

The Simple Truth Series # 14

Between **Time** and **Eternity**



A study of the Physical and Spiritual Realms,
and the interactions between them.

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'And expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.' Acts 18:26.

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1.

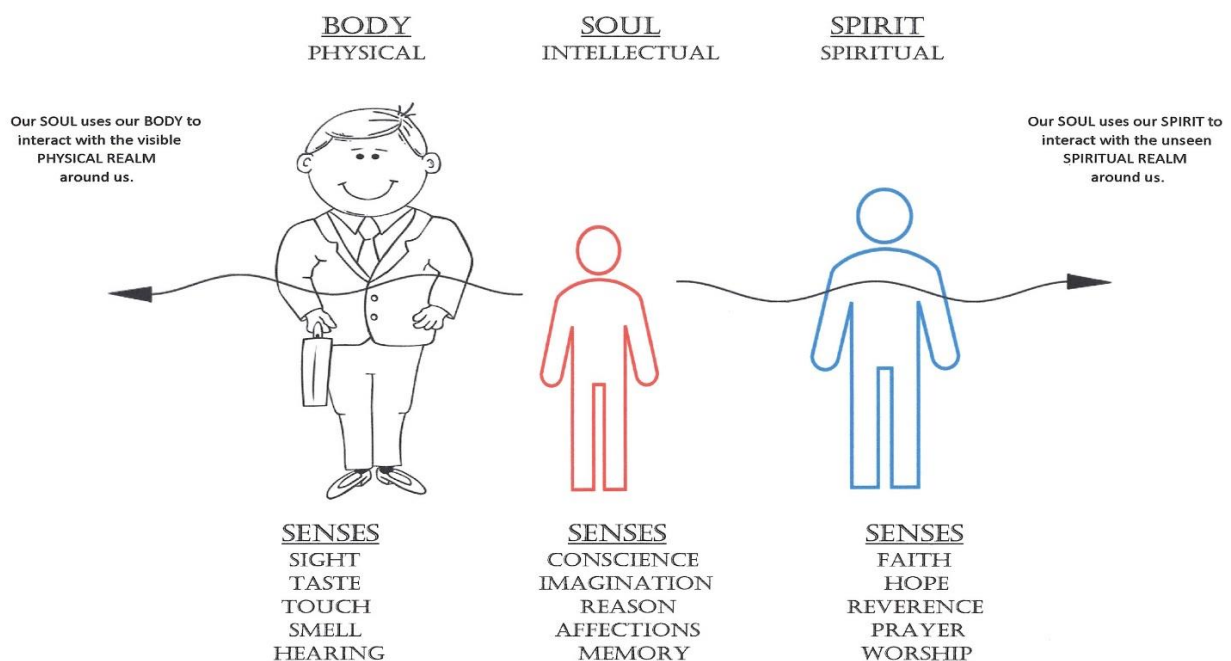
Introduction

'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 high places.' (Ephesians 6:12).

In this booklet, we are going to look at the differences, and interactions, between the Physical and Spiritual Realms, because we need to have an understanding of them, to be able to discern, what is from the Lord, and therefore on His side; and what is not from Him, and therefore against Him, and against us, as Christian's. As we read in Ephesians 6:12, our warfare is never against flesh and blood, it is against the wrong spirits which influence, and/or inhabit them. We cannot see these spirits in the Physical Realm, but we see the manifestation of their influence, just the same as we are told in Romans 1:20, *'For the invisible things of Him (The Lord), from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made...'*

2.

Body, Soul, and Spirit



*'And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.'* (1 Thessalonians 5:23). Each one of us is made up of these three separate parts; a **spirit**, a **soul**, and a **body**.

Our soul is the conscious part of us. It's our life. It's the place where our heredity, experiences, and personal preferences all combine to make us the individual we are, unique from everyone else on earth. It's our character and personality. And it's the part of us that is aware of everything around us, of you, and me. Our soul is where all our decisions in life are made. That's why Ezekiel 18:4 tells us, *'The soul that sinneth, it shall die.'* Because, it's our soul that makes the choice to sin, so it's our soul that has to pay the penalty for that sin.

If I want to talk to the Prime Minister in Wellington, I'll phone her, and say, 'Hi J, it's K here..,' and we'll talk, like we do. But even though I'm using that phone to talk to her, the phone is not a part of me. I'm only using it to communicate with her. Our body is the same as that phone. We are a Spiritual Being, living inside a Physical body. The body is not us, it's only something we use to communicate with the Physical Realm around us. One day our body will die, and we will step out of it to be with the Lord; and we will still be all that we are now, even though our body is rotting away, because we are not this body, we only *inhabit* it. My soul is the real me, your soul is the real you. But my soul can't pick up a Bible, I need to use my body to do that.

