

DEMONOLOGY STUDIES

#25A

Nature and Dwelling Place of Demons

By Sam Fife



The Highest Purpose for Man

To be content with food and raiment,
the necessities of life

To be in a place free from the influence of
Babylon and free to exercise and grow in God

To find your place in the Kingdom of God
which is coming on the Earth

NATURE AND DWELLING PLACE OF DEMONS

Having established in Demonology study No. 1, the reality of the demoniac kingdom, let us go on to see where they have their dwelling place. Where are they? Where do they exist?

This we are told also in the sixth chapter of the Book of Ephesians, the 12th verse. "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."

This is where they have their being. This is where they exist. Now in order to find out just what this means, we need to study this expression "heavenly places," or "high places."

We find that it is used four times in the Book of Ephesians. The first time is in Ephesians 1:20 where we are told that God "raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places." So the HEAVENLY PLACES are where Christ has been made to sit at the right hand of God.

Therefore, we conclude that the heavenly places are where God is. The one foundational truth that all theologians agree on and probably the only one that they all agree on, is that God is omnipresent spirit that fills the whole universe. Our scientists tell us it is so big that there are more worlds out there than all the individual grains of sand on all the beaches in the world. That is a big universe, and a big God who fills it.

To understand where the "heavenly places" are we need to disassociate our minds from the idea that we have had for many years after we became Christians. This is the idea that God exists in a physical form. When we first become Christians, because we read in the Bible that God "stretched forth His hand" to this person or God "walked with that person, we get the idea that God is some kind of physical being, or that He exists in a physical form. We get the idea that He has hands, arms, legs, etc., like we do. This is

particularly enhanced to us because we read in the Book of Genesis that in the beginning God created man in "His own image." Because we look at ourselves as a physical being and hear that God created us in His image, made us like Him, then we assume that He must be a physical being like we are. But, our error is this, we ourselves are not physical beings. This body that we see, is just a house that God made out of clay in which the "spirit" which is the "real us" dwells. This is the sense that He created us in His image, for He is Spirit.

Jesus said to the woman at the Samaritan well, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." (John 4:24) So we are not physical beings. The body is just a house that God made out of clay for the spirit to dwell in. We are spirit-beings in the sense that we are created in the image of God.

The problem is that when we first come to the Bible, we are yet carnal, physical, dead in trespasses and sins, material-minded, carnal thinking beings. As such, we can only think in the physical. We can only think in the literal and the material. Therefore, we think of everything as being physical.

When we come to the Bible, and to Christ, being born-again of the Spirit of God, we move out of the carnal, physical, fleshly realm and we are born into the spiritual realm as spiritual beings. But yet we are BABY spiritual beings. We come with just about all of our carnality, all of our fleshliness, all of our material mindedness, and all of our physical thinking.

Therefore, as we read the Bible, we think literally, we think physically, and materially. When we read that "God stretched out His hand" to this person, we think that God has literal hands. When we read that "God walked" with that person, we think that God literally walked with somebody, and that He has legs and feet as we do.

Right after we are born again in the Spirit of God, we begin at once a process of growth. We read the Word and

the revelation of the Word becomes real to us. We begin a transition from the carnal, physical, fleshly beings that we were into the spiritual beings that God purposes for us to one day be. In the middle of this growth and transition instead of thinking always in the physical and the carnal and fleshly, we are becoming spiritual beings, we then begin to think in spiritual terms and in the Spirit. We begin to see back behind the literal letter of the Word and begin to see the spiritual reality to the spiritual truth. We begin to learn what Jesus meant when He said, "The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life."

Then we begin to see back behind the material and the literal and begin to see the spiritual truth, and the spiritual reality and the spiritual being that the Bible reveals to us.

At this point we learn through the Word that God is omnipresent Spirit which is everywhere, all around us. Then the next step as we learn that God is omnipresent Spirit which fills this whole universe, is only common sense then to realize that you cannot take a being that big and bottle him up in some physical form somewhere, even if it be a mile high and a mile wide. It cannot be done.

