

DEMONOLOGY AND DELIVERANCE #3

Introduction

Welcome to the 3rd message in our teaching series on “Demonology and Deliverance”; what are demons and how we can be set free from them.

Psalm 124:1

Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war and my fingers for battle.

This is David praising God for teaching him how to overcome his enemies.
The next verse says...

Psalm 124:2

**The Lord is my lovingkindness and my fortress,
my stronghold and my Deliverer.**

God Himself wants us to know how to overcome our enemies!

Derek Prince

“There is an urgent need for Christians to learn all we can about the nature and activity of demons. This knowledge is important for all believers, since none of us can claim immunity from the attacks of demons.”

We all need Bible-based instruction on how to deal with demons. The Apostle Paul tells us why...

2 Corinthians 2:11

**Lest Satan should get an advantage of us:
for we are not ignorant of his devices.**

Sad to say, Satan is taking advantage of many today because they are “ignorant of his devices” (plural); especially on the device of demons in finding a legal doorway that allows him to come into our “house”. So we need to know about...

Closing Demonic Doorways

A doorway is the legal entry to a house; demons have to have a doorway; the place where they enter in. If we can detect the doorway the demon is has used to get in, or is using to stay in, we can cast it out and close the door. We will look at...

I. 7 Demonic Doorways

1. Generational sins
2. Prenatal influences
3. Strife-torn or traumatic childhood
4. Sinful acts or habits
5. Laying on of hands
6. Sins of the tongue
7. Unforgiveness

Notice the chronology of the 1st 3 demonic doorways:

1. The first doorway can be opened by the sins of our ancestors; sins committed before we were even conceived
2. A 2nd doorway can occur when we are in the womb
3. And the 3rd doorway can open during our childhood

Derek Prince

“Always remember that the Devil uses the weakest moment and the weakest place to come in.”

Let's begin by looking at the 1st doorway...

A. First: A Family Background in the Occult or False Religions

This is from the 1st 2 of the 10 commandments:

Exodus 20:3-4

"You shall have no other gods before Me.

"You shall not make for yourself a carved image — any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;

Exodus 20:4-5

You shall not bow down to them or worship them.

For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep my commandments.

1. This refers to **the sin of idolatry**, which would include participation in any form of false religion or worship of false gods even back 3 or 4 generations!

2. A biblical “generation” is about 40 years; 4 generations would go back 160 years. The question is, “How many of you can guarantee that none of your ancestors broke this commandment?”

3. If your forefathers were involved in false religions like Buddhism or Hinduism or secret societies such as Freemasonry, it may be a doorway you need to shut.

a. In my case, my father was heavily involved in Freemasonry and my mother and grandmother were Christian Scientists, which is a cult.

b. I had to renounce the sins of my father’s to close the door on the devil. As our own Roger Miller teaches...

“Once the legal right for the demons that came down the umbilical cord from ancestors has been dealt with, you can command the demons associated with the curses out of your body and soul.”

Roger Miller, Spirits in the Womb

4. Another thing: All false cults and false religions are associated with objects or symbols which may also be doorways.

Occultic Objects Can Become Demonic Doorways

- Jewelry-like my father’s Masonic ring
- Statues, icons or even paintings
- Items used in Occultic rituals (like the sword used in Masonic lodge ceremonies)
- This would include BOOKS-as seen in the revival at Ephesus:

Acts 19:18-20

And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. 19 Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. 20 So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

5. When revival comes, demonic doorways get closed!

B. Second Doorway: Prenatal Influence While in the Womb

Derek Prince

Babies, even in the womb, feel the need for love; where it is lacking a SPIRIT OF REJECTION can enter.

1. Derek and his wife Ruth found that the spirit of rejection was especially common in people who were born during America's Great Depression, the years 1929 to 1934.

a. Jobs and food were scarce; family resources were tight; discovering a wife was pregnant was not good news to many couples; in many cases, the baby was not wanted.

2. Unwanted pregnancy due to financial hardship, born out of wedlock, or the "wrong" gender (a girl when the parents desired a boy, etc.) can open the doorway to a spirit of rejection

3. Medical science has taught us that babies are subject to the physical condition and diet of the mother; but they overlook the possibility of the child being affected by evil spirits.

