armor of God *Eph 6:10-18*, which helps us to overcome three deadly enemies: Satan; the world; and self, with its carnal nature. The armor of God consists of:

1) Helmet of salvation - knowledge of salvation, including the significance of Christ's sacrifice, and what Christ has obtained for us through the shedding of His blood Heb 5:9; 9:12. Knowledge of the ultimate destiny of the saints of God, which is inheriting eternal life in the Kingdom of God, and becoming divine members of the Family of God *Rev 20:6*. Our minds must be protected from Satan's schemes and attacks, which include: deception, temptation, accusation, doubt, discouragement and distraction, etc. 2) Breastplate of righteousness - obedience to God's commandments *Ps 119:172*. First love and first priority is the Kingdom of God and His righteousness Mt 6:33. We live spiritually productive lives with righteous deeds. 3) Shield of faith - living faith in Jesus Christ, imparted by the Holy Spirit. Belief and trust in God and His Supreme Power Gal 2:20; Php 3:9; Heb 11:6; Rev 14:12. 4) Sword of the Spirit - Scriptures must be carefully understood. We hold fast to the truth as revealed in God's word, which instructs us how to be sober, alert and vigilant, and resist Satan's strategies Heb 4:12; Jas 4:7-8; 1 Pe 5:8-9. 5) Belt of truth - We are sanctified by the word of truth, which is the word of God Jn 17:17; 2 Th 2:13-15. We hold fast to the truth, which is evidenced by living according to the truth. 6) Shoes of the readiness to announce the gospel of peace which is the message of the Kingdom of God, when Christ will reign the earth and establish peace Mk 1:15. Be always prepared with study and memorization of scripture, and the ability to communicate the gospel wisely and effectively. Prayer - We must draw closer to God with persevering prayer, and pray for all God's saints 1 Th 5:17.

Anoint the house - Olive oil is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. While anointing all the windows and doors, say repeatedly: "In Jesus Name, and by the precious blood of Jesus, we command all evil spirits to leave this home immediately, and never return!" (read tract: 'No Idols!').

Remember: There is a living hope in Christ Jesus our Lord, for anyone who is seriously and desperately seeking repentance, and deliverance from evil spirits! Only Jesus can set you free. He is the way, the truth and the life! <u>Jn 14:6</u>.

Scriptural References:

Matthew 4:23-25

Matthew 8:16-17

Matthew 10:1,5-10

Matthew 12:22-32,43-45

Matthew 15:21-28

Matthew 17:14-21

Mark 1:21-39

Mark 6:7-13

Mark 7:24-30

Mark 9:14-29,38-41

Mark 16:9,15-18

Luke 4:31-44

Luke 6:17-19

Luke 7:21-23

Luke 8:1-3,26-39

Luke 10:17-20

Luke 11:14-28

Luke 13:10-17,31-32

Acts 5:12-16

Acts 8:4-8

Acts 16:16-40

Acts 19:11-20

Romans 8:12-17

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

1 Timothy 4:1-2 2 Timothy 1:7-10

2 Timothy 3:16-17

1 Peter 5:6-11

1 John 4:1-6,13-16

Revelation 18:2,23

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What are demons? What kinds of demons exist? How do they gain entry? How do you cast them out? Can a Christian have demons? What are the basic steps to a successful deliverance?

What are demons? Demons are evil spirits or unclean spirits. They are disembodied (without physical form) spirit beings, with an intense craving to dwell in, either a human body (preferably) <u>Lk 8:27</u>, or an animal <u>Mk 5:11-13</u>.

How do demons gain entry into a person's life? Many people have open doorways for demonic activity in their lives through various sins, such as: idolatry (associated with demon worship) Dt 32:17; Ps 106:37; 1 Co 10:20, false religions, and the occult, including: witchcraft, necromancy (communicating with the dead), divination, sorcery, spiritism, seances, astrology, and possession of pagan idols and occult materials, such as: tarot cards, ouija boards, and satanic music Dt 18:9-13; sexual immorality, including possession of adult/pornographic materials and viewing content of this nature; drug or alcohol abuse; new age practices such as: yoga and hypnotherapy; and sins of ancestors (read tract: 'Release from Curses'). Also other works of the flesh, as listed in Gal 5:19-21, may invite demons. Habitual sin gives legal grounds for Satan and his demons to operate in a person's life, and therefore, unrepentant sinners and apostates (who have fallen away from the faith, and persistently and deliberately live a lifestyle that is contrary to God's word) may become demonically possessed. Witches may conjure or summon demons for specific purposes, such as sexual purposes. For example: Incubus (male demon) lies upon people in their sleep. It sexually assaults women and tempts them to sexual relations. It also feels like a heavy weight upon the chest, and that the weight crushes the breath out of a person, causing breathing difficulties. The word incubus is derived from the Latin incubo ("nightmare") and incubare ("to lie upon"). Succubus (female demon) appears in dreams to tempt men to intercourse (see anti-witchcraft prayers - prayer page).