Our God which fills the whole universe is too big to be bottled up in a physical form. Then we know that He does not exist in ANY physical form. We notice, and we certainly know that Christ is not sitting on any physical throne beside a physical God who is sitting on a physical throne. When we understand this, we can begin to look back behind the literal expression, "Christ is raised up to sit at the right hand of God." Then we do not get a mental image of Jesus sitting beside a physical God on a physical throne for the past 1900 years, just sitting, sitting, sitting. We see the spiritual truth that is presented to us by that expression.

The idea of God sitting on a throne and Jesus sitting on a throne beside Him reveals to us the truth that Jesus was raised up to co-equality, co-rulership with God. This is the spiritual truth that God wanted to present by the literal expression "and make Him to sit at His right hand in the

heavenly places." We see that it denotes to us Jesus' spiritual position, not any physical position. Then when we learn where God is, and that God is everywhere, then we see that the "heavenly places" are all around us. It is the invisible spiritual realm where God is, and not only where God the Spirit is, but where Jesus and His holy angels have their existence.

But, it is also where Lucifer and his demons, his unclean, evil spirits have their existence. So that the "heavenly places" we read about in Ephesians 1:20 where Christ is, are the same heavenly places that we read about in Ephesians 6:12, where the Bible says that the demoniac kingdom is. The Bible does not make any distinction, it is the same "heavenly places."

You see the problem is that in the past, Christians have received an idea somewhere, certainly not from the Scriptures, that Jesus and His holy angels are way off over here on one side in heaven and that Lucifer and his demons are way out in another place in some hell, some physical place called "hell" and that the two never have any contact or intercourse with one another.

Now this is a pretty good idea, but it is just not scriptural. The Scriptures just do not teach it. They do not bear it out, The Bible teaches that not only do they have contact and intercourse with one another, but they have actual warfare with one another, the angels of Jesus and the demons of Satan.

We read in the tenth chapter of the Book of Daniel that when Daniel the young prophet who lived about 500 years before Jesus, prayed and fasted for 21 days, that God would reveal to him what was going to happen to Israel in the latter days, after 21 days of prayer and fasting, an angel materialized before him at the river Chebar. He told Daniel that God had heard his prayer the first day, and he had been dispatched to bring the answer, but the Prince of Persia (one of the devil's angels, one of the devil's demons) detained him for 21 days, until Michael (the chief prince of Jesus'

heavenly host) came and took up the battle and let him go free to bring the answer to Daniel. When he told Daniel what he came to tell him, he said, "Now will I return to fight with the Prince of Persia."

So we see that the "heavenly places" are simply the invisible spiritual realm where God is, where Jesus and His holy angels are, and where Lucifer and his demons exist as spirit beings. Notice that the Bible says "heavenly places," not "heavenly place." There are places in the invisible spiritual realm just as there are places here on the physical realm. Jesus and His holy angels are able to move from place to place, and so are Lucifer and his demons. Often they have contact and warfare with one another.

So we see that the heavenly places are simply the invisible spiritual realm which is all around us. This is where Lucifer and his demon spirits, his invisible kingdom have their being. That is why they can always be with us, deceiving, tempting, vexing, etc., doing their evil work in our lives.

If you want further evidence that this is literally their dwelling place, you need only to read Eph. 6: 12 (the verse of scripture that we have been studying) as it is translated in the Amplified New Testament which gives us an even better expression of the original Greek, "For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood, contending only with physical opponents, but against the despotism, against the Powers, against the master spirits who are rulers of present darkness against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly supernatural sphere." This is the amplified translation, the original Greek. All I have revealed to you in my exposition is of the King James version. Demons have their dwelling place in the heavenly supernatural sphere or the invisible spiritual realm which is all around us.

If you need more evidence that this demoniac kingdom exists in the air all around us, you need only to turn to Ephesians 2:2. There Paul reminds the Christians that, "Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air,

the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." Here we are told that there are powers in the very air around 'us. They have a prince that is Lucifer, and they are the spirits that work in the children of disobedience or cause people to be disobedient to God.

We want to stress for you an idea of the scope, the size and the number of the demons, just how many of them there are. We have evidence in Scripture that gives us an idea. First we are told in Revelation 12 that when Lucifer rebelled against God, one third of the angels of heaven rebelled against God with him, and they became the demon spirits..