Our soul uses our spirit to interact with the unseen Spiritual Realm around us. The Spiritual Realm is right here, but it's another dimension that we can't See, Taste, Touch, Smell, or Hear, with our Physical senses. So, we have to use our spirit's senses of Faith, Hope, Reverence, Prayer, and Worship, to communicate, and interact with it. In Genesis 22: 9-11, we are told the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham *'out of Heaven.'* Where was Heaven? Was it on the other side of the universe? No, it was right there, and the Angel opened a window between the Spiritual and Physical Realms, and called to Abraham. The Spiritual Realm is right *here*, we just can't see it, or hear it, etc.

3.

Some Experiences

A man was walking along a street, when he had a heart attack, and died. His soul left his body, and he wandered around the street observing people. He could see the Physical and the Spiritual Realms around him. He went into a Bar and watched the

patrons. He noticed, after a man had a certain amount of drink, a demon would cling to him, then that man would lust after a woman, whom he wasn't married to. A woman would lust after a man, whom she wasn't married to. Then Medics arrived. They resuscitated him, and his soul went back into his body.

Barry Smith was in Hospital after a heart attack many years ago. Others in the Ward weren't Christian's. One man was lying on his bed, then he sat up, looked straight ahead terrified, and screamed "No! No! No!" And he was gone.

Several years after a Pastor friend died, his wife was dying. She was in a room, with family gathered around her bedside, when she sat up and exclaimed "Dad." That's what she had called her husband. Then she began to greet others whom she knew, who had gone to be with the Lord before that, as they 'entered' the room. Then she looked at someone and said, "You're here?" Those in the room said it seemed as though she did not believe that person would make it. We confess we believe in Salvation by Grace alone, but we judge whether a person is saved or not, by their works alone. Like our Sister, she obviously did not believe that person was saved, most likely because of their works.

There was an Atheist named Marcus Ardern, who became a Christian, and served the Lord whole-heartedly, from that day on. On one occasion, the Lord told him to go to a Pa, and share the Gospel with the people there. You couldn't just waltz into the Pa, you had to get someone from the local town to take you there. So, Marcus went to the town, and asked people to take him, but they would laugh in his face. Then a young man said, "I'll take you." So, Marcus got in his truck, and they went. The floor of the truck was littered with empty beer bottles, and the man was swearing constantly, so Marcus prayed 'inside,' "Lord, can You please clean up this man's filthy mouth." But the Lord rebuked him, saying, "Don't you call anyone filthy, when I have My Hand on them."

The young man dropped Marcus off, and he went and talked to a lady who was gardening. He related what happened along the way, and what the Lord had said. At this the woman broke down and began to weep. "That's my son," she said, "he used to serve the Lord, but something happened, and he walked away." Then she added, "I've been praying, Lord if you've taken Your Hand off my son, then take my life."

What would you think, if you got a ride with that boy, and saw the beer bottles, and heard the swearing? Would you believe he was Saved? The majority of Christian's wouldn't, because we see the outward physical appearance, and judge a person by what we see. But, when a person is Saved, they are Born again. It's a change that takes place in the soul. They are not only a Citizen of this earthly Physical Realm, but they are now a Citizen of the Eternal Spiritual Realm, and have Eternal Life. When someone is Saved, can they become unsaved, and be lost again? Never. Read Romans 8. Nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus Christ, once we are His.

The Prodigal son left home and squandered his inheritance on cheap women, and expensive booze. Then he returned home penniless, and his father welcomed him with open arms. When his brother saw it, he complained, "This isn't fair! I've never done

anything wrong, and he's wasted his inheritance in debauchery and riotous living, and you're treating him the same as you treat me!"

In Romans 14:4 Paul asked, *'Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? To his own master he standeth or falleth.'* We want life to be 'fair,' but the Lord doesn't have to be 'fair,' He can do what He pleases with what He creates. Christianity is not a one-size-fits-all experience. The Lord created each one of us individually, and He treats us as individuals. He can allow you to do things He will never allow me to do. And He may allow me to do things He will never allow you to do. But, we must all be faithful to what He asks of us. He does not expect me to do what He has asked of someone else, and vice-versa.

4.

Of Time and Eternity

Now, let us go back to our Physical, and Spiritual Realms. The Spiritual Realm is Eternal. There is no time there. Time did not begin until Creation began. *'In the beginning God created the Heavens and the earth.'* (Genesis 1:1). That was when the clock began ticking, because it was the beginning of time. Everything in time begins in Genesis, and along with time it all ends in Revelation when there is a *'New Heaven, and a New Earth,'* where only the New Creation will dwell. Then we are all back in Eternity again, for Eternity.

