

**Prayer:**

**Slide # 1**

**Theme:** *Christ the King*

**Outline:**

Chps. 1-2 The Advent of the King. (Proving His LEGAL right to the throne by His genealogy.)

Chp. 3 The Forerunner of the King and the King’s baptism.

Chp. 4 The Test of the King. (Proving His MORAL right to the throne by not yielding to temptation; and exhibiting His kingdom resume.)

Chps. 5-7 The Pronouncements of the King. (Proving His JUDICIAL right to the throne as seen in the wisdom of His kingdom teaching.)

Chps. 8-10 The Power of the King. (Proving His PROPHETICAL right to the throne by fulfilling prophecy.)

**Chps. 11-12 The Rejection of the King.**

Chp. 13 The Parables of the King.

Chps. 14-16 The Revelations of the King.

Chps. 17-20 The Instructions of the King.

Chps. 21-23 Formal Rejection of the King.

Chps. 24-25 The Predictions of the King.

Chps. 26-27 The Passion of the King.

Chp. 28 The Resurrection of the King.

The evidence was in that Jesus was indeed the true Messiah. All the evidence pointed to this truth. And as a famous book says, “Evidence demands a verdict”. It demands a decision. What would the nation of Israel – led by its religious leaders do with the truth?

Well, when they viciously rejected the truth of Jesus, He quietly withdrew from them fulfilling prophecy from Isaiah 42 that the Messiah would not come forcefully “in takeover mode” (not at His first coming) but rather would come with a ministry of APPEAL. The ministry of appeal is a ministry in which the Holy Spirit convicts and seeks to draw people to the truth.

The Spirit is gracious. He is called the “Comforter” (Jn. 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7; 2 Cor. 1:3-5). He convicts the world of sin (cf. Jn. 16:8). Repeatedly the Spirit is called “the Spirit of truth” (Jn. 14:17; 15:26; 16:13).

It is by the Spirit that we know truth. He convicts, He enlightens, He illuminates, He woos, He draws, etc. It is by the Spirit that we are born again (Jn. 3:8; Titus 3:5).

### **Slide # 2**

#### **1 Corinthians 2:13–14 (NKJV)**

**13** These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the **Holy Spirit teaches**, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

**14** But the **natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God**, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**.

Unless the Holy Spirit shows you spiritual truth you will NEVER see it! If you look in the average theology book, you probably won't find much (if anything) on the doctrine of CONVICTION related to salvation. We need to note the distinction between an "experience" of conviction and that of true conversion. Conversion denotes turning from sin to God. However, a mere temporary experience of "the enlightenment of conviction" does not equal conversion but the enlightenment of CONVICTION does inherently call for a human response as we will see in of Matthew 12 (cf. Ezek. 33:11).

After quietly withdrawing from the hostile Pharisees who wanted to destroy Him, Jesus then healed all who came to Him (Mt. 12:15). Furthermore He healed an especially difficult case – that is a demon possessed man who was blind and mute. The people were amazed and questioningly asked, "This could not be the Son of David could it?" (Mt. 12:22-23).

Into this context stepped the Pharisees with a depraved answer that resulted in Christ giving a reasoned and very strong response.

#### **Matthew 12:24–32 (NKJV)**

**24** Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, "This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons."

When the Pharisees heard about Jesus healing this outstanding case of the demonized blind and mute man their explanation was that Jesus cast out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.

They did not deny the miraculous deliverance and healing of the man; they simply came up with a diabolical explanation. There was no denying the reality of the miracle – the only issue was how did Jesus do it?

The Pharisees claimed that Jesus did it by the power of Satan who is the ruler of the demons. Theologically, you have one of two choices in terms of supernatural activity. Either it is of God or it is of Satan. These religious leaders were theologians and they knew that, but out of hatred for Jesus they ascribed to Him power to cast out demons to the power of Satan.

The title “Beelzebub” (or in older manuscripts “Beelzebul”) is slightly altered in form from “**Baal-Zebub**” which was a deity of the Philistines which literally means “**lord of the flies**” (cf. 2 Kg. 1:2-3, 6, 16).

The slightly altered form seems to have been done contemptuously because “**Beelzebub**” literally means “**lord of dung**”. So whether “**lord of the flies**” or “**lord of dung**” it is clear that the Jews used this as a pejorative term in reference to Satan.

By the way not ALL the Pharisees reasoned in this way. One notable exception was Nicodemus who came to visit Jesus by way of night.

