

WASP: Holy of Holies: Demon Possession vs Oppression

Often, when speaking about deliverance, questions and issues arise over the use of certain syntax and verbiage, such as: having a demon and being possessed or oppressed. In short, "having" demons and being "possessed" by demons are entirely different matters. Possession denotes ownership. A Christian belongs to Christ. He has been purchased by the precious blood of Jesus¹.

Many bible translations, including KJV, NIV and NASB translate *daimonizomai* (δαιμονίζομαι) as "demon possessed"². More accurately, the word means "to act under the control or influence of demons". Those who are described using *daimonizomai*, express the mind and consciousness of the demon or demons indwelling them³. Thus, **Christians can be influenced and controlled by demons who indwell them, but demons cannot "possess" or own a Christian.** Demons dwelling in Christians are trespassers without legal rights. They are subject to eviction in the authority of the Name of the One who has redeemed such believers unto Himself by His blood, Jesus Christ⁴.

Some question, "How can an evil spirit dwell in a person who has Holy Spirit within him?" The answer is made clear by remembering "your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit"⁵. The Temple in Jerusalem had three parts: **Outer Court, Holy Place, and Holy of Holies.** The presence of God dwelt solely in the Holy of Holies. The three compartments in the Temple correspond to man's Tri-partite being: **body, soul, and spirit.** For the Christian, **the human spirit corresponds to the Holy of Holies, which is the dwelling place of Holy Spirit.** Holy Spirit desires us to submit every area of our "temple" to His control. Other temple areas include the mind, emotions, will, and physical body.

Jesus found defilement in the Jerusalem temple. However, the money changers and the merchants with doves and cattle were not in the Holy of Holies, but in the outer courts of the temple. Jesus proceeded to "cast out" all which defiled the temple⁶. This is a perfect analogy of deliverance. Defilement is not in the spirit of a Christian but in the "outer courts" of his mind, emotions, and body. **There can be defilement in the Outer Court while the presence of the Lord remains in the Holy of Holies.**

¹ 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

² Matthew 8:16, 12:22; Luke 4:33

³ Luke 8:28

⁴ 1 Peter 1:18

⁵ 1 Corinthians 6:19

⁶ Matthew 21:12