Can a Christian have demons? There is a difference between being affected, oppressed, attacked or influenced by demons externally; and being demonically possessed (where Satan claims ownership of that person and regards him as his possession). In the case of demonic oppression, demons may attack someone's faith, and attempt to deceive through false teaching; or they may afflict or torment a person, as in the case of the apostle Paul, where God allowed a messenger of Satan to torment him 2 Co 12:7-10. This happened after his conversion and indwelling of the Holy Spirit. A genuine Christian who has repented and been baptized, has the Holy Spirit dwelling within him, and consequently, cannot have demons dwelling within his body (which is a temple of the Holy Spirit 1 Co 6:18-20), because he has been redeemed and purchased by Christ's blood Col 1:14, and sanctified (set apart and made holy for God), and therefore, belongs to God. The Holy Spirit is God's seal on His people, that we are God's ownership Ro 8:9; 2 Co 1:21-22; 2 Co 6:14-18; Eph 1:13-14; 4:30. There are children of God and children of the devil Jn 8:31-41, 42-47; 1 Jn 2:28; 1 Jn 3:1-2,10; 1 Jn 5:2,19. Demonic possession is where demons indwell the body of a person, having total control over his thoughts, actions and behavior. Scriptural examples include: two demon-possessed men of Gadarenes, who were extremely violent Mt 8:28-34. The demon-possessed man of Gerasenes, who had many demons (legion). He had superhuman strength, lived in the tombs, was naked, cried out day and night, and cut himself with stones Mk 5:1-20. Demonic possession can cause disease such as seizures (epilepsy), and make one fall into fire or water Mt 17:14-21; convulsions, with screaming and foaming at the mouth Lk 9:37-45; muteness Mt 9:32-33; blindness and muteness Mt 12:22; evil behavior, such as: malice, greed, betrayal and even suicide, as in the case of Judas Iscariot Lk 22:3; Ac 1:18-19. Note: In Scripture, we find that not all diseases and physical impairments are attributed to demonic possession.

<u>Does God send evil spirits</u>? There are scriptural examples where God punished individuals for disobedience to His commandments. For example, in the Old Testament, God removed His Spirit from king Saul, and allowed an evil spirit to torment him, because he had sinned against the Lord <u>1 Samuel 13:1-15; 15:1-35; 16:14-16,23; 19:9-10</u>. In the New Testament, we find that in the church of God in Corinth, a man was committing sexual immorality, and God allowed this man to be turned over to Satan, to destroy his sinful nature, that the spirit may be saved <u>1 Co 5:1-5</u>. If God allows evil spirits to torment people today, it is always for a good purpose <u>Ro 8:28</u>. Satan (who has limited power) can only do what God permits him to do, and nothing more. Always according to God's sovereign and perfect will, plan and purpose.

What are the names of demons in the Bible? Old Testament: familiar spirit - Lev 19:31; 20:27 (KJV); spirit of jealousy - Nu 5:14,30 (KJV); ill will - Jdg 9:23; spirit of sorrowfulness - 1 Sa 1:15 (KJV); spirit of anguish and grief - 1 Sa 1:16; spirit of torment - 1 Sa 16:14; evil spirit - 1 Sa 16:15; lying spirit - 2 Ch 18:21-22 (KJV); spirit of haughtiness - Pr 16:18 (KJV); spirit of burning - Is 4:4 (KJV); spirit of dizziness - Isaiah 19:14 or perverse spirit (KJV); spirit of deep sleep - Isa 29:10 (KJV); spirit of heaviness - Isa 61:3 (KJV) or despair; spirit of a destroyer - Jer 51:1; spirit of prostitution - Hos 4:12; 5:4; spirit of impurity - Zec 13:2 or unclean spirit (KJV). New Testament: unclean spirit - Mt 12:43; Mk 1:27; Mk 5:13 (KJV); deaf and dumb spirit - Mk 9:25 (KJV) or deaf and mute spirit; spirit of unclean devil - Lk 4:33 (KJV); spirit of infirmity - Lk 13:11 (KJV); spirit of divination - Ac 16:16 (KJV); evil spirit - Ac 19:12-13; spirit of bondage - Ro 8:15 (KJV); spirit of stupor - Ro 11:8 or spirit of slumber (KJV); spirit of the world - 1 Co 2:12

(KJV); spirit of disobedience - Eph 2:2 (KJV); deceiving spirits - 1 Ti 4:1; spirit of fear - 2 Ti 1:7 (KJV); spirit of antichrist - 1 Jn 4:3 (KJV); spirit of error - 1 Jn 4:6 (KJV); foul spirit - Revelation 18:2 (KJV).