### **Slide # 3**

#### **John 3:2 (NKJV)**

**2** This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, **we know that You are a teacher come from God**; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

Now that is logical reasoning – logical spiritual reasoning. Everything about the NATURE of Christ’s miracles were indicators that this power was from God. For one thing Jesus went about constantly “doing good” which is totally out of character for Satan (cf. Acts 10:38).

**25 But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.**

Evidently these Pharisees were accusing Jesus of functioning by the power of Satan behind the scenes but in His presence were too yellow to say it in front of Him. However, he knew their thoughts, which is the domain of God. The thoughts of a person relate to the heart and God alone perfectly knows the hearts of people.

### **Slide # 4**

**Jeremiah 17:9–10 (NKJV)**

**9** “The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked;

**Who can know it?**

**10 I, the LORD, search the heart**, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings.

Only God ultimately knows the thoughts of people (cf. 1 Cor. 2:11). This once again becomes evidence that Jesus was not merely human – but rather the God-man (cf. Jn. 2:24-25).

And knowing their thoughts Jesus proceeds to show how illogical and irrational is the premise that he was casting out demons by the power of the devil.

Whatever the realm, whether it be kingdom, city, or house – whatever realm is divided against itself cannot stand. This is one of Satan’s oldest and most successful strategies. He wants to get people all divided up and fighting over whatever which enables him to bring down the home, the city, or the kingdom. Wherever it takes place – internal division wreaks havoc!

Division defines our land these days. Whether it be Covid, Race issues, Politics, or Morals, we are a very divided society. And from my perspective what threatens the reality of these UNITED STATES more than any other thing is the constant attack on and the erosion of the Judeo-Christian ethic that our country was founded upon.

Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other. - **John Adams**

The breakdown of the family, the full blown secularization of the educational system, the corruption of the courts, and the undoing of societal mores all fundamentally relate to the continuing breakdown of the core values related to a Judeo-Christian ethic. And when that gets so far, the entire country is in jeopardy. And today the UNITED STATES as we have long known it is in jeopardy because of this very thing.

The Bible says the last days of the Church Age will be perilous times and the reason for the peril is that they will be days steeped in apostasy as seen in 2 Tim. 3-4. Apostasy denotes a departure from the faith.

I don’t know that I would ever say we were a “Christian nation” per se, but we were a nation based on basic Judeo-Christian ethics – which is saying a lot. That is disappearing now, and the result is increasing division and disorder. We now live in a post-Christian era.

But all is not lost! We need to keep the proper focus which is that the world as a system has NEVER been salvageable. What Christ is doing is taking out of the world a people for Himself. He is not going to save the world – He is taking people out of the world – and those people taken out of the world’s system are called the Church of Jesus Christ (Acts 15:14). This is what it’s all about for us as God’s people. Christ is building His Church and He has promised, ***“I will build My church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.”*** (Mt. 16:18).

No matter how divided and chaotic society becomes (and surely the worst of last days perilous times is yet to come), but no matter what, Christ is still building His Church. Although so much of the Church is apostatizing there is still a faithful remnant – there is still a representative TRUE Church.

And what unites us as a true and faithful Church is that we are UNITED in the TRUTH of Jesus Christ. As Christians when we say, “united we stand” we are talking about the gospel truth of Christ. This is our distinctive. All the other things the world fights about and will go down fighting, fussing, and feuding over are of little consequence. What ultimately matters to us is GOSPEL TRUTH and living in light of eternity. This is our hill to die on!

Although Satan is a master at creating ungodly destructive division, he does not apply that against himself. That would be absurdly illogical. So, Jesus said...

**26 If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?**

Here is the logic part! If Satan casts out Satan that means he is divided against himself and that is totally self-defeating. In that case his kingdom for sure would not stand.

But Satan is not that dumb! He is not divided against himself. Rather he heads up a well-organized kingdom of evil as seen in Eph. 6:12 where it indicates the saints wrestle against these organized forces of evil.

Jesus called Satan “the ruler of this world” (Jn. 12:31). Paul referred to him as “the god of this age” (2 Cor. 4:4). He is the spirit who “now works in the sons of disobedience” (Eph. 2:2). Jesus spoke of the “power of Satan” in Acts 26:18 and Paul referred to this as “the power of darkness” in Col. 1:13. The devil has his angels which are a well host of organized rebel spiritual forces otherwise known as demons (cf. Mt. 25:41).

It is absurd to think the devil is actually divided against himself. Rather he is trying to divide and conquer every God ordained institution whether it be the home, the church, or the state. And he is very well organized in his efforts to sow division everywhere.

