

A Declaration of Those Things Which Are Most Surely Believed Among Us

An Expository Study of **The Gospel According to Luke** **Chapter 4- Luke 4:31-37**

51- Jesus' Authority Over Demons- Part 6

October 17, 2009

Luke 4:31-37

Now, from this passage here in **Luke 4-** we can see that there are four things that frighten demons- four things that demons fear and tremble about:

1. The Preaching of the Son of God
2. The Purpose of the Son of God
3. The Person of the Son of God
4. The Power of the Son of God

Demons do not fear human exorcists. Demons do not fear human power or strength. Demons do not fear incantations and formulas for removing or binding or rebuking them. But, demons absolutely fear Jesus. They tremble in abject terror at Jesus' Preaching, Jesus' Purpose, Jesus' Person, and Jesus' Power. Because Jesus, and only Jesus, has absolute and total Authority and Power over every demon and fallen angel that exists. And as we have discovered over the last five messages- demons very rarely expose themselves in an open and dramatic way like this demon did here with Jesus. Demons exposed themselves when Jesus walked the earth like this simply because of Who Jesus is. God had taken on human flesh and God had inserted Himself in His Own Creation in the greatest miracle in the history of the Universe, and now Immanuel was with us, and so when Jesus showed up- these demons who had been very busy deceiving the whole world and who had been very busy for thousands of years stealing, killing, and destroying human beings were now screaming out in anguish and fear because they absolutely knew Who Jesus was, and

they absolutely knew that Jesus had come to this earth to boldly walk right into satan's kingdom and forcefully and violently steal the souls of men away from the spiritual chains that kept them prisoners and to deliver these souls into the Kingdom of God.

And there wasn't anything that these demons could do to stop Him because the Bible says in **Luke 10:19** that Jesus has all Power and all Authority over all the Power of the enemy.

Also we have learned that the main way in which demons move in the earth is not through throwing people on the ground or making people act crazy- but the main way in which demons move in the earth is through false teaching put forth by false teachers and false prophets. You see nothing is as bad as false teaching because false teaching causes people to go to hell- happy. It causes them to think they are actually serving God, but, in reality, they are deceived and lost and headed for hell.

Dear friends, we must understand that all teaching that is contrary to the Bible originated from satan, and all teaching that keeps lost people lost is what the Bible calls- a doctrine of demons.

Now last week- we went over two of the four things that demons fear, and, Lord willing, we will finish this section of God's precious Word this morning.

So the first thing that demons fear is the Preaching of the Son of God. And the second thing that frightens demons is the Purpose of the Son of God. Let's go to that. We spent two weeks on the first point and we'll spend today on the last three. So the second thing that demons fear is the Purpose of the Son of God- so go down to verse 34 again and look what Luke wrote. The demons screamed out at Jesus and said:

Let us alone! What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!"

This demon asked Jesus, "*Have You come to destroy us?*" So this is the Purpose of God- Jesus came to destroy satan and all the demons and sin and evil as the last part of **1John 3:8** says:

The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

And this demon and all demons know that this is why Jesus is here- which is why he cannot contain himself and he screams out. You

see even though so many of God's people do not know the Purpose of why Jesus came- so many think that Jesus came to make us all millionaires or to make this life better or to make us safer and more comfortable in this life or to make us happier and more content about ourselves - but that is not why Jesus came to this earth. Jesus came to destroy all the power of the enemy, and Jesus came to walk right into satan's kingdom and violently and forcefully steal the souls of men who were held captive by satan, and Jesus steals these souls away from satan and brings them to God. So the devils know this and it is this knowledge that they have about Jesus and His Purpose in the earth that causes them to tremble in abject terror.

All fallen angels know how this is all going to end up. They know that they are going to spend all of eternity in hell in great agony and suffering- burning forever in a lake of fire, and they know that in the end- God is going to be completely triumphant. They know that God is going to judge them and they know there isn't anything they can do to change this. They cannot repent and they will not ever be forgiven.

