



Springcreek
CHURCH

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THE DEMONIC SPIRIT OF OPPRESSION

Stranger Things: The Mystery of the Supernatural World – Part 1
Pastor Keith Stewart
November 11-12, 2017

"The devil is at his wiliest when he succeeds in persuading people that he doesn't exist." - John R.W. Stott

"An Untrained Soldier Is Just a Target."

1. DON'T GIVE THE DEVIL TOO MUCH CREDIT

"There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both error..." - C.S. Lewis

☐ The World

Don't love the world's ways...Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father. Practically everything that goes on in the world—wanting your own way, wanting everything for yourself, wanting to appear important—has nothing to do with the Father. It just isolates you from him. - 1 John 2.15-16 (Message)

"The world system is committed to at least four major objectives: fortune, fame, power, pleasure. First and foremost: Fortune. The world system is driven by money; it feeds on materialism. Second: Fame. That's another word for popularity. Fame is the longing to be known, to be somebody in someone else's eyes. Third: Power. This is having influence, maintaining control over individuals or groups or companies or whatever. It is the desire to manipulate and maneuver others to do something for one's own benefit. Fourth: Pleasure. At its basic level, pleasure has to do with fulfilling one's sensual desires." - Dr. Chuck Swindoll



❑ The Flesh

Now the deeds of the flesh are evident...repetitive, loveless, cheap sex; a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness; trinket gods; magic-show religion; paranoid loneliness; cutthroat competition; all-consuming-yet-never-satisfied wants; a brutal temper; an impotence to love or be loved; divided homes and divided lives; small-minded and lopsided pursuits; the vicious habit of depersonalizing everyone into a rival; uncontrolled and uncontrollable addictions; ugly parodies of community. I could go on... - Galatians 5.19-21 (The Message)

“To succeed temptation always needs a partner—someone to agree with it, to dance with it, to open the door for it, to welcome it in.” - J.A. Peterson

❑ The Devil and his minions

...put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way. This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels. - Ephesians 6.11 (Message)

2. WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOUR ENEMY

❑ What do demons do?

They promote false teaching (1 Timothy 4.1-3).

They're associated with idolatry (1 Corinthians 10.20).

They create division among God's people (James 3.13-16).

They aid Satan in his war against God (Ephesians 6.11-12).

...greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

1 John 4.4



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- ❑ Oppression and the demonic go hand-in-hand

For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. - 1 John 3.8

That word “destroy” in the Greek means “to lose”, “to dissolve”, “to sever”, “to demolish”.

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. - Acts 10.38

What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name don't torture me! - Mark 5.7

- The condition of the demoniac

“According to the Talmud there were four characteristics of madness: walking abroad at night; spending the night on a grave; tearing one's clothes and destroying what one was given. This man demonstrated all four characteristics.” - William L. Lane, The Gospel of Mark NICNT

“My name is Legion,” he replied, “for we are many.” - Mark 5.9

“But that the swine were driven into the sea was no work of the divine miracle, but was the work of the devils...”
- Thomas Aquinas



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- Deviled ham and the Roman Empire

But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. - Daniel 10.13

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. - Ephesians 6.12

- Demonic deliverance and parallels with Rome

"...pigs are an independent bunch. They tend to scatter when frightened rather than stampede. This is no longer a herd of pigs but an army marching together." - Duncan Derrett

Tenth Legion—Legio X

3. THE KEYS TO VICTORY

It is true that I am an ordinary weak human being, but I don't use human plans and methods to win my battles.
- 2 Corinthians 10.3 (Living Bible)

- Fully submit to Christ

Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. - Ephesians 6.10



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Spiritual warfare begins with spiritual welfare.

“Died to George Müller, to his opinions, to his preferences, to his tastes, to his will. I died to the world, to its approval. Died to the approval or blame of my brothers or friends.” – George Müller

❑ The Necessity of Naming the Demon

“For venomous snakes, such as cobras and rattlesnakes, biting is one of the reflexes that can be activated in the brain even hours after the animal dies...” – Live Science.

