

Demons of Thought

(CIRCA 1984)

Demonology

It is very important to understand the role of the demonic and how active it is. Jesus was constantly aware of this realm and on many recorded occasions he interacted with it. Very often, it resulted in a person being delivered of sickness and confusion, and even a power of destruction (the 'demoniac'). Very certainly, not enough is taught to Christians regarding this realm which we must absolutely avoid, and about which even a simple spirit of curiosity (e.g. fortune tellers, ouija boards, horoscopes, etc.) can lead to serious involvement with it.

Witchcraft is real, and both 'black magic' and 'white magic' are of the same cloth. Regarding this, the first battleground is in the realm of your own thought where evil spirits encourage us to adopt as our own thoughts of judgment, superiority and disdain for others. This opens the door for more oppressive thoughts and can lead to depression, despair and even suicidal thoughts. None of these thoughts are your own. You have just agreed with them, and it is possible to be delivered from them. Hopefully, the testimonies below will assist you with a better understanding of what I am attempting to express here in this introduction.

My Amazing Experience of Grace

At the age of thirty-nine I married my beautiful and wonderful friend Suzanne following my conversion to Christ at the age of thirty-six through the ministry of Billy Graham. She has been, and to this day, is a gift of God to me, and her strength has given me direction these many years since. Given my life style before marriage, I had a lot of cleaning up to do, and I began a personal journey of discovery seeking to know the Lord and his ways better by reading Scripture and personal study. It was during one of these times of personal study that an event occurred which was remarkable, and which helped me understand to a significant degree the realm of the demonic. This experience would prove fruitful to me in the years to follow.

It begins like this. I am downstairs with my wife sitting in a couch before our fireplace in Marblehead, MA, reading a small booklet entitled "Grains of Wheat." This booklet encouraged one to walk in the ways of the Lord and to practice generosity and various spiritual disciplines. At my heart level I was responding very affirmatively to this good teaching -when I heard myself think: "I really don't want to do this." Somehow, this surprised me, and through an amazing grace, I perceived that this thought -while likened to my own, had an alternate source. Responding to this discernment, I quickly turned and looked over my left shoulder where I clearly saw a spirit hovering and looking directly at me. You will ask: "Good grief, were you terrified?" To which I respond: "No, not at all." In fact, I was very much at peace. Secondly, you certainly would now like to ask: "What did the spirit look like?" Well, this is where the amazing part of this experience may prove difficult for you. The spirit was smallish (the size of a large watermelon), purple in color (it was a light form -thus ethereal in appearance), having little specific form (almost Caspar the Ghost in appearance), with eyes which you could look through into the surrounding room. It took this spirit at least three of four seconds before it realized that I could actually see it, and then, as a narrow beam of purple streaking supersonic light, it passed out of my sight right through the wall of my house as if the wall did not exist.

You may be asking: "What was that all about?" Well, Jesus speaks about spirits that roam the face of the earth seeking a place to rest, and this spirit was such a being (Matt. 12:43 and Luke 11:24). And, if I had accepted the voice of that spirit as my own, it would have found a resting place from which it could begin the process of shaping the way I thought, and ultimately, the way I acted. Moreover, this spirit

would have worked hard to influence my thinking to such a degree that I would have invited some of its friends to accompany it. This would have constituted the beginning of a spiritual oppression the bitter fruit of which can be, and often is, deep depression and suicidal thoughts. The goal of this spirit was my ultimate destruction.

Many years later, through reading of the work "Unbound" by Neal Lozano, and after sponsoring and attending several of his conferences, I began with some others to offer deliverance prayer ministry for persons carrying oppressive burdens of all kinds. Some had been abused, some had suffered terrible trauma, some had been betrayed, and some had been active in the occult. In deliverance, one thing marked all of them. After a time of prayer (which could be lengthy) they almost always reported the experience of a lifting weight upon a word of command. It could be off the chest, the back or some other body part. Some even reported an improvement in sight or freedom from a physical disorder (a deliverance from an afflicting spirit), and some huffed and puffed out stuff unseen.

Having experienced earlier in my life in Marblehead the appearance of the demon of thought in its futile attempt to ensnare me, I understand better to some degree what must be occurring in these deliverance or healing events. In my mind's eye, I can see that purple ethereal spirit (and its allies) once again loosed wandering through dry places -until they can once again find another host on which to latch and begin their work of destruction anew.

Alas, it seems that in this age of reason and madness, they may not have to journey very far.

Peter C.