Now the demon doesn't quite know the chronology of just when all this is going to happen because not even the Son of God knows the full layout of the timing of God- so the demon asks,

Have You come to destroy us?

In other words- he is asking, *"Is this the time? Is the time of our destruction here already?"* So here is one demon speaking on behalf of all the other demons using plural pronouns, *"Have You come to destroy us? What have we to do with you? Is this it? Is this the last? Is this the last part of our operation? Is this it? Is this the end? Have You come to destroy us?"*

Now as I said last week- The Greek verb *luo* that Luke used here means *"to undo."* It means *"to dissolve."* It means *"to disconnect something that holds together."* It means *"to destroy."* Something *disintegrates...* have You come to literally *destroy* us? And Jesus came not only to destroy the works of the devil- but also he came to destroy the devil himself and all the fallen angels as well. When John said "Works" in **1John 3:8**- he used the Greek word *erga*, which means: *enterprise. Erga* means: *total action* or *the collective enterprise-*

including the ones doing the action. So Jesus came not only to destroy the works of satan- but also to destroy satan and all the demons as well.

Now think about this. Why would the demon ask this question? Because that is exactly what he expected. We have to understand that from the very second that satan was cast out of Heaven- he has fully understood that it wouldn't be too long before he would be totally destroyed by Jesus. So all the devils looked at the coming of the Messiah as the end of all their domination over the lost souls of men.

And they have lived in fear of this moment ever since they were cast out of Heaven. And now Jesus stands before this demon and he thinks the time is right now. So this is the second thing that demons fear- the Purpose of the Son of God.

Now in **Matthew 11:12** Jesus said:

From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.

And this verse has a lot of implications- but one of the areas of violence that the Kingdom of God suffers is here comes the King, Jesus Christ, and He comes offering the Kingdom of God, and there's this violent assault by this demon. Now many people teach that this "violence" that Jesus was talking about here was the great hostility that the Jews had against Jesus- and that is true- but behind their hostility was the hostility of hell itself. Part of the violence that the Jews had against Jesus was this battle right here engaged between Christ and satan and his demon forces.

Now if you study the accounts of demon possession that is described in the Gospels- you will find that the demons were very violent with their victims. An extraordinary number of demonized people appeared during the earthly Ministry of Jesus- indicating that they were literally moving into people as fast as they could- probably in a desperate and vain effort to hold on to these people. Remember there are hundreds of millions of fallen angels. So it was a feverish time of activity as the kingdom of darkness tried desperately to hold on to its prisoners.

And Jesus demonstrated time after time that He could just immediately and completely shatter those powers and go right into the

house of the strong man and bind him up and plunder his goods- which is the souls of men.

So the demon here was terrified by the Preaching of the Son of God and He was also terrified by the Purpose of the Son of God, because the Purpose ultimately is to completely destroy not only the works of the devil- but also to utterly destroy the devil himself in eternal hell.

So now let's look at the third thing that demons fear- the Person of the Son of God. Please look again at what the demon said at the end of **Luke 4:34:**

... I know who You are—the Holy One of God!”

Now why does this demon pick the word "holy" here? And the answer to *this* question lies in the answer to another question. What is the single most frightening thing to somebody who is wicked? Holiness. Purity, Godliness. That is why a Christian is so hated in the earth because simply being around a Christian makes lost sinners feel guilty. Being around somebody who is holy makes unholy people very nervous.