The Spiritual Realm is living in Eternity now, because it had no beginning, and it has no end. The Physical Realm is living in time. It had a beginning, and it will have an end. 'Beginning,' and 'end,' are markers of *time*, so they cannot exist in Eternity, because, *time* does not exist in Eternity.

Often, when someone is about to step out of their Physical body, and into the Spiritual Realm, they are poised between time and Eternity, and they can glimpse both Realms together. That man in the Hospital Ward was living in the Physical Realm, when he saw the Death Angel coming for him, from the Spiritual Realm; and he screamed, "No! No! No!" as that Angel took him out of his body, and into the Spiritual Realm with him.

The Sister saw her late Husband, and friends, enter the room, because she was poised between Time and Eternity, on the verge of taking a step into that Realm. So, she said goodbye to those in the room, closed her eyes, and she was gone. The others in the room couldn't see them, because they were standing with two feet still firmly planted in Creation and time.

In the Garden of Eden, the Physical and Spiritual Realms were one composite reality,

to Adam and Eve. They could see and touch the created Physical Realm about them, and they could also see and touch the Lord, Angels, and the Spiritual Realm about them. But, after the Fall, they were kicked out of Eden, and a curtain was drawn between the Physical, and Spiritual Realms. The Spiritual Realm was shut off from them, and they couldn't see it; they were blind to it. All of their descendants, including every one of us, were born separated from the Spiritual Realm, and blind to it.

That's why, when Moses went to Pharaoh, and said, *"Thus Saith the Lord God of Israel, Let My people go, that they may hold a feast unto Me in the wilderness."* Pharaoh replied, *"Who is the Lord, that I should obey His Voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go."* (Genesis 5:1-2). And why Philip said, *"Lord, show us the Father, and it will suffice us?"* Philip didn't know what he was looking for, because he was blind to it.

In Luke 10:22, the Lord said, *"All things are delivered to Me of My Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal Him."* Unless the Lord reveals Himself to us, we will never know He exists; and we will never know the Spiritual Realm exists, until we are confronted with it, after we die.

The Physical Realm is still visible to the Spiritual Realm, even though the Spiritual Realm is not visible to us. The Lord and Angels can reach into our Realm at will, but Satan and the Demons, cannot actively influence our Realm, unless they use something Physical in our Realm to work through. If you want to imagine what this is like, it's similar to two competing Companies both occupying the same floor of an Office building. There's a glass wall between them, so neither can actively interfere with anything in the opposing Office.

From Company 'A's side (the Physical Realm), the glass is a mirror, so they can't see anything in the competition's Office. From Company 'B's side (the Spiritual Realm), the glass is a two-way mirror, so they can see everything that's going on in Company 'A's Office, even though they can't touch it. The only way they can affect anything in 'A's Office, is to work in a clandestine way, by influencing one of its employees to act for them. And the only way Company 'A' can learn about what is happening in Company 'B's Office, is if someone from Company 'B' comes to them to reveal it. Outside of that, they will only be guessing.

5.

Our spirit's senses

Our soul uses our spirit to interact with the unseen Spiritual Realm around us, by using our spirit's senses of Faith, Hope, Reverence, Prayer, and Worship. We'll look at these senses, beginning with the sense called Hope first.

On Saturdays, tens of thousands of people buy Lotto tickets. But, none of them come out of the shop yelling, "I won! I won!" because they haven't won. That ticket only gives them a *chance* to win. They may, or may not win, and the vast majority of them don't. That is how this world understands Hope. It's something that may, or may not happen. Even though they want it to happen. It's a Lottery. But this *sense* we have called Hope, is different than that.

In Job 14:7-10, Job remarked how a tree can be cut down, and seem to die, and yet it lives again. *"For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground; Yet through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant. But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?"* Then in verse 14 he asks, *"If a man die, shall he live again?"*

When Job asked *"If a man die, shall he live again?"* His question wasn't so much *"If a man die?"* It was more personal than that. He was asking, "What about me, when I die, can I live again?" Not just, "Can I cheat death for a while, and live a bit longer?" He was asking, "When I close my eyes, and go through this experience called death; Can I open my eyes on the other side of it, and still see, hear, and know, just like a tree does?" This sense we have called Hope, places this question within the soul of every person born, "What about me, can I live again?"

How important is this question? We are told that 10% of our brain is used for our everyday lives; what are we going to wear? What are we going to eat? Etc. And the other 90% is used to ponder mysteries. So, when you consider that 10% of our brain is used for everything else in our lives, and the other 90% is reserved for answering this one question, it shows us the Lord wanted to make sure we got it right. It is *the* most important question we will ever answer.

