

Demons

Jesus treated demons as real enemies that must be confronted, not ignored. Throughout the Gospels, when people were bound by demonic spirits, Jesus did not enter into long conversations or complicated rituals—He simply commanded them to leave. For example, in Mark 1:25, Jesus rebuked an unclean spirit saying, “Be quiet, and come out of him!” and the spirit immediately obeyed. In Mark 5:8, He again commanded a demon directly: “Come out of the man, unclean spirit!” These examples show that demons respond to authority, not human effort. Deliverance was not dramatic or complicated for Jesus; He simply exercised authority over them.

The New Testament shows that casting out demons is part of the normal ministry of believers. Jesus clearly said in Mark 16:17, “These signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons.” This authority was not limited to the twelve disciples but extended to all who believe. Jesus also demonstrated this authority through His followers in Luke 10:17, when the seventy returned saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.” Believers confront demonic powers not from fear but from victory because Jesus has already triumphed over them.

Scripture also reveals that demons operate primarily through deception. Their greatest weapon is lies and suggestions that influence a person’s thinking. This is why 2 Corinthians 10:5 instructs believers to cast down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. When a lie is believed, it gives the enemy influence, but when truth replaces that lie, the enemy loses his ground. Renewing the mind with God’s Word removes the foothold deception once created.

At the same time, discernment is important because not every problem is caused by a demon. Some situations involve sickness, natural circumstances, or an unrenewed mind rather than demonic activity. Jesus ministered with wisdom and did not treat every case the same way. Sometimes He cast out a spirit, and other times He simply healed the sick. For example, Matthew 8:16 shows both ministries operating together: “He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick.” This reminds us that we must rely on the Holy Spirit for discernment in ministry.

Believers do not need to fear demons because they are already defeated. Through the cross, Jesus stripped the powers of darkness of their authority. Colossians 2:15 says that He “disarmed principalities and powers, making a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them.” Because of this victory, believers are instructed to stand firm and resist the enemy. James 4:7 says, “Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.” When believers understand their identity in Christ and exercise the authority Jesus has given them, darkness has no choice but to submit to the name of Jesus.