Now the people of ABC News who searched for the real Jesus in that documentary a few years ago- don't know Who Jesus is- but the demons do. Lost liberal theologians who teach in some of the most prestigious seminaries on earth do not know Who Jesus is- but the demons do. Joel Osteen said on Larry King Live that he really didn't know if Jesus is the only way to Heaven or not- but these demons know. Brian McLaren- the leader of the so-called "Emergent Church" doesn't know that Jesus is the Holy One of God- but the demons know. And that is why I say to you that demons are far more spiritual and they understand Divine Truth far better than these liberal theologians and these false teachers. And so if you wanted to know the Truth about the Person of Jesus Christ- if you wanted to know the Truth about Jesus' full Deity and His full Humanity- better to consult with a demon than these false teachers. Now I certainly don't want you to consult with demons- but my point is that demons know exactly Who Jesus is while so many false teachers seem to be so confused about it.

So this demons cries out here and says:

... I know who You are—the Holy One of God!”

Now please look down at **Luke 4:40**:

40 While the sun was setting, all those who had any *who were* sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them.

41 Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, “You are the Son of God!” But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ.

So here the demons were coming out of many, crying out and saying, “**You are the Son of God**” and look at the last part of verse 41:

... But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ.

Now isn't that an interesting response? Jesus did not want these demons to speak precisely because they knew Who He was. Now this could have been some real great publicity. Here would be all these demons crying out that Jesus was the Holy One of God, and then everybody would know Who Jesus was and that would be great, right?

But instead of getting all that free publicity- Jesus shut them up. He silenced them. Why? To understand this- we need to turn and see what Jesus said about this in **John 8:44**. In this verse- Jesus is speaking to the unsaved Pharisees and said,

You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Jesus said that the devil is the father of all lost people. All lost people belong to satan and they are the offspring of satan. And look at also what Jesus said about the devil:

... there is no truth in him...

It isn't that satan tells lies- he does- but even more than that- Jesus says here that there is absolutely no truth in satan. No truth. None. Satan does not possess *any* truth; there is no truth in him.

Everything satan says is wrong, and everything he does is evil. Satan is pure evil all the time. He is never good, he is never righteous, and he is never neutral- he is all evil all the time. So even if satan says something that is accurate- his purpose in saying it is only to steal, kill, and destroy- not to bless or inform.

And we must also know that satan *cannot* worship God. It isn't that he *does not* worship God- he *cannot* worship God. God has not given satan with the ability to worship God. You see, dear friends, the ability that we have to love and worship God is a gracious and marvelous gift from God. God put the love in our hearts that we have for God, and God put the desire in our hearts that we have to obey and follow after and to worship God. And there are two verses that talk about this that you need to know about. The first one is found in **1John 4:19**- and it says:

We love, because He first loved us.

We love God only because God first loved us. So do we love God? Yes. But the question is, "*Why do we love God and the other people do not love God?*" And there are only two possible answers to that question. Either you and I possess some internal goodness about ourselves that the other people don't have that allows us to love God- while they don't- or else God has done something wonderful and unique and special and marvelous and glorious and gracious *in* us and *for* us that God obviously has not done for the others, and it is this Gracious Sovereign act of God that He alone has done that allows us to love and serve God while the others do not care to do that. John tells us here in **1John 4:19** that the true answer to why we love God and they don't is the latter and not the former.

No, the Bible is clear- there is no goodness in any of us; there is no inherent righteousness that lies down deep inside of anybody. That is a myth- we are all sinful, we are all fallen, we are all corrupt, and we are all lost, and in that lost sinful fallen condition- we are both unable and unwilling to love and serve God unless and until God mercifully and graciously moves towards us first. And John says that the result of God loving us first- is that we now love Him.

The second verse is found in **Philippians 2:13** and it says:

... for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure.

Now the tense of the Greek verb that is used in this sentence is what is called in the Greek language- an "exclusionary" tense. And that means that what the Apostle Paul is infallibly teaching here is that it is God alone, it is God all by Himself, it is God only Who works in us- without any help or assistance or cooperation from us.