Because Hope places this question within the soul of every person, it gives us a desire to seek the answer. That's why we have such a proliferation of Religions, Cults, and Spiritualism, in the world. It's hungry souls, wanting to find the answer to this question, "What about me, can I live again?"

This sense we have called Faith, allows us to believe there is a God. Hebrews 11:6 tells

us, *'He that cometh to God must believe that He is...'* In other words, they must believe that He exists. And we use Faith to do that, because *'Faith is the evidence of things not seen.'* (Hebrews 11:1).

Once we believe He exists, we place Him on a Throne above ourselves, in a position of Reverence. When He is in that place of Reverence, we Worship Him. And when we want to communicate with Him, we Pray. Those are our Spiritual senses put very simply.

6.

Reaching into the Spiritual Realm

What does the Spiritual Realm consist of? If we exclude Heaven and Hell for now, we have the Lord, Angels, and the Kingdom of God, on the one hand; and, Satan, Demons, and the Kingdom of Darkness on the other. These are two opposing powers and belief systems, both inhabiting the same Spiritual world. And, just as we have to use our Spirit's senses of Faith, Hope, Reverence, Prayer, and Worship, to communicate with the Lord, and interact with the Spiritual Realm; so those who worship Satan, or are involved in satanism in any of its many guises, have to use the same Spiritual senses, because they are also interacting with the same Spiritual Realm.

Whether it's Ouija boards, Seances, Tarot cards, Voodoo, Astrology, Palm reading, Magic, Spiritualism, Eastern Mysticism, Transcendental Meditation, Yoga, Alternative Medical Practices, Primitive Cultural Practices, or anything else that involves Demonic power or influence to operate, it involves spirits, so those involved in them have to use their Spirit's senses to participate in those things.

Just as we have Faith in the Lord, they have Faith in their deities. Just as we Revere and Worship Him, they Revere and Worship their Deities. Just as we communicate with the Lord in Prayer, so they communicate with their deities in prayer. And, just as we have *'the Hope of Eternal Life,'* as Paul put it in Titus 1:2, so they believe they have Eternal Life; although 90% of their beliefs involve Reincarnation, which is Salvation by works, which can never help them, because they have no way to absolve the Sin that separated us from our Creator in the beginning; and *'their heart is not right toward God.'* (Acts 8:21).

7.

Right and Wrong Spirits

So, we have these two opposing powers and belief systems, both interacting between the Realms, in opposition to each other.

And just as Christian's have Faith in the Word of God, their adherents have Faith in what they believe. We have the Holy Spirit's Power, and it works for us, but it won't work for them. They have Demonic Power, and it works for them, but it won't work for us. You can't mix these two Powers together, because they are *opposing* Belief systems. I'll give a couple of personal examples.

When my youngest son was thirteen, he went away for a weekend, and I picked him up on the Sunday afternoon, and brought him home. In the early hours of the next morning, he came running into my bedroom, terrified. "Daddy, Daddy, can I sleep in your bed," he pleaded, "I had a really scary dream." So, he slept in my bed. The next night, the same thing happened, and again, the night after. When it happened on the third night, I was sure a spirit was causing it, and because it began the night he came home, it seemed to me he must have brought something home with him, that was a familiar object to some spirit. So, I asked him, "Kevy, did you bring anything home with you, on the weekend?" "Yes," he replied, "a dream catcher." So, I asked him to get it for me, which he did, and I took it outside and burned it. That was the end of the nightmares.

I Managed an Organic Avocado orchard, for some time, and we were part of a local Organic-Growers group that met informally once a month, for an afternoon. Most of the others involved in the group were into the New Age. New Age teachings are a mixture of Witchcraft, and Eastern Religious-beliefs. Because they are both inspired by the same spirits, they fit together easily.

At one meeting, someone complained their crop was being decimated by swamp hens, and asked what could be done about it. One couple there were heavily involved in Rudolf Steiner's Teachings, so, they advised the person to kill a swamp hen, burn it to ashes, and scatter the ashes on the wind over their land, (and I think it was to be done at midnight, on a full moon; but that may have been some other 'remedy'), and they would not be troubled any more.

If I have the Holy Spirit, and I burn a swamp hen and scatter its ashes over my land (at midnight?), it won't work for me because I have a different Spirit than them. But it works for them, because they have 'Faith' in it, and because they have the same 'spirit' inhabiting them, that gave the 'promise' and causes it to happen.