If you want to see how good Satan is at sowing division just look at this whole COVID thing. He is exploiting it for all its worth on every level. Even God's people fight about all kinds of things that no one even has answers to.

I always say the one thing about the devil is that he is good at what he does. He is a master deceiver and a master at sowing division. But it is crazy to think that he is divided amongst himself. Rather, the devil and his minions are very much united in their evil schemes.

We have no hint anywhere in Scripture that the demonic forces of evil are at war or opposed to each other. They are not! There is rank and file but they are not divided.

**27 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges.**

Not only was their premise illogically absurd, but it was also inconsistent with their own claims. The "sons" in view were evidently the disciples of the Pharisees who claimed to have an exorcism ministry (cf. Acts 19:13-16).

### **Slide # 5**

Whether or not the Jews did perform valid exorcisms is not necessary to the argument. The fact that the Pharisees claimed it made the argument effective. – ***Wycliffe Bible Commentary***

I take it that they did not REALLY do this although they claimed it and therefore Jesus is basing His argument on logical consistency based on their CLAIMS.

Note it does not seem that what Jesus was doing was in any way NORMAL even though the Pharisees may have claimed power over demons. As we move further into the NT this claim to have power over demons is seen to be typical of false teachers and their boasting (cf. 2 Pet. 2:10-11, Jude 8-9).

### **Slide # 6**

**Luke 4:36 (NKJV)**

**36** Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, “What a word this is! For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.”

The plain sense is that what Jesus was doing in casting out demons was unprecedented.

**Slide # 7****Matthew 8:16–17 (NKJV)**

**16** When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,

**17** that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses.”

No one else was doing this. We have NO example of demons being cast out in the OT. And in the NT in Acts 19:13-16 we see that when Jewish exorcists tried to mimic Paul in doing so that the man in whom the evil spirit was overpowered them, resulting in them fleeing naked and wounded. That is NOT a successful exorcism ministry!

So I take it that Jesus simply used their CLAIM as a premise to show their hypocritical inconsistency. If Jesus cast out demons by Beelzebub then logical consistency would mean that their disciples (Jewish exorcists) must also be doing the same thing – something the Pharisees would NEVER admit. The consistency of this argument could not be escaped – that is if they were truly consistent.

Therefore Jesus says their own “sons” would in effect judge them as being inconsistent. Logical consistency says if the power to cast out demons is of Satan, then all those who are doing it must be doing it by the power of Satan. Thus, Jesus shows the absurdity of their hypocritical inconsistency!

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

Here Jesus states the facts of the matter – the reality as it really is which is both rational and consistent. And here is the logical conclusion of the matter.

If indeed Jesus was casting out demons by the Spirit of God (which He was) then it shows that indeed “*the kingdom of God has come upon you.*”

This is another reason to think that whatever the Jewish exorcists were doing it was not by the Spirit because certainly they were not bringing in the kingdom. Casting out Spirits is indicative of ushering in the kingdom and of the Messiah's kingdom reign. This is unique to the Messiah!

Jesus in His Servant role did what He did by the power of the Spirit. The special endowment of the Holy Spirit took place at His baptism which took place prior to His public ministry (Mt. 3:16-17). Jesus as the perfect example of the Spirit-filled servant of God did everything by power of the Spirit. At every step He was in step with the Spirit and His power.

### **Slide # 8**

#### **Acts 10:38 (NKJV)**

**38** how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

As seen in Isa. 61:1 it is the Messiah who has the Spirit of the LORD God upon Him and comes proclaiming liberty to the captives and opening the prison for those who are bound – and this certainly relates to demon possession and bondage. This is the spirit realm requiring spiritual power given by the Holy Spirit as shown prophetically would be unique to the Messiah.

And this was kingdom stuff! “***The kingdom of God has come upon you***” is the sense that the presence of the King brings with it some effects of the kingdom. The King and the kingdom go together. In the King being present they had a little taste of the kingdom including the casting out of demons.

When Messiah ushers in the kingdom it will be a time of DELIVERANCE. Satan and his demons will be bound at that time making for a golden age of liberation. So, with the coming of the kingdom comes the binding of Satan. Christ's ministry was indicative of this reality.

### **Slide # 9**

#### **Revelation 20:1–3 (NKJV)**

**1** Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

**2** He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and **bound him for a thousand years;**

**3** and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.



It is assumed that this binding of Satan in the kingdom also has ramifications for Satan's angels – the demons.

