

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

WHY DO PEOPLE SUFFER?

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PART 5: SATAN & EVIL SPIRITS

HOW TO DEAL WITH THE DEVIL

Jesus never instructed His disciples on how to deal with the Devil or what to do with the fallen angels. Instead, Jesus limited His instruction to dealing with evil spirits (devils or demons). Thus we have to look in the rest of the Bible to see how to deal with the Devil.

1. The prophet Zechariah was given a vision of what took place in the spirit world. He saw Joshua the high priest – who active during the lifetime of Zechariah on earth – standing before the angel of the Lord. Standing next to Joshua was Satan (the Devil), trying to resist the work of the high priest. The angel did not attack Satan and drive him off, but referred Joshua to God the Father and asked the Father to rebuke him. **Zechariah 3:1-2**

Then the angel proceeded to minister to Joshua. **verses 3-10**

2. In the Gospel of Luke we are given a written account of the temptation experienced by Jesus when He was confronted by the Devil. During the three temptations that the Devil imposed upon Jesus, Jesus never attacked the Devil, but defeated him by quoting from the Bible. **Luke 4:1-13**
3. Michael, the archangel and commander in chief of the armed forces in heaven, did not attack the Devil when arguing as to who was going to control the body of Moses. Instead, Michael asked God to rebuke him. **Jude 9**
4. Before the 1,000 kingdom starts on earth, God the Father will give the order for the Devil to be bound and this action will be carried out by one holy angel. **Revelation 20:1-3**

The conclusion we can draw is that the only one that can deal with the Devil and restrain him is God the Father. It's isn't until after the 1,000 year kingdom that Jesus will be given the authority to get rid of the Devil forever by casting him into the Lake of Fire. **Revelation 20:10**

5. Jesus has been given authority to destroy the works of the Devil and that authority has also been transferred to the church. While Christians cannot attack the Devil, we can ask God to rebuke him. We have the ability to destroy his evil works on this earth through prayer and leading unsaved people to Christ. **1 John 3:8**

WARFARE AGAINST EVIL SPIRITS

During his ministry on earth, Jesus encountered devils (evil spirits, demons). These are the lowest creatures in Satan's kingdom and are not to be equated with fallen angels.

In an encounter with devils, they revealed to Jesus that they knew who He was and that Jesus exercised power over them. They pleaded with Jesus to cast them into a heard of



pigs. Their intention was to make the pigs commit suicide so they could get free and find more people to possess. Jesus knew their intentions, but since this event took place before the cross, Jesus honored their request and cast them into the pigs. **Luke 8:26-33**

Evil spirits never questioned the authority of Jesus; they had no choice but to get out of the people they possessed. **Matthew 8:16-17; 12:22-23**

Jesus transferred His authority to the disciples, and to their amazement, the evil spirits had no choice but to give up the people they possessed. **Matthew 10:1, 7-8; Luke 9:1-2; 10:1-2, 9, 17-22**

Before Jesus returned to heaven after the resurrection, He commissioned the disciples to in turn teach their disciples, and this was to be perpetuated until Jesus comes back a second time. Thus, the authority over evil spirits is available to every believer in Christ until He returns. **Matthew 28:18-20**

Not only was the authority over evil spirits transferred from generation to generation, believers in Christ are also expected to carry out the works of God and destroy the works of the Devil. **John 14:11-18**

Casting out of demons from people who are tormented by these evil spirits is the duty of every Christian. Jesus never intended that only certain people should do it. It is a sin when a Christian doesn't pray and cast out demons from the people who are afflicted. **John 14:15**

ARE YOU OBEDIENT TO JESUS?

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?