We are told also in Hebrews 12, verses 22-24, that our fellowship as Christians is with Jesus, the Son of God, the "General assembly and church of the firstborn, the New Jerusalem, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to an INNUMERABLE COMPANY of angels." Here we are told that there is an innumerable company of angels. We have big numerical terms in our human experience. We could think of billion which is ten hundred million, or trillion which is ten hundred billion. Then we are getting beyond the scope of our finite minds to conceive this. But the Bible says that there are an innumerable company of angels, a number so big that it cannot be numbered. Take one third of that number, and you have the number of those angels that have become the demon spirits. You know there are a lot of them.

Now having established the reality of the demoniac kingdom, and the fact that the very air around us is full of them, we understand why the apostle Paul says in Eph. 6:10, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Not in our own strength, not with worldly promotions and organizations but **IN THE LORD**, and **IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT**. We cannot fight these spirit beings with carnal weapons.

These spirit beings are not at all impressed with all our worldly promotion. They are not at all impressed with all of our organizations ability. They are not at all impressed with

the millions of dollars that we spend to get people into church, to get them to go through a carnal, physical form and ritual. They are not at all impressed with all of these fleshly efforts.

They are only impressed when people begin to get down on their knees and pray, sending forth spiritual power through outpourings of faith from their hearts. They are only impressed when people get down on their knees and pray, yielding to the Spirit of God so that God begins to pour out upon them revelations by the Spirit. Revelation concerning the demoniac kingdom. They are only impressed when they see Christians cease to fight warfare in the physical plane and begin warfare in the spirit. They are only impressed when Christians look back behind the visible and begin to see the invisible. They are only impressed when Christians begin to realize that the enemy which we are fighting is not flesh and blood, therefore they cease to deal with the manifestations only, they cease to deal only with the people and the things that they do or say. They begin to allow the Spirit of God to lead them to fight in the Spirit and to deal with the spirit beings which are the cause of all the confusion in the first place. They are only impressed when Christians recognize that we are not fighting flesh and blood, therefore, they cease to strive against one another.

When Christians learn this great truth, they will no longer be striving against one another, criticizing one another. They will recognize that they have a common enemy. They will band themselves together in love and begin to pray for one another. How often are churches today torn with great gashes which cause great harm to the testimony of Jesus Christ, simply because these invisible spirits sweep in and begin to project into one group's mind objections about the others. Then both groups, instead of looking back behind the flesh and blood and seeing the demoniac kingdom which is causing the division, and getting down on their knees and praying for one another, the two sides begin to strive against one another. Instead of getting down on their knees seeking

God that the Holy Spirit might bring them together in love working out their differences of opinion so that each side might be delivered from the demon spirits which are causing the division in the first place, they begin to strive and to fight against one another. Pretty soon these groups become so aggravated with one another that they have no desire to even pray for one another at all but only to blame one another. Only to make sure that the other side is proven wrong. The demons who are causing all the division in the first place are setting back laughing with glee. The thing goes on until there is a split in God's church. The world looks at it and laughs at its professional Christianity, and the testimony of Jesus Christ is brought to dishonor and to disrepute. This is exactly what the invisible kingdom started out to do in the first place.

Nay, it is only when we are strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might, fighting the warfare in the Spirit that Satan's kingdom is going to be overcome and Jesus is going to return.

Having established the reality of this invisible kingdom, we see why Paul tells us to take unto us the **WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD**. The remainder of this study, we are going to look at this armor and see some of the instruments of warfare that God has given us with which to defeat the demoniac kingdom.

LOINS GIRT ABOUT WITH TRUTH

The first piece of our armor, Paul says, is **TRUTH**. Ephesians 6:14 says, "Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth." It is only when we know the truth concerning the reality of this demoniac kingdom, their nature, their symptoms, their characteristics, the weapons of the Spirit which are given to us with which to successfully overcome them, the different areas of demon work in our lives, the purpose for which the "blood" is given to us, and when we know the truth concerning these things and our

loins are girt about with truth concerning Jesus and God's purpose in Christ for us, we are able to withstand the lies that the demoniac spirits seek to project into our minds daily.

There is a great need for us to feed continually upon the Word of God. There is a great need for us to seek the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation. This is why the burden is upon my heart and the hearts of many others to send forth to the Church of Jesus Christ the truth concerning the demoniac kingdom and unveil for them the great wealth of truth that is revealed to us in the scriptures on this subject of demonology.

