

DEMONS AND CHRISTIANS

Ephesians 4:14

The newest 'craze' throughout Christendom is "deliverance ministries". The bottom line to this new 'doctrine' is that Christians can be demon possessed and it takes other Christians to help get the demons out of the person who is 'demon possessed'.

Deliverance Doctrine

Deliverance ministries are activities carried out by a person or a group aimed at solving problems related to demons and spirits regarding possession. They emphasize activities of evil spirits in many physical, psychological, and emotional issues that people experience. Also, they organize the removal from homes of items that are believed to harbor demons such as novels, art work and artifacts depicting pagan gods.

Deliverance Ministries teach the possession of the body and or the soul. Some teach that Christians cannot have demons possessing their soul but can possess their body due to emotional wounds such as physical and or emotional abuse or Satanic abuse, this is known as a 'partial demon infestation.

The rise of Deliverance Ministries occurred almost immediately after the release of the film *The Exorcist* in 1973. It is currently on a steep rise especially through the Charismatic Christian circles.

Bible Doctrine

Galatians 1:8 We must remember that Paul is the Apostle to the Gentile world. God has given us all the doctrines for the church and for individuals. Any new 'doctrine' therefore, cannot be of God.

Ephesians 6:12 We certainly have been aware of the battle we face as Christians. The influence that Satan (the prince of the power of the air) has on Christians and non-Christians has been experienced by every person living through discouragement, depression, along with physical and emotional attacks. However, the bible is clear that a demon cannot enter into or exercise control over the life of a believer.

John 14:20 When we accepted Jesus Christ as Lord we were placed "in Christ."

John 14:30 Within the same context, Jesus said that Satan cometh but hath "nothing in me." If Jesus is in us and we are in Him then Satan cannot have anything "in us" either.

Ephesians 1:21 The bible tells us that Jesus is "far above all principalities, and powers...". In a few verses from here, (**Eph. 2:6**) the bible goes on and tells us that we are "in heavenly places" with Jesus.

Ephesians 1:13 The moment we were saved God "sealed us with the Holy Spirit...", and later the bible tells us that (**I John 4:4**) "greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world."

John 8:12 Jesus said "I am the light of the world".. Then in (**I John 1:5**) we are told that "in Him is no darkness at all. Darkness and light cannot dwell together. If Jesus is in us and we are in Him then the darkness of evil demons cannot dwell with us either.

I Corinthians 6:19-20 The 'new doctrine of Deliverance teaches that demons can possess Christians body if not their soul. However, not only does god own our soul but the bible is clear that our body is His temple and He owns our bodies as well as our soul.

Galatians 5:19 It is said that often times the supposed demons in someone identify themselves a demons of lust, envy, impurity, witchcraft, anger, etc. These activities within a person are biblically identified as "works of the flesh." These characteristics come from "the old man" of (**Eph. 4:22**) which we are to "put off" but the bible never tells us "to cast them out!"

If Christians were going to have the issue of being demon possessed, without a doubt we would have several examples in the book of Acts or in Paul's Epistles on how to deal with them. God would never leave His children in the dark regarding such an important issue.