

“Demons”

What do you think about when you hear the word "demon"?

How do you think demons interact with the world today?

What Are Demons?:

- **Definition and Origin:**
 - **Scripture Reference:** [Luke 10:18](#) – Jesus says, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.”
 - The fall of Lucifer and his followers (demons).
- **Nature of Demons:**
 - **Scripture Reference:** [James 2:19](#) – “You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!”
 - Demons are spiritual beings with knowledge of God but in rebellion against Him.

The Influence of Demons:

- **Possession and Oppression:**
 - **Scripture Reference:** [Mark 5:1-20](#) – The Gerasene demoniac. Discuss the severity of possession and the transformation through Jesus.
- **Deception and Temptation:**
 - **Scripture Reference:** [2 Corinthians 11:14](#) – “And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.”
 - How demons can influence thoughts and behaviors.

Jesus' Authority Over Demons:

- **Scripture Reference:** [Luke 4:31-37](#) – Jesus commands an unclean spirit, showing His authority.
- **Scripture Reference:** [Matthew 8:28-34](#) – Jesus casts out demons from two men in Gadara.
- How does Jesus' authority assure believers of victory over demonic forces.

Our Authority in Christ:

- **Believers' Power:**
 - **Scripture Reference:** [Luke 10:19](#) – “Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy.”
- **Spiritual Armor:**
 - **Scripture Reference:** [Ephesians 6:10-18](#) – How does the Armor of God protect us against spiritual attacks.

Myths and Truths about Demons:

Myth: Satan is equal to God in power.

- **Clarification:** Satan is a created being and does not possess the same power or authority as God. God is omnipotent, while Satan is limited.
 - **Scripture Reference:** [Job 1:6-12](#) shows that Satan operates within the boundaries set by God.

Myth: All mental illness is caused by demons.

- **Clarification:** While the Bible does describe instances of demon possession, mental illness can have various causes, including biological and psychological factors. Not all afflictions are due to demonic activity.
 - **Scripture Reference:** [Mark 5:15](#) shows the distinction between physical ailments and demonic possession.

Myth: Demons are primarily malevolent spirits seeking to cause chaos.

- **Clarification:** While demons do seek to harm and lead people away from God, they can also disguise themselves as benevolent beings to deceive.
 - **Scripture Reference:** [2 Corinthians 11:14](#) – "Satan disguises himself as an angel of light."

Myth: Satan is the ruler of Hell.

- **Clarification:** Satan is not in charge of Hell; it is a place of punishment prepared for him and his demons. Ultimately, he will be judged and cast into the lake of fire.

- **Scripture Reference:** Revelation 20:10 indicates that Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire.

Myth: Every person has a personal demon assigned to them.

- **Clarification:** The Bible does not support the idea that individuals have specific demons assigned to them. While demons can influence people, there is no clear teaching on personal demons.
 - **Scripture Reference:** Ephesians 6:12 emphasizes the broader struggle against spiritual forces rather than individual assignments.

Myth: Once a person is possessed by a demon, they can never be free.

- **Clarification:** The Bible shows that Jesus has the power to deliver individuals from demonic possession. True freedom is possible through faith in Christ.
 - **Scripture Reference:** Mark 5:1-20 demonstrates Jesus' authority to cast out demons and restore individuals.

Myth: Demons are only a biblical phenomenon and don't exist today.

- **Clarification:** While the Bible provides the primary framework for understanding demons, many believe that spiritual warfare continues today, though the nature of such encounters may differ.
 - **Scripture Reference:** 1 Peter 5:8 warns believers to be vigilant against the adversary who seeks to devour.

Myth: A Christian cannot be possessed by a demon.

- **Clarification:** While many believe that true believers cannot be possessed by demons due to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, they can be oppressed or influenced.
 - **Scripture Reference:** Ephesians 6:12 emphasizes the ongoing spiritual battle believers face.