground given over to Satan (which has given him (demons) the right to be there- Eph. 4:26-27) AND reclaim it and the people for Christ under His Lordship (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

6. ARE THEY TRUE BELIEVERS IN JESUS CHRIST? If not, you must tell them the gospel (Rom. 1:16). Are they willing to put their trust in Christ? Will they now come clean? Are they honest about these things? Are they willing to confess, acknowledge what God's Word authoritatively says? Are they willing to repent – turn away from _____ & submit to the Lordship of Christ? Do they really want help? Are they ready & willing to change? Will they now take personal responsibility? Will they renounce ____ & replace ____ with _____ so true lasting Biblical change can occur? Each person needs Biblical instruction on spiritual warfare! If they don't replace (it) 7 more worse than the first can come back! (Matt. 12:43-45; See Js. 4:6-10)

7. EACH PERSON INVOLVED &/OR PRESENT NEEDS TO MAKE THESE COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST. They must all go through their home & possessions & get rid of anything questionable (Rom. 13:14) and destroy it (Acts 19:18-20). Consecrate themselves & their home to the Lord. Ask God to expose any demonic forces &/or influences & rebuke them (Jude 9) since it is an unwanted presence. Ask God to tear down the strongholds (2 Cor. 10:3-5) & cancel the ground given over to Satan (Eph. 4: 26-27) & reclaim it all in the name & through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. They must now especially continue in a life of confession, repentance, faith, prayer, The Word, obedience, accountability & perseverance.

8. CRITICAL POINT – All this must be done through much love, firmness, prayer & the specific use of the Scriptures for everything that is being said & done! Show the reference, chapter and verse to establish the Biblical authority over man's opinions, feelings and beliefs... because “you will KNOW the truth and the truth will set you free “(Jn. 8:32, 36).

See related studies on Spiritual Warfare.