This is why God has opened up the door to send these studies on booklets and tapes, across the country, teaching the truth so that God's people can be educated in this area and part of their armor can be strong and they can have their loins girt about with the truth. "Truth" as Jesus said, "shall set you free" and shall also dispel the great fear that binds the Church of Jesus Christ concerning this area of ministry. For that which we understand, we no longer fear.

I was teaching a two-week study on this subject in Texas one time. Many of the people after the close of the study said, "Bro. Fife, just this teaching has brought deliverance to me from a spirit that has been oppressing me for years." These people had been suffering depression and oppression and these experiences from demons. They did not know what it was. Because they did not want to hinder their testimony, they were not confessing what was going on within them to their fellow Christians. They were carrying the burden within themselves, fighting the battle as best they could. They said, "Now I know what has caused this, and the very teaching of the truth has brought my deliverance. "Yea, when we have our loins girt about with truth, then we are prepared to stand against the enemy."

THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

This is a very important part of our armor and warfare against demon spirits. If we are not walking in holiness and righteousness, when the demons tempt and trick us into these things which are sin and which our regenerated nature and consciences know to be sin, as soon as they trick us into something overcoming us, causing us to commit the act, they come right back and begin to project to our mind CONDEMNATION. The devil who is the "accuser of the brethren" begins to accuse us, to point out to us that we have failed God. Thus he tries to inject upon us a sense and feeling that God is displeased with us, and that we are no good, that we just cannot live the Christian life anyway. This puts us under condemnation, under a sense of guilt, increasing a guilt complex within us. When we come to pray, we feel that God is displeased with us, therefore we cannot pray with real faith so He will hear and answer our prayers. We cannot pray with real faith. And because faith is the thing that moves the hand of God, He cannot answer. Thus the power of God has been robbed from our lives.

When we walk in holiness and righteousness and have on the breastplate of righteousness, the enemy has no weapon with which to accuse us, with which to separate us from God.

At this point we want to reveal the tremendous power, the weapon of the "imputed righteousness" that is given to us in Christ. Here we can learn how to effectively use the blood in order to defeat demon spirits. You see, one reason God gave His Son Jesus to shed His blood on the cross for us in the first place is because He knew that Satan would continually be tempting us to sin, overcoming us and causing us to sin, and then when he tempted us and overcame us, he could come right back and point the accusing finger at us and say, "See, you're no good. You've failed God again," and thus put us under condemnation and say "God is displeased with you."

The devil knows that as long as we are bowed down under this tremendous guilt complex that we could never come to

God with real faith believing that our Heavenly Father loves us, and that He is pleased with us and that we are perfectly acceptable to Him and therefore, pray in faith believing that we have received what we have prayed for. Jesus said that in order to receive it, we must believe, to have the power of God working in our lives. The devil knows that as long as he can keep us under condemnation we could never have the faith to go on to overcome our sins and weaknesses.

For this reason, God gave us Christ and the cross and the blood so that we could know that our acceptability to God does not depend on what we do, but on what Jesus has done for us. We can know that we are cleansed before God, not by our actions, but by the blood of Jesus and are perfectly acceptable to our Father, not through our own holiness but through the blood of Jesus.

So when we come to God in prayer and Satan has been tricking us (that is the way Satan works), by tempting you and then convincing you to commit the act, then coming back and throwing condemnation on you to convince you that you are not acceptable to God, you can take the power that is in the blood of Jesus and come and kneel and pray even though the enemy may have overcome you, trying to pour his condemnation upon you, and you can say with Jesus, "Get thee behind me, Satan. You are a liar. I am perfectly acceptable to my Father at this time, not because I have already attained to perfect holiness, not because of what I do, but because of what my Lord Jesus has done for me through His blood."

The power that the sin held over us is then broken and the power of the condemnation of Satan is broken. We cannot only pray with faith receiving the power of God in our lives, but we can have faith to go on to overcome our weaknesses, to stand in the imputed righteousness that is given to us until such time as we come unto that perfect righteousness of our own which God will lead us into.

So we see that the breastplate of righteousness and the blood of Jesus are the weapons in our armor and instruments of warfare that are given to us with which to fight the enemy.

GOSPEL OF PEACE

"And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." Our FEET speak of our WALK. Here the Lord says we should walk forth in the gospel of peace. You see, demon spirits are always trying to stir up divisions. They are always trying to cause enmity not only between the people of the world but Christians.