A KEY reality for kingdom conditions is that the Messiah King will bind the devil allowing his captives to go free. Those living during the time of Christ and the apostles thus TASTED a little bit of these kingdom realities – although the kingdom was not yet officially inaugurated. They sampled it – they tasted kingdom power in the ministry of Christ and His apostles although the kingdom was not officially brought in.

### **Slide # 10**

#### **Hebrews 6:5 (NKJV)**

**5** and have **tasted** the good word of God and the **powers of the age to come**, [the KINGDOM age]

In the ministry of Christ, we have a little preview of kingdom reality as seen in His healing ministry and in His ministry of exorcism (cf. Isa. 35). This is what Christ was saying. Casting out demons by the power of God's Spirit clearly showed He was the King exercising kingdom miracles. In that sense "*surely the kingdom of God*" had come upon them.

Normally Matthew in being sensitive to His Jewish audience uses "*kingdom of heaven*" but here in keeping with emphasizing the power of God that will be on display in the kingdom he says, "*kingdom of God*" (cf. 19:24; 21:31, 43). As used in the gospels "*the kingdom of heaven*" and "*the kingdom of God*" are used interchangeably and are thus synonymous (cf. Mt. 19:23-24).

**29 Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.**

What we have here is a clash of kingdoms. The kingdom of Satan (v. 25) versus the kingdom of God (v. 28). This is about power. In order to overtake Satan you have to be stronger than he is.

The principle is this: In order to enter the strong man's house (Satan's domain) and plunder his goods (either souls or demons under his control) you first have to be able to bind the strong man. Having done that, you are now in a position to plunder his house – that is his domain.

The question is this: ***Who is in the STRONG position of being able to bind Satan as the strong man and plunder his house?*** Answer: Only the Messiah who brings in the kingdom.

Only God is stronger than Satan – the strong man in this illustration. Only the Messiah who is the God-man can bind the strong man who is Satan. So called “***deliverance ministries***” are a joke. There is only ONE Deliverer, and His name is JESUS. And He proved it during His earthly ministry.

### **Slide # 11**

Christ by a parable states that in order for kingdom conditions to exist on earth, Satan must first be bound. By this statement He previews John the Apostle’s discussion in Revelation 20. ...[Christ’s] works testify to His ability to bind Satan, and therefore they attest His power to establish the kingdom. – ***Stanley Toussaint***

Actually the “binding of Satan” takes place in phases.

### **Slide # 12**

#### ***The Binding of Satan is in stages...***

- It was demonstrated during Christ’s earthly ministry and by extension through His special representatives – the apostles.
- It was decisively guaranteed by the death and resurrection of Jesus (Jn. 16:11; Heb. 12:14; 1 Jn. 3:8).
- Satan will be confined to the earth in the middle of the Tribulation Period (Rev. 12:9).
- Satan will be bound in the pit for 1000 years during the millennial reign of Christ (Rev. 20:1-3).
- Satan will be cast into the lake of fire where he will be tormented forever and ever (Rev. 20:10)

### **Slide # 13**

#### **Romans 16:20 (NKJV)**

**20** And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet **shortly**.  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

This will happen but it is yet a future reality. And again, note that it is only God who can do this.

For now, Satan and his demons freely move about in keeping with what God sovereignly permits. In fact, 1 Pet. 5:8 says that our adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. Hence, we have to have on the full armor of God at all times so that we “**may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**” (Eph. 6:11)

There seems to have been an unprecedented surge of demonic activity in the Holy Land during the time of Christ. It's like Satan called all his forces to converge on the ministry of Christ in an effort to overwhelm and defeat Him. It didn't work. The devil marshalling all his forces were not adequate to defeat Christ. Indeed, we see Christ's power to bind Satan and have His way over the devil and all his demons that he rules over.

Demons were not cast out of people in the OT. There is not a single example of this. In the instruction given to the church in the epistles there is not a single example of this being done. Biblically this only happened during the ministry of Christ and through His apostles who were validated as His special agents in this way.

There is NO LEGITIMATE ministry of casting out demons today. This was unique to the Messiah and His apostles. It demonstrated that Jesus truly was the Messiah Who has the authority to bring in the kingdom in keeping with OT prophecy. The authority to cast out demons was given only to the apostles and is transferable to no one else. Only phonies claim to have authority over Satan or be able to bind him. This is the claim of false teachers.

I would remind you that MANY will say to Jesus on judgment day that they had cast out demons in Jesus' name only to hear Jesus say to them, “I never knew you; depart from Me” (Mt. 7:22). They did not have an authentic God-ordained, God empowered ministry. It was all show!