It's like the dream catcher. If a New Age 'believer' has nightmares, and they hang a dream catcher in their home, their nightmares will cease, because, the New Agers have

the same 'spirits' inhabiting them that inspired the American Indians to make the dream catchers. It's a familiar object, inhabited by a spirit. But, if I hang one in my house, it will *cause* someone to have nightmares, because it's opposing spirits.

Never bring primitive cultural objects into your home, especially ones with faces carved on them. They aren't just curiosities, to hang on your wall, they will either harm you physically, or keep the Lord's Presence away from your home. Never dabble with Homeopathy, Iridology, Colour Therapy, Acupuncture, or any of the other 'alternative' (New Age) Medical Practices, because they are 'familiar' to wrong spirits.

Many years ago, I met a Sister-in-Christ from a large town. She was a member of the Women's Aglow Chapter in that town. The Leader of that Chapter was supposedly a Christian, but she was a Feminist, and she hated men. Each Women's Aglow Chapter has a man associated with it, so that if there is something in the Bible, they aren't clear about, they can ask the man, and he is to tell them what the Bible means. But, because the Leader of the Chapter hated men, she wouldn't have a man associated with them.

At one meeting when the Leader wasn't present, one of the women had brought a friend along, who had a Demonic spirit oppressing her. So, the Sisters gathered around her, and prayed against it. It took more than an hour of prayer, but the Demon finally left her, and she was so happy, praising and blessing God, because the oppressing spirit had gone.

Then the Leader of the Chapter arrived, and asked what was going on. Someone explained how the Demon had been cast out of the woman. So, the Leader went over to the woman, laid her hand on her head, and said, "God bless you." As soon as she did that, the woman screamed, and the Demon was back in her.

If you have the Holy Spirit, and you bless someone, it will attract and welcome the Holy Spirit's Presence to bless that person. But, if you have an *unholy* spirit, and you bless someone, it will attract and welcome an *unholy* spirit to harm, or even inhabit, that person. That Leader had a wrong spirit, and as soon as she 'blessed' that woman, it invited that Demon to inhabit her again. There are things that attract the Presence of God, and things that keep His Presence away, and if you want His Presence in your home, be careful what you allow into it.

In Second Kings chapter 3, we are told of Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, and the King of Edom, who went to attack the King of Moab. There was no water in the desert they were travelling through, and they were on the verge of all perishing, when Jehoshaphat, a Godly man, asked, "*Is there not here a Prophet of the Lord, that we may inquire of the Lord by him?*" So, the Kings went to meet with Elisha. But Elisha didn't have a Word from the Lord for them, and he knew he couldn't just summon the Holy Spirit any time he wanted to. But his Ministry had been a learning curve, like all our Ministries are, and he had learned, that if he could just create the right atmosphere, it would *attract* the

Lord's Presence, and he may receive a Word from the Lord for the Kings. So, he called, *"Bring me a minstrel!"* And we read in verse fifteen, *'And it came to pass, when the Minstrel played, that the Hand of the Lord came upon him.'* Whenever we create the right atmosphere, it attracts the Lord's Presence.

In 1 John 4:1, we are exhorted to, *'Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God.'* There is a purpose for this, because all that glitters is not gold. Just because something is supernatural, it doesn't naturally follow that it is from the Lord.

8.

Ancestral Spirits

I knew a Christian couple who went to Fiji some years ago. During the night the Sister saw two 'spirits' in the room they stayed in, and told the Brother what she had seen. The next day, on their travels, she saw a Fijian phonebook, and on the cover were the faces of two traditional Fijian carved figures. Those faces were the same as the spirits she had seen the night before. Those carvings were not just the product of someone's imagination. The carvings were originally modelled from the faces of the Demons who inspired traditional Fijian culture, and still influence the country as Ancestral spirits.

Over the past few centuries, as European explorers travelled to parts of the world previously unknown to them, they were followed by Godly Missionaries who shed the Light of the Gospel among cultures steeped in Spiritual darkness. Demonic activity in those countries slowly ebbed away, as the people who saw the Light and were converted, destroyed the carvings and other objects that had been inspired by Demons, and were objects 'familiar' to them, which they could inhabit, or use to influence the area where they were sited.

Over the past fifty years, the world has become influenced by such ungodly things as Nihilism, Existentialism, and all the other Demonic 'isms' which bombard everyone with the false idea that we are all an accident, with no purpose in being here, and nothing to follow this life, so eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die. These lies have spawned a generation, living in an atmosphere devoid of hope, which has given us an unprecedented suicide epidemic, unheard of levels of addictions, and a plague of spiritual hopelessness. Those who have propagated these ideas, especially in schools, will one day be called to account for what they caused.