C. Third Demonic Doorway: A Strife-Torn or Traumatic Childhood

1. So demons can gain access us to us through the sins of our ancestors or through pre-natal influences; but also through our surrounding environment as we are growing up.

Derek Prince

"My personal observation is that most demonic problems begin in childhood. Children born in strife-torn homes where the parents are in continual conflict are vulnerable; small children seldom have the spiritual strength to withstand this kind of environment."

2. Elizabeth and I just watched a Christian movie, "I Can Only Imagine"; the story of the young man who wrote the song that became an international hit; the whole movie is about how he had to overcome the damage done to his soul by growing up in a strife-torn household with an abusive father, and led to his mother abandoning the family. This is not uncommon.

James 3:14-16

...if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

James 3:14-16 NKJV

Notice V.16!

Where there is envy and strife there is confusion and every evil work.

3. Growing up in a strife-torn home can be a door for demons; but there is also the trauma children suffer as victims of sexual abuse.

4. Demons can enter a person that suffers some traumatic shock to their emotions; this would include a child who is sexually abused; which is more common than you think:

a. **Crimes Against Children Research Center:**

- 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 20 boys is a victim of child sexual abuse;
- Self-report studies show that 20% of adult females and 5-10% of adult males recall a childhood sexual assault or sexual abuse incident;
- During a one-year period in the U.S., 16% of youth ages 14 to 17 had been sexually victimized;
- Over the course of their lifetime, 28% of U.S. youth ages 14 to 17 had been sexually victimized;
- Children are most vulnerable to CSA between the ages of 7 and 13
(These are just the reported cases; the actual percentages are much higher)

b. **Sexual abuse is always a doorway for demons!** Any woman who was sexually abused, especially by her father, will always need deliverance.

c. I would also add that in my personal experience of 40 years of ministry I have never had one case of a young man struggling with homosexuality who was not molested as a child.

5. There are many other kinds of emotional shocks; experiences that open the door to demons.

a. ***P.T.S.D. symptoms are not disorders; they are demonic.**

*Self-destructive; recurring memories of the event; nightmares; problems concentrating; prolonged and intense distress

6. Emotional trauma may occur through a car accident so that a person is afraid to drive; or being publicly embarrassed by an authority figure so that a person that a person loses their sense of worth. (Elizabeth's testimony)

7. There are cases where a wife lives in fear of her husband; a condition that opens the door for demonic oppression. This is a spirit of *terror*.

1 Peter 3:5-6

For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, 6 as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

“Terror” means any vehement emotion or *intimidation*.

1 Peter 3:6 NLT

You are her (Sarah's) daughters when you do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do.

a. There are marriages, even Christian marriages, where the wife lives in a quiet terror, literally afraid of her husband; his temper, his cutting words.

D. The Fourth Doorway: Sinful Acts or Habits

1. One deliberate, premeditated sinful act can open the door to a demon. Judas made a decision to betray Christ for 30 pieces of silver...

Luke 22:3

Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve.

a. When he chose to sin the Devil entered in--And then drove him to suicide! (Like the demons did after entering the swine in our previous message).

Derek Prince

“Any act of deliberate wrongdoing may open the door for a demon.”

2. We can be thankful for the grace of God that not every deliberate sin we commit brings in a demon; but some do and the only way to be free is to discover that door and close it.

a. The late Don Basham once dealt with a woman who struggled with a strong spirit of sexual lust. The demon refused to come out; here is Don's account:

Don Basham

“The spirit of lust spoke through this woman, ‘She invited me in’. We learned it had entered her when she attended a pornographic movie. It would not leave until she confessed that sin.”

3. So one sin can open the door; repeating the sin can become a habit:

Derek Prince

“Masturbation and pornography almost inevitably open the doorway for demons.”

4. Everyone agrees these are shameful sins; *but there are more socially acceptable sins we seldom think about:*

Then there are the more “respectable” sins that open us up to the demonic:

- Gluttony (the 1st sin involved eating!)
- Pride (the Devil's sin)
 - Gossip
 - Worry
- Exaggeration

Derek Prince

“Habitual exaggeration in one's conversation can open the door to a lying spirit.”