And what does God all by Himself work in us to produce? Two things:

1. The will or the desire to do of His good Pleasure
2. The ability or the Power to do of God's good pleasure

Well, why in the world does God have to work in us all by Himself to give us the will or the desire to do of God's good Pleasure if we already had that will and that desire down deep within us to begin with? Well, He wouldn't. So, the fact that God has to Sovereignly work in us to give us that desire and that will shows that we do not already have it. Well why don't we already have that will or that desire to do of God's good Pleasure? Because we are fallen. That is one of the devastating effects that the Fall had on Mankind. In the Fall- we lost both our will and our ability to love and serve God- which is why God has to move on us first, and why God has to work in us alone to give us back that will and ability. And unless and until God does that- nobody gets saved.

So without God putting that love and that desire in us- nobody would ever love God and nobody would ever serve God and nobody would ever in a million years even think about worshipping God.

And the point that I am making here is that part of His Divine Judgment against satan is that God has not given the devil or any of the fallen angels with any love or any desire to worship or serve God at all. So the result is that satan *cannot* love God, satan *cannot* serve God, satan *cannot* follow after God, satan *cannot* worship God, and satan *cannot* ever in any way speak the Truth because there is no Truth in him. None.

Now look what else Jesus says here:

Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

So we see that all lies are the personal property of satan- he owns them- they belong to him and he is the father of them. So Jesus says that he is a "liar"- meaning that he cannot speak anything that is truthful and godly and helpful in any way. And this is what has blown my mind about people so for many years. I have heard lots of people stand up in prayer meetings and say, "*Please pray for me because the devil has been speaking to me all day long.*"

Well why in the world- if you know it is the devil- would you ever listen to anything he has to say? If you have the presence of mind to know that the one doing the talking is your enemy and that he was God's enemy before he was your enemy- why would you ever listen to anything he has to say? Why would a child of God ever listen to the devil? Why would a child of Truth listen to father of lies? Why would somebody who loves and values and is struggling to obey and follow after the Truth listen to someone who does not possess any truth?

So the point here is that the very last source of promotion Jesus would ever want, the last source of any publicity that Jesus would ever desire is demons, because people knew demon manifestation when they saw it, and if hell is publicizing this Man as being the Messiah- that doesn't help Jesus at all- because satan is the father of lies.

So Jesus says, "*Shut up, silence.*" Jesus doesn't want or need the father of lies or any demon to publicize Who He is. Jesus said in **John 5:32**:

There is another who testifies of Me, and I know that the testimony which He gives about Me is true.

Now we live in a day when many people in the modern Church earnestly seek after an open show of Glory. People want to see a miracle or a healing or some demonstration of supernatural Power. It is the very same thing as to why we are so curious about car wrecks and disasters and the private lives of important people. That's why we admire wealthy and powerful people- even if those people are horribly ungodly. We want to see something, we want to be wowed, we want our senses tickled, we want to feel something, and to be awed by something

bright and beautiful and powerful and rich and big and ecstatic and super-duper.

And on top of that- as fallen creatures- we crave attention. We want people to like us and to think well of us, and part of our fallen nature is that we want attention drawn to ourselves. We want to be seen and heard and loved and admired. We want to be the center of attention, the life of the party, and the focus of people's view. In short- we want to be worshipped.

And that is the sinful and evil nature that we took on when Adam sinned. And before Adam had that desire to be worshipped- Lucifer had that very same desire in Heaven before he was cast out into the earth.

That's why we want to be rich and strong and healthy and that's why we want everything to be bigger and better and taller and faster than it was yesterday.

And the number one most popular sermon in the modern Church today- the one sermon that is guaranteed to draw a huge crowd and the one sermon that will make you the most popular preacher in town is the sermon that says Jesus came to die on the Cross so He could give you a mirror. That Jesus died so you can look at yourself and see how spiritual you are and how much power you've got and how rich you are and how special you are and how beautiful you are and how lovely you are and how important you are and how great you are in the earth.

