

Doctrine of Demons

1. Demons are under the immediate leadership of Satan himself, who is called in the Hebrew tongue, Abaddon (destruction), and in the Greek tongue, Apollon (the Destroyer).
2. Demons are limited in what they can do by the sovereign will of God. In Revelation 9:4 the demons were commanded not to hurt the vegetation that would have been their normal diet.
 - *Revelation 9:4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.*
3. The demons were commanded not to hurt the elect of God that had been sealed in their foreheads.
 - *Revelation 9:4b. ...but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.*
4. They were commanded to only torment the non-Christian community.
 - *Revelation 9:5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.*
5. Demons are powerful creatures of darkness, which is why so many people become enslaved to sin in the form of pornography, drugs, alcohol, anger, money, power, and all the other works of the flesh.
 - *Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*
6. In the *Revelation*, the power of demons is manifested by the symbol of authority in the crowns of gold.
 - *Revelation 9:7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.*
7. The power of demons is manifested by the show of wisdom in the faces of men.
 - *Revelation 9:7 And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.*
8. The power of demons is manifested by the allurements of beauty reflected in the ornamental hair some have.

- *Revelation 9:8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.*
9. The power of demons is manifested by their strength as the teeth of lions, and by their armor of iron defense.
- *Revelation 9:9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.*
10. With their power demons are able to contend for whatever Satan wants, including the bodies of men. For example, Satan desired Peter while he was alive (Matthew 22:31), and Moses when he died. The body of Moses became the focal point of one angelic power struggle according to Jude 9. Michael did not argue with the demonic Lucifer but invoked the name of the Lord.
- *Jude 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.*
11. Demons are mean, vicious, and evil spirit creatures reflected in their power to hurt men but not to help them.
12. In the Old Testament Scriptures there are three passages referring to demon possession, and none referencing exorcism.
- *Judges 9:23 Then God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the men of Shechem; and the men of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech:*
 - *1 Kings 22:20 And the Lord said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner. 21 And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, I will persuade him. 22 And the Lord said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so. 23 Now therefore, behold, the Lord hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the Lord hath spoken evil concerning thee.*
 - *1 Samuel 16:14 But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him. 15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee. 16 Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well. (Study 1 Samuel 16:23, 18:10, and 19:9).*

13. Turning to the New Testament, the victims of demonic possession are never said to be the cause for their situation. However, it is certain that a person who engages in the occult will certainly be possessed by demons. But it is possible for a person to be demon possessed through no fault of their own.
14. Sometimes demons possess a person collectively, as many as 6,000.
- *Luke 8:30 And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.*
15. Demons have the ability to grant special powers, including the ability to foretell certain events.
- *Acts 16:16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:*
16. Some illnesses and disorders can be traced to demonic possession.
- *Epilepsy. Luke 9:39 And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.*
 - *Inability to Speak. Luke 11:14 And he was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered.*
 - *A Bent Back. Luke 13:10 And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11 And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. 12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. 13 And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.*
17. When a person is demon possessed, demonic speech can occur when the indwelling demon takes control of the vocal chords.
- *Matthew 8:29 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? 30 And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. 31 So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. 32 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.*
18. The strength of a person indwelt by a demon is enormous.

- *Mark 5:1 And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. 2 And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: 4 Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.*

19. Some demons are more wicked than others.

- *Matthew 12:45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.*

20. It is possible to cast demons out through an exorcism, provided one is a Christian.

- *The Disciples. Mark 3:14 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:*
- *Acts 16:16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: 17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. 18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour. 19 And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers,*
- *Unauthorized. Acts 19:13 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. 14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? 16 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. 17 And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified*

21. Some exorcisms were more difficult than others. There is danger involved in performing an exorcism.

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22. Faith must be present when an exorcism is performed.

- *Mark 9:18 And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not. 19 He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I suffer you? Bring him unto me. 20 And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming. 21 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.*
- *Mark 9:28 And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?*

23. While the sick were brought to Jesus and the apostles for prayer and healing, no one in the Bible had an exorcism ministry in which they specialized. What is going on today in the name of the Lord is sensationalism and sinful behavior.