

Free to Serve Jesus

Salvaged for Usefulness

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“When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had driven seven demons.” Mk. 16:9

Why do you suppose He chose to reveal Himself to her?

By setting Mary Magdalene free from demonic oppression Jesus SALVAGED her for usefulness in His Kingdom. She was FREE TO SERVE Him.

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"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

- "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." Galatians 5:1
- What does it mean to be free?
- How free are we?
- Are *YOU* free?
- **How free are YOU?**

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- “My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.”
Hosea 4:6
- “Break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the LORD.” Hosea 10:12
- “Let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity...” Heb. 6:1.
- “If ...God permits, we will now proceed to advanced teaching.” Heb. 6:4 (AMP)

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“Land that drinks in the rain often falling on it and that produces a crop useful to those for whom it is farmed receives the **blessing** of God. But land that produces thorns and thistles is worthless and is in danger of being **cursed**. In the end it will be burned.” Heb. 6:7-8

Blessings and curses refer to the warnings of God for obedience and disobedience found in Dt. 27 (and elsewhere)

Our (good) fruit is the proof that we are truly followers of Christ.

“...my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.” Jn. 15:1-2

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**Why do (some) Christians not grow, or, even fall away?
Do you understand our adversary?**

“You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you?” Gal. 3:1

“...do not give the devil a foothold.” Eph. 4:27

“Resist the devil...” James 4:7.

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”
I Pet. 5:8.

“...God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.” I Jn. 1:5-6.

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*The Christian Church, unfortunately, holds several **myths about the devil and demons:***

1. Christians cannot be demonized.
 - Daimonizomai (Greek) means “to have a demon.” The KJV and NIV translate this as “demon possessed.” While the “spirit” of a born again Christian belongs to Jesus, other parts can be oppressed by demons.
2. What appears to be demonization is simply psychological illness or an emotional problem. IEDs – “road rage!”
3. Demonization is uncommon today, especially in the USA.
4. Demons are to be feared, its better to leave them alone.
5. **The “Salvation Settles It All Syndrome.”** This myth confuses our eternal position with God with our conditional standing, or, susceptibility to the devil and his demons.

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The Scriptures clearly teach us that we are engaged in a spiritual war – and there are no time outs.

“The weapons we fight with ...have divine power to demolish strongholds... we take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ.” II Cor. 10:4-5

And we are warned to be careful not to be deceived by other spirits (demons)

“...I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent’s (Satan’s) cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray... or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received... **you put up with it easily enough.**” II Cor. 11: 3-4

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What do evil spirits (demons) actually do?:

- Entice us
- Harass us
- Torture us
- Compel us
- Enslave us
- Cause addictions in us
- Defile us
- Deceive us
- Discourage us
- And attack our bodies (spirits of infirmity)

Adapted From Derek Prince **They Shall Expel Demons**

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Types of spirits and how do they enter:

- Occult spirits (from worshiping false gods)
- Ancestral spirits (including familiar spirits) (see Ex. 20:5)
- Spirits from personal sins (especially repeated sins) (see II Pet. 2:19)
- Spirits of/from trauma and/or injury
- Spirits of infirmity
- Spirits of/from soul ties
- Spirits from curses
- Spirits from judgment or lack of forgiveness
- Spirits from objects, places, animals
- Evil spirits vs. demons, vs. spirits of souls of the dead

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Seven Ways to Test if You May Need Deliverance

- Emotional problems – persistent struggle(s) with hatred, anger, fear, rejection, depression, worry, etc.
- Mental problems - disturbances in the mind or thought life, such as mental torment, confusion, doubt, memory loss, etc.
- Speech problems - Uncontrolled use of the tongue, including lying, cursing, blasphemy, criticism, mockery, gossip, etc.
- Sex problems - Recurring unclean thoughts and acts.
- Addictions – most common include alcohol, drugs, caffeine, prescription medicines. Also internet, cellphone, soaps, etc.
- Infirmities – Many diseases and afflictions are demonic.

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Seven Ways to Test if You May Need Deliverance

- Religious Error - involvement to ANY DEGREE in religious error can open the door for demons. Objects and literature from such sources can also attract demons into houses.
 - **False religions** - i.e., Eastern religions, pagan religions, yoga, karate, mind sciences
 - **Cults** - Mormonism, Jehovah's Witness, Free Masonry
 - **Occult and Spiritism**: séances, witchcraft, magic, Ouija board, palmistry, ESP, hypnosis, automatic writing, horoscopes, astrology, etc.
 - **False Doctrines**. See 1Tim 4:1. Religious spirits.

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Does this exercise raise any “red flags” for you?

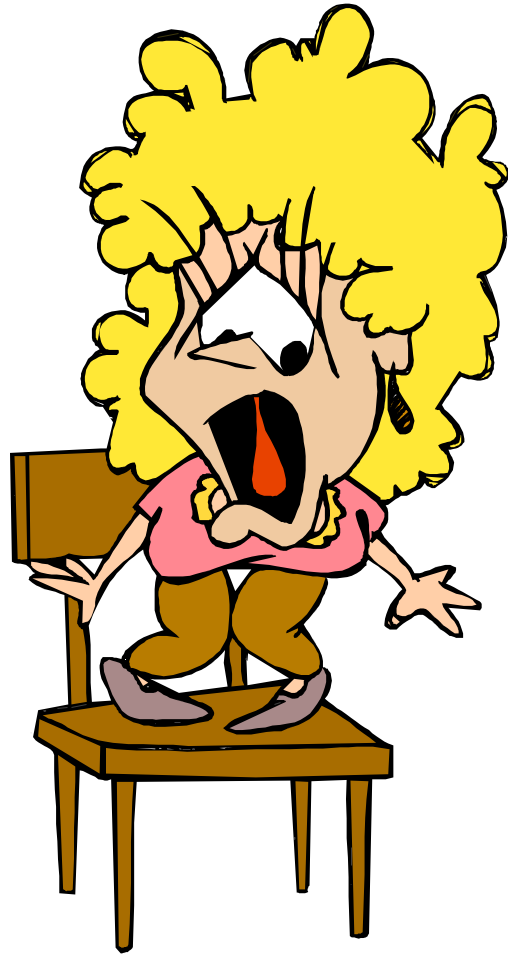
Are you wondering if maybe you have received (or was never freed from “another “spirit” than the Holy Spirit that you received when you invited Christ into your heart?

Ask the Holy Spirit to search you – not only now, but daily! (Ps. 139:23-24)

Most importantly, do not fear to face the enemy, because....

“...the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world!”

I Jn. 4:4



"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity [fear], but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline."

2 Tim. 1:7

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The Great Commission is a 3 part calling:

- "When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to **drive out all demons** and to **cure diseases**, and he sent them out to **preach** the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." Luke 9:1-2
- Jesus' Ph. D. for *all* Christians = **P**reach, **H**eal, and **D**eliver!
- "And these signs will accompany those who believe: in My name they will drive out demons..." Mark 16:17
- Breaking down strongholds and driving out demons is part of "salvaging" process so that we can become **free and useful to serve Jesus.**

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Are You Free?

- If not, you can be. Or you can be more free than you may be right now!
- The Bible tells us that “the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.” Rom. 16:20.
- We are currently building a new ministry, Isaiah 61 Ministries, (I-61) with a mission to help release Jesus’s followers from Satanic oppression.
- Please let us know if you would like to get involved or if you would like more information about how to get free, stay free, and help others get free to serve Jesus.
- Let’s pray!

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