And the one single sermon that will cause people to get up and leave your Church and that will cause people to abandon you and that will cause people to distance themselves from you and hate you is the one sermon that says Jesus died on the Cross so He could give you eyes to see how wonderful God is, and how much Power God has, and how rich God is, and how special and unique and glorious and magnificent God is, and how beautiful God is, and how lovely God is, and how important God is, and how great God is all throughout His Universe.

And that is the great battle that is going on today in the modern Church between the glorification of God and the glorification of Man, and the glorification and the deification of Man in the modern Church by the pied-pipers who sing the tune that the crowds love to dance to is an abomination to God and it is the delight of satan. This is not the Gospel, dear friends- it is the doctrine of demons, and it does not and it cannot ever in any way bring Glory to God.

We live in the only time in the history of the world when sinful men in need of Grace have become millionaires off the backs of God's people all in the Name of a Man Who walked up a lonely dark Hill to die on a Cross.

We live in a time when slick ministers and polished shepherds have become fat as they fleece the sheep and as they feed themselves and they do not feed the sheep. Ministers have become cute and catchy and clever and streamlined and organized and professional- but we have not become broken and contrite and humble and holy.

We pastors are being killed by the professionalization of the ministry. But we have to know that the mentality of the professional is not the mentality of the prophet. It is not the mentality of the slave of Jesus Christ. Professionalism has absolutely nothing to do with the essence and heart of Christian ministry. And the more slick we desire to be, the more polished we are, the more professional we get- the more spiritual death we will leave in its wake.

Because, there is no professional childlikeness. There is no slick way to be tenderhearted, no catchy way to be broken, and there is no professional panting after God.

But the ministry of God's man is to pant after God in prayer with fasting- denying ourselves; it is to weep over the sins of God's people; it is to dig and struggle and labor over the Gospel. And it is to love being faithful more than we love life itself. It is to be willing to become a hated plague in the eyes of moist people as we proclaim the unsearchable riches of Jesus as weak and trembling souls.

Just how does a slave carry the Cross professionally? Exactly how do we struggle to walk with a blood soaked Cross and be slick and polished and clever? How do you deny yourself and build up yourself at the same time? How do you follow Jesus and follow the world at the same time? And How do you love God and love money at the same time? How do you flee covetousness and lust after more of this world's goods at the same time?

The wonder of all wonders is that sinful men who have been gloriously saved by Grace are called to declare eternal Truth and the everlasting Glory of an incorruptible God, and, yet, they themselves are nothing but clay pots, earthen vessels, privy pots, ugly, dirty broken chipped containers- set aside so men can use the bathroom in them and we have no glory and no honor in ourselves. The Glory is in Christ.

Here the Word of the Lord about true shepherds and true pastors-

8 *we are* afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing;

9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

10 always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

11 For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

12 So death works in us, but life in you.

13 But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak,

14 knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you.

15 For all things *are* for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.

16 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

17 For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,

18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. (2Corinthians 4:8-18)

Or, how about this:

9 For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.

10 We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are prudent in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are distinguished, but we are without honor.

11 To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless;

12 and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure;

13 when we are slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, *even until now.* (1Corinthians 4:9-13)

The faithful minister of Christ is not a prima donna who needs to be catered to and waited on and who needs to be exalted and who needs to be lifted up and who needs to be set on a pedestal. That is not Christianity- that is the doctrine of demons. No, the Bible says that true ministers are outcasts. We are aliens and exiles in this world. Our citizenship is in Heaven and we wait with eager expectation for the Lord.

200 years ago- Richard Cecil a friend and coworker of the great proponent of prayer- EM Bounds said this:

"God deliver the ministers from the professionalizers. Deliver us from the low, managing, contriving, maneuvering, temper of mind among us. God give us tears for our sins. Forgive us for being so shallow and self-centered in our prayers; so thin in our grasp of holy verities; so content amide perishing neighbors; so empty of passion and earnestness in all our conversation. Restore us O God to the childlike joy of our Salvation. Frighten us with the awesome holiness and power of Him Who can cast both body and soul into hell fire. Cause us to hold the Cross with fear and trembling as our hope filled and offensive tree of life. Grant us nothing- absolutely nothing- that would diminish in any way our love for you. May we see nothing as the world sees it. And may Christ be all in all.