E. Fifth Doorway: The Laying on of Hands

1. The Bible teaches us that laying on of hands is not just ritual; it is a powerful spiritual experience, a temporary intersection between 2 spirits where supernatural power is released.

2. Normally it flows from the one laying on hands to the other but it can be reversed!

1 Timothy 5:22

**Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of another man's sins.
Keep yourself pure.**

3. The gift of the Holy Spirit is often imparted by the laying on of hands; but evil spirits can be imparted the same way. Spirits, (good and bad), are imparted through laying on of hands.

a. Ruth Princes' testimony: she stood to be prayed for because she had a cold but woke up the next morning with her fingers stiff and hurting. "Someone with arthritis laid their hands on you." Derek and Ruth rebuked the spirit of arthritis and she was instantly healed!

F. The Sixth Doorway: Idle Words

1. Many Christians do not understand how much power there is in the words they speak out of their mouths.

Proverbs 18:21 NKJV

Death and life are in the power of the tongue and those who love it will eat of its fruit.

Another translation says...

Proverbs 18:21 (God's Word Translation)

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love to talk will have to eat their own words.

2. Remember what Jesus said to the most religious people of His day:

Matthew 12:34-37

34 Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. 36 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. 37 For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

3. What are "idle words"?

Derek Prince

“Idle words are words we utter thoughtlessly; words that do not express our real thoughts and intentions. Words usually followed by: “I didn’t really mean it.” “I was only joking”. “April fool!” We think this excuses us from responsibility; but these are the words Jesus is warning about!

4. I have known Christians who do this kind of “joking” constantly; but it really is demonic. And demons can use our own words as a doorway. This would include self-pronounced curses:

a. We say, I’m sick and tired of this! (which opens the door to sickness and tiredness)

b. Worse yet is how many times people invoke the spirit of death with idle words:

- I thought I’d die laughing
- That scared me to death
- These donuts are to die for
- I’m dying for some Mexican food
- “I wish I were dead” or “I’d be better off dead”

c. Idle words to you are doorways for demons.

Alexander Pagani, in “Secrets to Deliverance”

“Through our words, we give demons legal access to our lives!]If our confession is negative, full of worry, evil, or unwholesome, we will open wide the doors to demonic spirits that can only gain access if we give them permission. Words give demons power!”

He goes on to say this...

Alexander Pagani

“But the great news is that same way our words open the door, our words can also close the door and deny demons entry if we speak those things that are true, just, and lovely, as Philippians 4:8 instructs. When you change your confession, you’ll see the devil flee! Because the kingdom of darkness is aware of the power of words, demons like to set up camp in the mouth area, especially on the lips and tongue.”

G. The 7th Doorway: Unforgiveness

1. Unforgiveness, in my experience, is the most common doorway for demonic attack among Christians.

2. It is a sin so serious that God says if we don't forgive others He will not forgive us.

Matthew 6:14-15

"If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins."

3. Unforgiveness is a sin so serious that if we do not forgive, God Himself will allow the "tormentors" to torture us! (See the parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18).

Matthew 18:34-35

And (the Lord of the unforgiving servant), moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers (tormentors) until he should repay all that was owed him. My heavenly Father will do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from his heart.

4. We have given hours to teaching this in other series; unforgiveness is the "barn door" of all demonic doorways. It is really the 1st place to look when there are "flies" in the house!

III. Conclusion

A. Review

- Demons desire to indwell our bodies.
- To get in, they have to have a legal doorway
- **We looked at 7 demonic doorways**

1. So what will we do?

Alexander Pagani

"There are two categories or root causes of demonic activity: those things allowed to enter and those things not forced to leave."

2. Don't be overwhelmed! The simple solution to casting out demons and shutting the door to their return is to make sure that Jesus is truly LORD over your life!

3. **Identify the demon; discern the doorway by which it entered. And close it!**

MINISTRY TIME

Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus to pray for your people; I ask you to release the gift of the discernment of spirits right now in this place;
Let each of us identify the demons that we are dealing with and the doorway through which they came.

For we will cast out demons in your name; and we will close the door to all demonic power; in Jesus' name.

Amen