The purpose of the demoniac kingdom has always been to bring forth divisions, strife and warfare. They do this in order to seek to always keep us in an atmosphere of strife and misery so that they can weaken our minds and spirits, continually weaken our minds, and spirits and our faith ultimately with the hope of getting us and completely possessing us. But when we walk in Jesus' Gospel of peace we can stand right in the middle of all the holocaust that is all around us, and we can have peace in our hearts.

Our Lord Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you: not as the world giveth give I unto you." (John 14:27) You see Jesus' peace that He gives is not the kind the world gives. The peace the world gives is a temporary feeling of contentment that one has when things are going well financially, no one in the family is sick, they have plenty of material goods, and for a little while they feel a measure of security and contentment. But when one is depending on that kind of peace, they are on false ground. Tomorrow the children will get sick. The next day financial problems arise. The next day demons will sweep in with all sorts of divisions in the family. And this peace is immediately gone, because it is a worldly thing, and it is not lasting. The bottom will fall out and the house will fall.

The peace that Jesus gives is not the kind of peace that gives only comfort when things are going well materially.

The peace that Jesus gives comes from our knowing that, "All things work together for good to them that love God." Whatever testing we are going through, our Heavenly Father is only leading us toward conformation, to the image of Christ. It enables us to stand right in the midst of a holocaust when things are raging all around us, knowing that He is with us even unto the end of the world. All things work together for good to them that love God, and this is the peace which will enable us to stand in all that the demons are stirring up, having contentment in our hearts and peace in our souls.

THE SHIELD OF FAITH

"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." This is the weapon which we have as our shield when the enemy begins to project his fiery darts of doubt, unbelief, and lies into our minds. We can stick this shield of faith in front of us. Faith in the Word of God, faith in the promises of God, faith in the power that is in the blood of Jesus, faith that He is ever with us and that He will do all that He said He will do, and we can slam the enemy back where he belongs.

THE HELMET OF SALVATION

The helmet goes upon the head. Of course, a head wound can be serious, but thank God the Holy Spirit has revealed to us that we are saved through the blood of Jesus. Our salvation is complete and is done in the heart and mind of God. It only needs to be walked out in our experience. when we have our head covered with the helmet of this knowledge, that we are saved once and for all, forever, through the blood of Jesus, then all the tricks the demons play upon us, all the lies that they present before our eyes to

try to make us stop, cannot keep us from going on to that place that God has prepared for us.

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

"And the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God." All the other weapons that have been mentioned here: The breastplate of righteousness, loins girt with the truth, the helmet of salvation, feet shod with the gospel of peace, the shield of faith are defensive weapons with which to resist the attack of the enemy. But the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT which is the WORD OF GOD is an offensive weapon. It is a weapon with which we can go forth against the enemy, a weapon which the enemy cannot stand.

Remember when Jesus in the wilderness was tempted by Satan? He took the Word of God and whipped Satan to a frazzle, Satan said, "If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread." Jesus answered him saying, "It is written, that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God." (Luke 4:3-4)

However, there is one point we want to make here concerning the use of the Word of God which needs to be made with many Christians. How often have I heard Christians say, "Jesus defeated Satan by quoting to him the Word of God." How often have I heard ministered that "You can defeat Satan by quoting him the Word of God." No, dear friends, you do not defeat Satan by "quoting" him the Word of God. You defeat Satan by feeding upon the Word of God yourself. Many people can quote the Word of God to Satan, and he does not care how much they quote it. He laughs in their faces, and demons laugh in their faces when they quote it.

It is only when we feed on the Word of God and when we believe the Word of God ourselves that Satan begins to tremble. He does not care how much man quotes the Word

as long as they do not feed upon it and believe it themselves. Jesus said, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone but by every word of God." He was pouring into His own consciousness that scripture, building up His own faith in that truth,

I had this truth revealed to me some years ago, by an experience of one of the deacons of our church. He was an insurance agent. One day while he was out on his insurance route, he was suddenly taken with a migraine headache that was so tremendous in pain that he began to drive home. By the time he got to his home, he could not even walk into the house. He stumbled and fell in the yard and his wife had to come out and help him inside. He laid out on the bed and having been healed before through the power of faith, he began to pray for God to heal this headache. Having heard this statement before of quoting scripture to Satan, he began to quote scripture to Satan of the promises of God. As he did, suddenly he began to see a vision.