The Gospel Era during the ministry of Christ was a unique period of time as was that of the early Church during the time of the apostles. The miraculous power on display through Christ and the apostles was uniquely kingdom signs displaying WHO Jesus was as the Messiah.

The ONLY specific examples of demons being cast out of people are found in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and the book of Acts. That is this phenomenon is found only in the GOSPELS and the early history of the Church. It is found only in conjunction with the ministry of Christ and His apostles.

This is a matter of RIGHTLY dividing the Word of truth! In terms of where we are today we don't live during the time of Christ's earthly ministry or during the apostolic times of the early Church. That era is past. Instead of basing our theology of demons and how to deal with them today on the Gospels and Acts we need to look at the epistles of the New Testament which gives specific instruction on how the Church is to carry on.

It is true that Christ gave special authority to the apostles to have power over demons as they uniquely represented Him, but that authority ended with the death of the apostles and does not carry over to us today. There are only 3 occasions in the book of Acts that specifically deals with demons and in each case it is in conjunction with ministry that is closely connected to the apostles – either directly or through one of their close associates as in the case of Phillip (cf. Acts 8, 16, 19).

In the Epistles we see the activity of demons is well documented and it indicates as we get closer to the end the activity will become even more intense (cf. 1 Tim. 4:1). The emphasis in the epistles is that demons are busy promoting idolatry (1 Cor. 10:20); false doctrine (1 Tim. 4:1-3) and are constantly seeking to instigate division amongst God's people (James 3:13-16). Eph. 6:10-20 gives the most detailed instruction on the reality of spiritual warfare and it is clear that we wrestle with these forces of darkness.

However, in the Epistles dealing directly with demons or Satan is NEVER addressed. This is very important because the Epistles are written to specifically instruct the Church on how we should live and carry out our mission (cf. 1 Tim. 3:15). The Epistles NEVER anywhere mention about speaking to or casting out demons. No where are we instructed to bind them or any such thing. If this is part of what the Church is to be doing why is it never mentioned in the Epistles – that part of the Word of God that has special application to where we live at this point in the Church Age?

The answer is that the Gospel Era – the time of Christ and the Apostles was a very unique time related to kingdom sign miracles that were unique to Christ and His Apostles. This is not happening today!

What is the Church to do about demons today? Well, we are to pray and preach the gospel of Christ. Only Christ can free people from the bondage of Satan and He does it through the gospel.

**Slide # 14****John 8:32 (NKJV)****32** And you shall know the truth, and the **truth shall make you free.**”**John 8:36 (NKJV)****36** Therefore if the **Son makes you free**, you shall be free indeed.

Note the connection the Son makes you free, but He does it through the truth. The Son and the truth go together!

**Slide # 15****Acts 26:18 (NKJV)**

**18** to **open their eyes**, in order **to turn them from darkness** to light, and **from the power of Satan** to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by **faith in Me.**’

**Colossians 1:13 (NKJV)**

**13** **He** has **delivered us from the power of darkness** and **conveyed us into the kingdom** of the Son of His love,

In Christ we are free from the penalty of sin and also the power of Satan. We now just need to learn to walk in the good of it. Paul’s mission was to share the gospel. This defined his life’s ministry and mission.

**Slide # 16****Acts 20:24 (NKJV)**

**24** But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, **to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.**

How does Christ set people free from sin and Satan – well through the gospel preached as they believe it they turn from darkness to the light and from the power of Satan to God. This was Paul’s life’s ministry – testifying to the gospel of God’s grace. When people believe it they are delivered from the power of darkness. As Paul says, it Romans 1:16...

**Slide # 17****Romans 1:16 (NKJV)**

**16** For I am not ashamed of the **gospel of Christ**, for **it is the power** of God to **salvation** [*deliverance*] for everyone who **believes**, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Christ delivers people but He does it through the GOSPEL when people believe it. That is the NORM in terms of deliverance in the Church Age.

**Slide # 18****1 John 3:8 (NKJV)**

**8** He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, **that He might destroy the works of the devil.** [*the devils "works" are an unbroken pattern of sin*]

**1 John 5:18 (NKJV)**

**18** We know that whoever is born of God does **not sin**; [*habitually in an unbroken pattern*] but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the **wicked one does not touch him.**

We see in our study this morning that the devil and Jesus do not control the same turf. One has to go. And where Jesus takes over the devil is cast out.