Banish our polish O God and in its place put passionate prayer, poverty of spirit, hunger for God, rigorous study of holy things, white hot devotion to Jesus Christ, utter indifference to all material gain, and unremitting labor to rescue the perishing, perfect the saints, and glorify our Sovereign Lord.

Humble us O God under Your mighty Hand and let us rise not as the center of attention but as faithful witnesses and willing partakers of the sufferings of Christ- so that men will not see and hear us to think much of us- but that all men may see and hear You and treasure You alone as Lord and Sovereign."¹

But the Gospel is not a mirror, my beloved. Jesus did not die an agonizing death on the Cross to give you a mirror- The Gospel is that

¹ Richard Cecil as quoted in *Power Through Prayer* by EM Bounds (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Book House, 1972), page 59

God in His great Mercy and for His Own everlasting Glory chose to take on human flesh and be born of a virgin and live a sinless life and take on the sins of the whole world and die with them so that unworthy sinners could have the privilege and the honor of being able to give to God the Glory that He deserves. The Gospel is the equivalent of standing at the threshold of eternity and looking out at a super nova; it is standing at the edge of the Grand Canyon and looking down. It is standing at the base of Mt. Everest and looking up. And as we look out and as we look up and as we look down- away from ourselves- we see Someone Who is infinitely more Glorious and infinitely more Beautiful and infinitely more Important than we are, and we then seem very small and very insignificant by comparison. And all our troubles and all our problems and all our situations no longer matter in context to the Majesty and the Glory and the Brilliance and Wonder of God.

And the only thing that does matter at this point is our sin which could forever separate us from this God, and our sin which is infinitely offensive to this God, and our sin which is a horrible and prideful demonstration of our utter lack of respect for this God.

And so the only difference between a person who tries to do *spiritual* things so that people will notice him and other people doing other things so that people will notice them- is that the one conducts this charade in their *own* name while the other does so in the Name of the Lord- which is the greater sin.

So no, Jesus does not want or need the devil to publicize His great Works in the earth. And He is not honored and He is not exalted by great open shows of human glory by immature and narcissistic preachers who seek the limelight and the Glory. So Jesus told the demons to be silent.

Over in **The Acts 16**- There was this demon-possessed girl and she was following behind the Apostle Paul, and the others saying, "*These men are the servants of the Most High God.*" Now most preachers today would love to have somebody following along behind them saying, "*These men are the servants of the Most High God.*" But, not Paul. Like Jesus- the statement from a demon possessed person grieved Paul and he said, "*Stop it and get out.*" God doesn't need publicity from the kingdom of darkness- that just confuses the issue. You see, for a group of unbelievers who hear the demons saying, "*This is your Messiah,*"

they're going to see that statement as a lie. So Jesus didn't want that from them and he still doesn't. Over in **Mark 1:34** it says:

And He healed many who were ill with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He was not permitting the demons to speak, because they knew who He was.

Now let me just bring this down to where we are today. Where does Jesus dwell today? I know He sits at the right Hand of the Father, but what about you- where does Jesus dwell? You know the answer to the question because **Galatians 2:20** says,

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Think that terrifies the demons? Is your body the temple of God? Yes, it's not the temple of idols is it? Your body is not the temple of demons is it? No, your body is the Temple of Jesus Christ, the Temple of the Holy Ghost- so we should never be afraid of demons.

And wherever you go in this life- you bring into the realm of demons- the very Presence of Jesus Christ. You bring into their realm the remembrance of the Purposes of Christ. You bring into their realm the Preaching of the gospel of Christ which raids their kingdom.