One of the worst downsides to this is Spiritually. People who have no hope are turning back to, and resurrecting, the Demonic Religious practices of their ancestors, and as a result, there is a resurgence of Demonic activity and influence.

Early one morning, as I was waiting on the Lord, after some time in prayer, he showed me a vision. It was of a Maori Meeting house surrounded by many upright carved poles, of the type which are now being placed along motorways, on bridges, and at rest areas. In the background the sun was setting very low, and it was getting dark. The Lord never explained it to me at the time, but when I asked Him about it at a later date, He let me know that allowing these poles to be spread around our country was bringing Spiritual darkness to our Land. Many people welcome these poles as representing one of New Zealand's cultures. But what they don't realise is that, because the faces are the faces of actual Demons, Demons associate with, and often inhabit them, and can influence the surrounding area from them.

On page 135 of Barry Smith's book, *Second Warning*, there is an account of a tree at Paihia, which was the dwelling place of a Demon, because of its association with Maori culture, and which badly affected those who tried to tamper with it. The Demon was eventually bound by Muri Thompson, Barry and friends, after a Spiritual battle, and the tree was eventually cut down.

Demons are powerless on their own, they need something, or someone, to work through. Carved faces from Africa, the Pacific Islands (including New Zealand), and other Godless cultures, all have one thing in common, they're ugly. Why is that, especially when most people strive to produce beauty? Because, like the Fijian ones, they aren't just the product of someone's imagination. They are the faces of the Demons that inspired the cultures.

Be careful where you go. Be careful where your children go. Always keep yourself covered by the Blood of Jesus. Don't go anywhere the Lord wouldn't go, unless He personally sends you there. Remember the man who died on the street, and went into a Bar? He saw the Demons who inhabited the place.

A Missionary was being shown around a city in the U.S.S.R., and the Guide, who was a Christian, asked if he would like to go to a famous Buddhist Temple there. He replied that he didn't want to, and the Guide was pleased not to go in, because, as he told the Missionary, "People go in there and change. They come out different people than the one who went in." All Religious edifices are dedicated to *someone*, or *something*. Mosques, Shrines, Masonic Halls, Primitive Religious Sites, Ancient places of Worship, and Sacred Sites, which aren't dedicated to the Lord, are all built for the habitation of some spirit, or spirits, and are therefore 'familiar' to those spirits.

9.

“In My Name they shall cast out Devils”

Most sicknesses are parasites. Measles, colds, etc, live within us so they can reproduce. They have no intention of killing us, because we are their home, and when they have reproduced and spread to others, they move on, and we recover our health. But Demonic possession, and sicknesses are different. They don't have the intelligence to keep their host alive, so they can live on in them. Instead, they kill their host, and are homeless.

‘And when He was come to the other side into the country of the Gergasenes, there met Him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with Thee, Jesus, Thou Son of God? Art Thou come hither to torment us before the time? And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. So the devils besought Him, saying, If Thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. And He said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.’ (Matthew 8:28-32).

‘And when they were come to the multitude, there came to Him a certain man, kneeling down to Him, and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.’ (Matthew 17:14-15). What was that Demon trying to do with the boy, in the fire, and in the water? Kill him of course.

A cancer is a parasite, but it is different than most other diseases, because the life of a cancer is a demon. And when a cancer inhabits someone, it doesn't just want to live in them, and reproduce. It wants to kill them. A cancer's intent is to kill the person whom it inhabits. If you ask a doctor, or a 'Christian' who is not Spiritual, what a cancer is, they will tell you it is a 'disease.' It takes about seven years for a cancer to form, because it takes many mutations, until the flesh is corrupted, and unhealthy enough in some way, so that a Demon can move in, because, a cancer is the dwelling place of a Demon.

So, a cancer is a parasite living in its host's body. If a Surgeon can cut out the place where that Demon is living, then the Demon cannot live there any longer, and the person is healed. The Lord did it differently. He commanded the Demon to vacate the person, and they were healed.

‘And they brought unto Him...those which were possessed with devils (Demons), and those which were lunatick,..and He healed them.’ (Matthew 4:24). ‘When the even was

come, they brought unto Him many that were possessed with devils: and He cast out the spirits with His Word.' (Matthew 8:16). *'And at even when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils,..and (He) cast out many devils.'* (Mark 1:32,34).

He also gave His Followers the authority to do the same in Mark 16:17. *'In My Name they shall cast out devils.'* Many sicknesses and diseases are caused by Demon possession. In most cases, the Demon's intent is to kill the person they are inhabiting, as in the case of cancer (by destroying the body of its host), epilepsy (by having a fit at a time that will kill them), asthma (by choking the person to death), and many Mental illnesses (usually by convincing the host to commit suicide). In some forms of possession, such as Panic attacks, the Demon does not kill them, but it completely controls the person's life, so that they are living in continual fear. Some Demons seem to believe that a 'living hell' is just as terrible for a person as a 'dead hell.' We do need some wisdom, and especially discernment, to discern what is caused by a 'spirit,' and what may be caused by medications, etc.