In the vision he saw himself surrounded by a wall and directly in front of him was an entrance or gate in the wall. Standing just outside the gate he saw a giant bulldog guarding the gate to keep him from getting out. Then he saw himself throwing chunks of bread dough at this giant bulldog. But every time he would throw a chunk of bread dough, as it would pass through the gate, a little imp like figure would dart his head out just outside the wall and catch the bread dough. It would never get to the dog. Then the vision changed. He saw himself and instead of throwing the bread dough at the bulldog, he began eating the bread dough himself. When he did, immediately his headache was healed, and the pain stopped. The vision was over. He knew that God had said to him "Do not quote the Word to Satan (the Word is symbolized by the bread dough) but eat the Word yourself."

When he did, faith began to mount up in his heart. The power of God began to work and he was completely healed. So the first thing we want to see is that we must feed upon

the Word of God ourselves, then we can give it out to others in order that they might feed upon it and when all of us feed upon it and believe it, and stand upon it, then the demoniac kingdom is defeated. No point in quoting it to them. They do not believe it. They will never believe it. They have gone past the point of no return. But when WE believe it, then all of the demons lies can have no effect on us and the power of the Almighty God works in our lives.

I would like to add to the closing of this study a few more weapons that are given to us with which to fight the enemy. The most important one of all is LOVE. You see, when you understand that people do what they do and are what they are, not because of themselves but because of the demoniac spirits which are deceiving them, we then do not get aggravated with those people or look at the manifestation. We love them. Then we can always go to them in love, and we can not only pray for them but get through to them by drawing them to us and being able to point out to them what the spirits are doing to them. We can teach them, and then they can overcome the spirits. We have GAINED OUR BROTHER, and God is glorified. When we do not love them when we get aggravated with them because of what they do, then the spirits have succeeded in separating them and us. We cannot help them, and the demoniac kingdom wins the battle.

PRAISE

The next instrument I want to share with you that is powerful against Satan is the weapon of praise. Demon spirits cannot stand praise. They cannot stand it when we are praising God and adoring Jesus in praise. There is a very good reason for this. You see, a demon spirit has a nature which is diametrically opposite to yours and mine. We have the nature of God. We love to be in an atmosphere where people are talking about God and worshipping and adoring Him. Put any of us in a house of prostitution or in a bar

room with all kinds of filthy talk coming forth, and it would so grate against our nature that we would want to get out of that place quickly. But then if it got bad enough, we definitely could not stand it. We would just HAVE to get up and leave.

Even so, demon spirits have a nature which love that kind of atmosphere. They revel in it, and it is pleasing to their nature. But put them in an atmosphere among a group of Spirit-filled people who are praising and worshipping the name of the Lord Jesus, and it so grates upon their nature that they cannot stand it, and they have to get out.

How often have I seen this truth manifested. I could think of a time some years ago when we were dedicating a new church building, and we had invited four or five visiting ministers in. We had all day services with dinner on the grounds. After lunch, we came back at 2 o'clock and all the rest of the day we would praise God a while then someone would preach a word. Then we would praise God again and someone else would get up and preach. Finally at 5 o'clock in the afternoon the power of praise became so strong that there was one man sitting out in the congregation who was indwelled by demon spirits, and they could not stand it any longer. Suddenly they made him jump up and make all kinds of weird motions as if he was putting a hex on the congregation. Then he ran out of the door as fast as he could. The demons could no longer stand the praise, the worship, and the adoration of God that was going forth. I have seen them break down and cry under the power of praise.

I remember a deaf boy once who we set in our midst because the demon spirits in him were resisting. We just began to praise. After a half hour of praise, worship and adoration of God, the demon spirits in the boy began to break down and cry through him. And they began to come out. The boy himself had not heard a word we said, but the demon spirits could not stand the praise.

Some months ago, I was called to the city of Lubbock, Texas, to cast out demons from a young man who was possessed with them. When I arrived there, I insisted on a week of teaching the family and friends who were burdened for the boy before I began to command the spirits out, so that they would understand where we were going and what we were doing.