So, everything that Jesus is and everything that Jesus has done in you by delivering you from the kingdom of darkness and translating you into the kingdom of God's dear Son causes demons to fear.

When you show up- demons cringe- not so much because they fear you- but because when you show up Jesus shows up. **1Corinthians 6:17** says:

... one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

And finally- demons are terrified by the Power of the Son of God. All demons and even satan himself fear the Preaching and the Purpose and the Person of the Son of God, and now we will see that demons also fear the Power of the Son of God. Look again at **Luke 4:35**:

But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst of the people, he came out of him without doing him any harm.

Now would you please notice what is *not* mentioned here? There's no incantations, no manipulations, no dialogue, no discussion, no conversation, no special prayers, no binding, no loosing, no rebuking, no nothing. All there is- is a command:

Be quiet and come out of him!

"Shut up and get out of that man." That's all that Jesus said. There is not even any hint here that Jesus even raised his Voice. And that is because Jesus had the very *same* Power over demons as God had, and all He had to do is command the devil and the devil had to obey. God the Father cast satan and 1/3 of all the angels out of Heaven like lightning and Jesus casts demons out of people like lightning. No screaming, no yelling, no putting his hand on the head of the man and shaking him- Jesus never even touched this guy. He didn't have to- He was in complete charge.

You see, dear friends, there is an old saying, if you have the Law on your side- you will argue the Law; if you have the Truth on your side- you will argue the Truth. But if you have neither the Law nor the Truth on your side- you will pound the table.

People scream and holler when they have no authority. People yell and scream and call people names and attack people personally when they cannot answer a question or discuss an issue intelligently. Jesus didn't need to go through all the dramatic gestures that you see preachers do today when they say that they are engaged in demonic activity precisely because Jesus had the very same Power that God had. And He knew it- and the devil knew it, too.

Jesus didn't have to argue with satan; He didn't need to go through the twelve step process of deliverance and the five secret prayers for casting our demons that you can buy for \$19.95. Jesus didn't have to pray the right prayers or sprinkle holy water on the man or pray the rosary or get the bottle of oil that he got from Gethsemane and anoint the man or put a prayer cloth on the man. Jesus didn't need to lay his sash on the man or touch him or shake him or blow in his face

or scream at him. All Jesus had to do is command the devil to be quiet and come out, and the devil instantly obeyed. Now, that is the Power of God!

And also please notice that Jesus didn't have to repeat what He said over and over again like so many do today. He commanded the devil to be quiet and come out one time- and the devil instantly obeyed. That is the Power of God.

Now this is a theological term called "Immediate Domination." Luke said,

Jesus rebuked him...

It says, "He rebuked him," and the Greek word that Luke used here is *epitimason*, and this is a technical term for the subjection of evil spirits. And it's used over and over throughout the New Testament. No discussion, no conversation, no dialogue, no pleading, no debate, no formula, no exorcism, no prayer, no nothing, but immediate domination- "Be quiet, get out!"

Now this is miraculous; this is Divine Power. This is the very same Power that God had when He threw Satan out of Heaven. Now here- Jesus commanded the demon to leave this one man- but the day is coming when Jesus is going to command the devil to leave the whole earth.

You see, when Jesus comes back- He is going to command the devil to be quiet, and one angel is going to bind Satan and cast him into the bottomless pit and he will stay there for 1,000 years. And after the 1,000 years is over- Jesus is going to command the devil and he will be cast into the lake of fire just like He sent Satan right out of Heaven when he sinned and all the rest of the demons with him. Jesus has the absolute Power to command this demon who cannot resist Jesus' Power and he has to go.

The Bible says that Jesus is God with a human Body. And so Jesus is the Creator of the Universe, and His Words of Power brought everything that exists into its place in the beginning and one day- those very same Words of Power will take everything that exists out of its place and the Universe that was instantly created will be instantly uncreated.