When Jesus comes to live inside a person the devil and his demons are gone. The Holy Spirit moves in, and the demons move out. For this reason 1 Jn. 4:4 says, "***He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.***"

Believers cannot be demon possessed. They may be oppressed and harassed as we do wrestle with these forces of darkness, but we cannot be internally possessed. There is a line there that the devil cannot cross.

In terms of casting out or trying to bind demons this is the activity of false teachers who egotistically throw themselves around in the spirit realm like they are really somebody, but alas they are NOT! It takes God to put the devil in his place!

**Slide # 19****Jude 8–10 (NKJV)**

**8** Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, **reject authority**, and speak evil of **dignitaries** [fallen angels].

**9** Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, **dared not bring against him a reviling accusation**, but said, **“The Lord rebuke you!”**

**10** But these **speak evil of whatever they do not know**; [*throw themselves around in the spirit realm*] and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves.

The LORD alone has authority over Satan and his demons. Even Michael the archangel (currently in a higher position than we are) dared not try to put the devil in his place but rather deferred to the LORD saying, “The Lord rebuke you.” That is the right disposition.

[Jude 9 ] is the supreme illustration of how Christians are to deal with Satan and demons. Believers are not to address them, but rather to seek the Lord’s intervening power against them.

– **John MacArthur**, Note in Study Bible

In facing temptation and spiritual pressure what should we do? The Bible says look to the Lord – come boldly to the throne of grace to receive help directly from the Lord (cf. Heb. 4:14-16). We look to the Lord to deliver us from the evil one as Jesus taught us to pray (Mt. 6:13).

There are only THREE passages in the N.T. epistles that clearly instruct us on how to respond to Satan and the demons and in each case we are to assume a defensive posture – never an offensive one.

**Slide # 20**

***Take a DEFENSIVE STAND against the Devil...***

***Ephesians 6:10-20: (STAND AGAINST the wiles of the devil)***

***James 4:7-8: (SUBMIT TO GOD – RESIST the devil)***

***1 Peter 5:6-9: (RESIST him, steadfast in the faith)***

**Slide # 21**

At no point in Scripture is the solution for the believer phrased in deliverance terminology such as “binding,” “rebuking,” or casting out a demon. – **Thomas Ice**

Many of those who claim to have some sort of “deliverance ministry” tell story after story, but present very little sound theology. They are all EXPERIENCE oriented – but not Bible oriented.

My experience has been that people tell very dramatic stories that are very convincing and then they start to formulate doctrine around it. That is backwards. We don't determine theology by our experience. Rather our experience is to line up with sound doctrine or we will be deceived – especially in dealing with the master deceiver himself.

This is a true story shared by Dr. John MacArthur in his book, “Our Sufficiency in Christ”.

One night several years ago I was called to the church office to deal with an emergency. I arrived to find one of our elders struggling with a girl who was demon possessed. She was evidencing supernatural strength; she had flipped a heavy steel desk over onto its top. The two of us together were unable to restrain her physically. Voices that were not her own were speaking out of her. I was unsure of what to do, having never encountered anything like that before.

When I arrived, I heard a demon scream, “Not him! Anyone but him! Get him out! Get him out! We don't want him here.” It encouraged me to know they realized I was not on their side.

We tried to speak to the demons. We commanded them to tell us their names, and we ordered them in Jesus' name to go to the pit. We spent two hours trying to send those demons out of her.

When we finally stopped trying to talk to the demons and dealt directly with that young woman, we began to make some headway. We told her she needed to confess her sins, and she began to pour out her heart. She had been involved in unimaginable filth and was living a hypocritical life. She confessed her sins with tears and affirmed the truth of Jesus Christ, then asked the Lord to cleanse her from every sin in her life. ...



Afterward she was a changed woman. As far as I know, demons have never troubled her from that day on.

– **John MacArthur** in OUR SUFFICIENCY IN CHRIST, p. 236

Only a stronger MAN can bind the strong man and that man is the God-man who is the Lord Jesus Christ!

**John 8:36 (NKJV)**

**36** Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Praise the Lord who makes free all those who repent and believe on Him. He is the Lord (Master) of the Sabbath. He is Lord (Master) over Satan and all his demons.

Have you yielded to the truth of His Lordship? He is Lord and Savior of all who believe on Him! Has the truth of the gospel set you free? Has the Son set you free?

Jesus invites, “Come to Me and I will give you rest.” Come to Jesus! He ALONE is the source of deliverance from the penalty of sin and from the power of Satan. Come to Jesus!