Basic steps to a successful deliverance: Crucial note: Any legal holds or legal grounds for Satan and his demons to operate in a person's life, must be eliminated. 1) Physical household cleaning (read tract: 'No Idols'). 2) Prayer of deliverance and repentance - confession and renunciation of our past and present, known and unknown sins, to God, in prayer. We do not cherish sin in our hearts, and we become new creatures in Christ! Psalm 66:18-20; 2 Co 5:17 (read tract: 'Repent or Perish!'). 3) Prayer of release from curses (read tract: 'Release from Curses'). 4) Expelling demon (s) see section on how to expel demons. 5) Declaration of victory - promise of God's victory in our Christian lives, including the victory that Jesus Christ won at the cross, where He triumphed over all His foes and defeated them! God gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! (say it out loud and quote the scriptures with confidence, for example: Ps 60:12; Ps 108:13; Pr 2:7; Eph 6:10,13; Php 4:13; Col 2:15.

How to expel demons? It is crucial to remember that only true Christians have been given authority to trample on serpents and scorpions (evil spirits), and to overcome all the power of the enemy (Satan himself). We must exercise the authority that Jesus has given us to expel demons Mk 16:17; Lk 10:19. Unbelievers do not have the authority to expel demons. Acceptance of Jesus Christ, and His sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins, is the first crucial step to be set free from demonic possession, because it is dangerous to cast out demons from an unbeliever, as other more evil spirits can enter the person's house (body) which is unoccupied by the Holy Spirit, and he will end up in a worse condition than he was at first Lk 11:24-26. Repentance and baptism is a required step in salvation, and for receipt of the Holy Spirit Acts 2:38. The correct way to cast out demons is always in the name of Jesus! There is no other name under heaven by which man can be saved Acts 4:12. Prayer and expelling demons must accompany fasting Mt 17:21. Note: Some demons come out only by prayer and fasting (read tract: 'Power of Fasting').

<u>Command for demonically oppressed persons</u>: "In the Name of Jesus Christ, and by the precious blood of Jesus, I command all evil spirits (name demons if possible) to leave us and our home right now, and never return!" (To be done on a daily basis to prevent any demonic activity).

Command to cast out demons from demonically possessed person: "In the Name of Jesus Christ, and by the precious blood of Jesus, I command you to come out of this man/woman immediately, and never return (you can name the person), you evil spirit (s)!" (name the demon, if you know, e.g. infirmity. Rebuke the evil spirit, don't abuse it!).

Note: demons are very persistent, and you may need to repeat the command 3-4 or more times! It is extremely dangerous to converse with Satan and demonic spirits. If you ask Satan and his demons anything, how do you know that you will receive a truthful answer? when Jn 8:44 says: 'Satan is a liar and the father of lies'. Command the demon to be quiet sternly! Remember. Not all infirmities are caused by demons. There may be other reasons, such as: a generational curse in that person's life (read tract: 'Release from Curses'), or diet (read tract: 'Dietary Laws'). Once the demons have been cast out of the demon-possessed person, he must be filled with the Holy Spirit Lk 11:13; begin to develop the fruits of the Holy Spirit Gal 5:22-25; and put on the whole armor of God Eph 6:10-18. He must begin a spiritual relationship with God, that includes: obedience to God's commandments (read tract: 'Ten Commandments'); daily prayer (read tract: 'Powerful and Effective Prayer!'); and regular fasting (read tract: 'Power of Fasting!'). Also read tract entitled: 'Dangers of the Occult!'

Three main spiritual weapons we use in our daily spiritual warfare: Spiritual weapons are used to break down Satan's strongholds, that may hinder a Christian's faith, spiritual growth, and development of godly character. A stronghold is an incorrect thinking pattern formed in one's mind that shapes his life, and is not based on the truth of God's word; but rather Satan's deception 2 Co 10:4-6. 1) Name of Jesus: Jesus Christ already defeated Satan and the whole kingdom of darkness, through His: blood shed on the cross, death, and triumphant resurrection Col 2:15; 1 Pe 1:3; Rev 1:5. Jesus is the only way of salvation Jn 14:6; Ac 4:12. Jesus has given us the victory in our Christian lives 1 Co 15:57. This includes victory over evil spirits Mk 16:17. All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Christ Mt 28:18. 2) Blood of Jesus: There is forgiveness, cleansing of, and redemption from sin, through the precious blood of Jesus (read tract: 'Precious Blood of Jesus - Wonder Working Power!'). 3) Word of God The word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword <u>Heb</u> 4:12; and we live by every word of God Mt 4:4. In the wilderness, Jesus resisted Satan's temptations by quoting the scriptures. We must learn to quote the right scripture at the right time Mt 4:1-11. Praise and worship, including prayer and fasting, are also powerful weapons in spiritual warfare.

<u>How does a Christian resist Satan?</u> God's promise is that no weapon formed against His faithful and true servants will succeed <u>Isa 54:17</u>. We must submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from us <u>Jas 4:7-8</u>. In our spiritual warfare against Satan's deceptions, temptations and influences, we put on the whole