Now here is another interesting fact about the Bible. If you study the demon possessed and the miracles of Jesus with regard to them, they're often called "healings." That's right, the word "healing" is used, **Matthew 4:24; Matthew 12:22; Mark 3:10; Luke 6:19; Luke 7:21; Luke 8:2;** and **The Acts 10:38.**

The casting out of demons was considered a healing, and healings were miracles, and these are miracles done only by Christ and those that He commissioned and sent out when the Church was being established and not anybody else.

There is no case anywhere in the Scriptures of some exorcism, some incantations, some formula, some prayer, some binding, some loosing, some rebuking or chasing of demons. It just doesn't exist in the Bible.

In the Bible- when demons were dealt with in unbelievers, they were dealt with- with Absolute Divine Supernatural and Total Power and Authority- either Christ's Own or that which He delegated to those who were with Him during the formation of the Church- and that's it. So this is categorically a healing that constitutes a miracle.

So this demon wanted to stay but he couldn't stay because Jesus had the Power to throw him out. The demon wanted to stay and torment the man, but he couldn't.

So the demon came out of the man, verse 35 says, without doing him any more harm. That is the Power of the Son of God.

And finally look again at verses 36&37:

36 And amazement came upon them all, and they *began* talking with one another saying, "What is this message? For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits and they come out."

37 And the report about Him was spreading into every locality in the surrounding district.

So God Almighty in human flesh has come in and He has plundered the kingdom of darkness and He has rescued us and taken us out and smashed the fortress and delivered us into the Kingdom of His dear Son. And that's what Luke wanted to show Theophilus and us about Jesus. Can Jesus deliver us from the kingdom of darkness? Absolutely. Does Jesus have total power over Satan? Absolutely. Does Jesus have complete power over demons and sin and wickedness and

hell? Absolutely. And that means that Jesus can free us, too. That is what Luke is telling us here.

Now what Jesus did that day had a great impact. Look at verse 36, "Amazement came on them all." Amazement is sort of wonder mixed with fear. "And they began discussing with one another, "What is this *logos*? What is this word? Wow...what...He speaks... for with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits and they come out?" These people were familiar with this. There had been manifestations of demons. They had seen that. And as I said before, they knew it when they saw it but they had never seen anything like this. What is this word? This man speaks and we have never seen anything like this, never...never.

Matthew 9:33 puts it, "*Jesus had power over demons such that the Jews said it was never so seen in Israel.*" Nothing like this had ever been seen in Israel, nothing...never. Jesus' power over demons was supernatural, extraordinary, unmatched, and it was miraculous. And you don't need to do this. We don't need to know that *you* can cast out demons because we're not looking for *you* to save us. Do you understand that?

We don't need to know what kind of power or authority that you have. Nobody needs to know that you can conquer the kingdom of darkness- because that is absolutely pointless because you can't conquer all that for us. All we need to know is if Jesus can conquer the kingdom of darkness- because we only need one savior and you're not Him.

And if you can do all that- guess what? That depreciates what Jesus did. It minimizes what Jesus did. So God doesn't send His people running around casting out demons because nobody is the Messiah but Jesus.

These people never saw anything like this before because there is nobody like Jesus. This isn't like anything like they've ever experienced. Jesus, and Jesus alone, commands with Authority and Power, *exousia* and *dunamis*, two very strong words. He commands, immediate domination, and the demons do whatever He tells them to do.

"And the fame of this man" verse 37, "was getting out into every locality and surrounding district." Well, literally into every place of the region round about. Everyone was hearing about how great Jesus was. And that is glorifying to God

This man has Power over the kingdom of darkness. This Man commands demons and they do exactly what He tells them to do. There are no formulas, no prayers, no nothing, no conversation- Jesus speaks and the demons leave. So these things were miracles. And these miracles were pointing to the Authority and the Power and the Glory of the King Himself and His Kingdom, and they cannot be duplicated and they cannot be equaled.

Let's come and pray.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.