

### Is deliverance ministry Biblical? 3.

Although exorcism should never be required of believers, that is not to say that demons do not vex them; demons can cause considerable problems to saints. In scripture we see, at least, affliction (2 Cor 12:7, 'buffet' = 'to strike'), warfare (Eph 6; Rev 12:17), hindrance (1 Thess 2:18), temptation (Matt 4:1), devouring (1 Pt 5:8) and ensnaring (1 Tim 3:7) by demons. However, it is vital to remember that these attacks are allowed by God under his providential hand in order to bring us into good (Rm 8:28) and to testify to his name (see book of Job). All our problems are under God's sovereign control and fatherly hand for a reason; hence we give thanks for them (1 Thess 5:18). Demons may oppress us but do not dominate us and only work under God's purpose.

Scriptures teaching that Christians cannot be possessed by demons include:

Jn 8:36, If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Rm 6:22, But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Rm 8:15, For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.'

Rm 8:31, If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?

1 Cor 3:16, You are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Cor 6:19-20, Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

2 Cor 5:17, If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Cor 6:16, For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among *them*. I will be their God, and they shall be my people.'

Eph 1:13-14, You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance.

Eph 5:8, For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord.

Eph 6:11, 16, Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil ... above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

Col 1:13, He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love.

1 Pt 2:9, But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.

Jm 4:7, Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

1 Jn 4:4, You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

Scripture quotations are from The New King James Version

© Thomas Nelson 1982

**Paul Fahy Copyright © 2015**

Understanding Ministries

### Is deliverance ministry Biblical? 3.

Although exorcism should never be required of believers, that is not to say that demons do not vex them; demons can cause considerable problems to saints. In scripture we see, at least, affliction (2 Cor 12:7, 'buffet' = 'to strike'), warfare (Eph 6; Rev 12:17), hindrance (1 Thess 2:18), temptation (Matt 4:1), devouring (1 Pt 5:8) and ensnaring (1 Tim 3:7) by demons. However, it is vital to remember that these attacks are allowed by God under his providential hand in order to bring us into good (Rm 8:28) and to testify to his name (see book of Job). All our problems are under God's sovereign control and fatherly hand for a reason; hence we give thanks for them (1 Thess 5:18). Demons may oppress us but do not dominate us and only work under God's purpose.

Scriptures teaching that Christians cannot be possessed by demons include:

Jn 8:36, If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Rm 6:22, But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Rm 8:15, For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.'

Rm 8:31, If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?

1 Cor 3:16, You are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Cor 6:19-20, Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

2 Cor 5:17, If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Cor 6:16, For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among *them*. I will be their God, and they shall be my people.'

Eph 1:13-14, You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance.

Eph 5:8, For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord.

Eph 6:11, 16, Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil ... above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

Col 1:13, He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love.

1 Pt 2:9, But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.

Jm 4:7, Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

1 Jn 4:4, You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

Scripture quotations are from The New King James Version

© Thomas Nelson 1982

**Paul Fahy Copyright © 2015**

Understanding Ministries