



# Keep The Devils Out Permanently

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“When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation” (Matthew 12:43-45).

Demons are spirit beings who are essentially restless and ineffective without a body to use. That is why they are eager to possess animals and humans, so they can be used as channels to perpetrate their evil operations in the world. Satan does not give up, until he is defeated, so Christians must learn to stand steadfast in faith resisting, just like the proverbial story of eneke the bird, who hypothesised that since men have learnt to shoot without missing, it had learnt to fly without perching.

I Peter 5:8-10 admonishes us to “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. 10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you”. This admonition underscores the points that:

- 1) Satan does not give up;
- 2) Ultimate victory is certain for believers who steadfastly resist in faith.

Our text reveal the operational activities and frustrations of demons when cast out of a person, and through this provide us with valuable insights for staying free from their possession on long term basis. Note from here that:

- 1) Demons, know, feel, see, talk, experience,

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walk, have plans, seek, remember, etc.

- 2) They cannot resist the authority of God exercised by any genuine child of God. That is why they can be cast out by words of a believer.
- 3) Once cast out they cannot just return to possess the person again, unless certain conditions are met, notably an empty spiritual life.
- 4) When cast out they walk through dry places seeking rest. This suggests that they can only find rest when they have bodies to possess. Could this not be the reason, why the demons in the demoniac of Gadara pleaded with Jesus not to send them out of the territory but to allow them enter into pigs.
- 5) They constantly review their prospects and plan for a better future. So, when they do not find rest in dry places, they decide to go back to their ‘old house’.
- 6) On arrival, they first check to see the spiritual condition of the person. Obviously, if the person remain spiritually alive and strong, they cannot do anything.
- 7) If however, they find the life clean and empty, they do not just enter in alone, but invoke a strategic plan to sustain their long term goals of occupying that life permanently. The fact that they bring 7 demons more wicked than the original occupant that was driven out, shows that they co-operate to achieve common goals.

This lesson teaches us the importance of staying filled of God and fully in submission to God, so that no matter the time, we will have permanent freedom from demonic influences.