For a week I taught on the subject of demonology. Then in their church on the next Sunday morning, I ministered on the power of praise as an instrument to defeat Satan. When I finished the sermon and the service closed, the boy's 25 year old sister was standing, lost in the Spirit still worshipping God. I stood back

by the door and said good-bye to the last person, and then I looked back in the great church building and the young girl was gone. I wondered where she was, and then suddenly I heard her way back in the prayer room shouting, "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!" over and over and over again. This church seated approximately 1,200 people, and was very large seemingly a half block long. But you could hear this girl shouting in the Spirit with her Texas drawl, "Hallelujah!" that it reverberated off the walls throughout the whole church. Then for the next hour her father and I sat there, waiting for her as she knelt in the prayer room praising God.

But then that night when the spirits that were in her brother manifested themselves, I started to cast them out, and this young girl suddenly stepped in front of me and swept me aside and commanded the spirits to come out herself, in the name of Jesus. Then she burst forth with a "Hallelujah to the name of Jesus." It seemed to make all the walls of the house push out. Having a college trained voice in the conservatory of Music, it was very strong and very powerful.

When she did, her brother began to cough and gag. The spirits that were in him began to come out, and he was set free.

The next morning I received a call from another person. A woman in that city who had a woman in her home who

was demon possessed. This woman had an operation six weeks before, and when she was physically weak, the spirits which had been inside her for all these years manifested themselves and took over. The night before we were called, the woman had gone completely out of her mind, and she had been crazy all night.

We went to her bedroom in the house where she was, and started to lay hands on her to cast the spirits out of her. Again this young woman stepped before me. I saw that God was raising up a great deliverer, and I very happily stepped aside. Again she laid hands upon this woman, and she burst forth with a volume of praise that made the walls reverberate and commanded the spirits to come out. When she did, the power of God became so strong that the woman began to tremble, starting at her feet and then on up to her head. The spirits began to come out, but before they came out, each one was forced to confess through the woman's own lips what he had been doing to her.

The first spirit that came up said, "I am the one which caused her to lose all of her friends. She does not have a friend in the world because I have tricked her into talking about her friends for years." The next one that came up after he went said, "I am the spirit that has been putting fear into her. She is scared to death that she is going to die. That is why she cannot be healed of her physical sickness. I have been pouring the fear into her." There were 15 spirits in this woman, and each one as he came up was forced by the power of God to confess what he had been doing with the woman and then went out. When the last one came up, he was forced to confess, "I am the last." I thought he was lying, but he wasn't. After he came out we prayed with the woman, and she was filled with the Holy Spirit. We left her speaking in tongues and magnifying God.

Demons cannot stand praise. This is why the great Pentecostal revivals have swept the earth for the last sixty years on the wings of two things - PRAISE and TONGUES. If you will check the statistics, and study the record of

Pentecost, you will discover the first thing that the Holy Spirit has brought forth in every church in which the Baptism of the Holy Spirit has broken out is tongues and then praise.

In the life of every individual who has received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the first thing that the Spirit has brought forth is first tongues, and then great praise. This is because the Holy Spirit knows that these are the two things that the demons cannot stand. This is why there is no power to heal in the nominal churches who have not received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit truth. Because there is no praise to drive out the demons which are continually hovering and lurking in their church services.

Have you ever gone into a church service when the service first began and there was a heavy oppressive feeling hanging over the congregation, even in a Spirit filled church, and no power of God was there as a result of it. Then as the people began to worship God and the Spirit of God moves within them, they begin to burst forth in a volume of praise. Suddenly the atmosphere is cleared, there is an instantaneous release, and you can feel it present to heal. This is because the demon spirits which were hovering and lurking over that congregation could not stand the praise that came forth, and they were driven out.

When the nominal churches of our world know this great truth and yield to the Spirit of God, letting Him bring forth the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and then tongues which is the gift to build up our faith, and then praise which is the instrument which drives demons away from us, then the power of God will be present to heal in their services too. It is one of the greatest instruments that is given to us with which to fight demon spirits, and it is perfectly scientific. Their nature cannot stand it. They cannot stand to be in the presence of those who are loving and adoring Jesus. The more we use it, the more the power of God will be manifested in our lives. May God make it real to your heart. In Jesus' name. Amen.