Demons aren't things to fool around with. They recognise those whom the Lord has given authority to. In Acts, we have a good example of what happens when the unauthorised confront Demonic power, presuming to have authority over them;

'Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the Name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.' (Acts 19:13-16). To go further into this subject is outside the scope of our present study, but suffice it to say, it is not for amateurs.

10

Addictions

Most addictions are also caused by Demons. Tobacco smoking is a good example. A Demon is a 'spirit,' and it cannot interact in the Physical Realm by itself. It has to use something physical to interact here. A Demon cannot smoke a cigarette, it has to have a human body to smoke through. Young people will often dabble with smoking, especially those who can't do anything without an audience. Some can smoke for some time, and then give up completely, and never touch another one in their lives, without

any harm. But mostly, after a while, a Nicotine Demon will enter the smoker. That Demon has a craving for nicotine, and it will cause the smoker agony, anytime it hasn't had its fix of nicotine. It isn't the smoker craving the nicotine, it's that Demon; and because the Demon has been allowed in, it is in control.

How do we make these Demons leave? Prayer, binding the Demon, and commanding it to leave will often work. They can be starved out. Remember, that Demon is craving nicotine. So, the smoker can go cold turkey until the Demon cannot stand it any longer and it will leave. There is Acupuncture, and Hypnotism, but they both leave the smoker open to worse Demons than they already have. And, if someone has smoked for a long time, that Demon has become 'familiar' to them, and it will always be trying to return, especially at times of stress.

Other addictions are much the same. It is a Demon craving something, and demanding the addict gives it to them. How do you know it's a Demon craving the fix? Because the person should feel great if they fixed to satisfy their own craving. But often they feel terrible after they have 'given in' because they are a slave to it. This is especially true in cases of sexual addictions, pornography, perversions (child fantasies, etc), rage, violence, and alcoholism. How many of those addicted end their own lives, believing there is no other way out? Sadly, too many.

11.

A Monkey on your shoulder

A Heroin addiction is known by addicts as, 'having a Monkey on your shoulder.' A boy is walking through the jungle, when he notices a cute baby monkey on the side of the path. So, he picks it up, and places it on his shoulder. He gives the monkey a banana, and that satisfies it for a while. But the baby demands more and more over time, and eventually the little monkey grows into a huge Gorilla, and the boy is spending all day, every day, trying to gather enough bananas to satisfy the Gorilla's appetite. Finally, the weight of the Gorilla, crushes the boy, and the Gorilla walks away, leaving him dead.

Addicts don't realise how true that story is, because that's how addictions work. The Demon will try to convince the person that *they* are the addict, so they will actively seek what the Demon craves. And they usually succeed, because, that's how the unspiritual world understands addictions. They don't see the Monkey on the persons shoulder, who the person is supplying the addiction to.

How easy is it to end an addiction? It isn't easy. Often the person will want to stop, but that Demon won't. With some, whether you can cast them out or not, depends on

why they were allowed to oppress the person in the first place. If it was because of sin, you will not be able to move that spirit, until the person makes the sin right first.

Many addictions are played out in private, because the person lives a life of degradation. A woman will prostitute herself, to satisfy the Demon. A man will burgle, steal, even murder. It may have started out as 'harmless' fun; but in the end, they are feeding a monster, that consumes them.

12. Cleaning House

Have you ever been in a house where you have tried, and tried, and tried, to pray, and the Lord's Presence just does not come? There is always a reason for it. If you want the Lord's Presence in your home, don't give place to the Devil, by inviting him in. (Ephesians 4:27). Don't bring 'familiar' objects into your home, because they allow Demons associated with them to have access wherever they go.

When Israel were preparing to enter into the Promised Land, the Lord warned them about things they would encounter, which were dedicated to Demons. *'The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to the Lord thy God. Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing.'* (Deuteronomy 7:25-26).

They weren't to keep any of these things as souvenirs, because they weren't just neutral objects, they could hang on their walls as 'curiosities,' they were familiar objects, to a Demon, or two, or three, or even more.

Never bring books about the occult into your home, including books about occult 'Christian' cults, such as the Mormons, 'Christian' Science, etc.

Never bring newspapers, or magazines, that have horoscopes in them, into your home.

Never bring wooden or stone carvings from primitive cultures into your home, because they are representations of the Demons that inspired those cultures.

Never wear, or bring into your home, cultural jewellery, made of bone, or Greenstone (Jade), because they are 'blessed,' not in the Name of the Lord Jesus, but in the name of the 'spirits' that inspired the culture.

Never bring statues of Buddha, Dream Catchers, Ankh signs, Yin and Yang signs, or

anything you feel uneasy about, into your home.

And don't play ungodly music in your home. David Wilkerson once rightly said, if you want to know what a song is inspired by, Pray, until the Lord's Presence comes, then play it, and you will know straight away, whether it is inspired by the Holy Spirit, or an unholy spirit.

What should you do if you have things in your home that will attract Demons, or, keep the Lord's Presence away? The Lord's Word to Moses was to *'burn it with fire.'* Or, as the Boy Scout's advised, *'Burn, Bash, and Bury.'* As someone once wisely said, if you paid \$20 for a steak, and it went rotten; you wouldn't keep it, just because it cost you \$20, you would throw it in the rubbish.

A good testimony of what some new Believers did, after conversion is found in Acts 19:19; *'Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men (they publicly renounced their former associations): and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.'* This is something you must decide. Is the Presence of God more precious to you, than living without Him?

13.

Fighting the Good Fight

How are we to protect ourselves from the influence and actions of wrong spirits, in the world around us? Do we strap a load of explosives to ourselves, to kill us, and the people the spirits inhabit? No, that's murder, and it won't harm the spirits themselves. It's a Spiritual battle, so it needs Spiritual weapons to fight it. In Ephesians 6:10-18, St Paul tells us what Armour to wear, to protect ourselves in the battle; and the Weapon to use to prevail.

10. *'Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.*

11. *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

12. *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 high places.*

13. *Wherefore take unto you the **whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

14. *Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with **truth**, and having on the*

*breastplate of **righteousness**;*

15. *And your feet shod with the preparation of the **Gospel** of peace;*

16. *Above all, taking the shield of **faith**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.*

17. *And take the helmet of **salvation**, and the **Sword** of the Spirit, which is the **Word of God**:*

18. *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all Saints;'*

We need the whole armour of God to protect ourselves. If a part of it is missing, then that part of us is unprotected. We need Truth, Righteousness, the Gospel, the shield of Faith, the helmet of Salvation, and the Sword of the Spirit (The Word of God).

Faith in the Word of God is a Shield, to protect us from all the Devil can throw at us. Remember Isaiah 54:17 promises, *'No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgement thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of Me, saith the Lord.'* We must believe the Word, claim it for ourselves, and trust the Lord to be faithful to it.

Psalm 91 promises,

1. *'He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the Shadow of the Almighty. (Not he that comes and goes from the Presence of God when he feels like it, but he that 'dwells' in the Presence of God continually).*

2. *I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.*

3. *Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.*

4. *He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler.*

5. *Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;*

6. *Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.*

7. *A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.*

8. *Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.*

9. *Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation. (Your habitation, you live in His Presence).*

10. *There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.*

11. *For He shall give His Angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.*

12. *They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.*

13. *Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.*

14. *Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on*

high, because he hath known My Name.

15. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

16. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him My Salvation.'

Psalm 34:7 reminds us, *'The Angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them.'* Remember the Angel is camped by us, he isn't going anywhere, as long as we keep a Godly atmosphere around us, that will make Him feel welcome, and stay.

But we aren't only meant to be defensive, protecting what we already have; and trying to maintain the status quo as is, because, Demons aren't going to 'live and let live,' and leave us to live in peace. As the Lord showed me in the vision, Spiritual darkness is being spread across our Country, whether we do anything about it or not. We can stand by and watch it happening, or we can fight against the spirits, and their strongholds being erected, by Prayer, and binding the 'spirits.'

Many years ago, a group of Fijian Firewalkers, came to New Zealand for a show in Wellington. A Christian stayed outside the venue, and in the Name of Jesus, bound the Demons that stopped the men from getting burned feet. There was no show that night.

The Lord Jesus declared, *"All power is given unto Me, in Heaven and in earth."* And He gave us the authority to use that Power in His Name, when He commanded us to, *"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel unto every creature,"* promising, *"These signs shall follow them that believe; in My Name they shall cast out devils (Demons);"* He gave that authority to *"them that believe."*

If we, the Believers, don't use that Power, who will? When we surrendered our life to the Authority of Jesus Christ, we never stepped onto a playground, we enlisted in an Army and stepped on to a battleground. We must *'fight the good fight'* Spiritually, because those whom we *'wrestle against'* will never stop; and it's a fight to the death, because, Eternity is *forever*.

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Ed.D.